

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910967068403321
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Titolo	Self-preservation in simultaneous interpreting : surviving the role / / Claudia Monacelli
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Philadelphia, PA., : John Benjamins, 2009
ISBN	9786612169915 9781282169913 1282169912 9789027289551 9027289557
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (208 p.)
Collana	Benjamins translation library, issn 0929-7316 ; ; v. 84
Classificazione	32.32.24
Disciplina	418/.02019
Soggetti	Simultaneous interpreting - Psychological aspects Translating and interpreting - Psychological aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Interpreting as a system -- Methodology and corpus -- From system dynamics onward -- Simultaneous interpreting as communicative interaction -- Participation framework and interactional politeness in corpus -- Discussion -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	The image of the tightrope walker illustrates the interpreter's balancing act. Compelled to move forward at a pace set by someone else, interpreters compensate for pressures and surges that might push them into the void. The author starts from the observation that conference interpreters tend to see survival as being their primary objective. It is interpreters' awareness of the essentially face- threatening nature of the profession that naturally induces them to seek what the author calls "dynamic equilibrium", a constantly evolving state in which problems are resolved in the interests of maintaining the integrity of the system as a whole. By taking as a starting point the more visible interventions interpreters make (comments on speed of delivery, on exchanges between the chair and the floor), the author is able to explore the interpreter's instinct for self-preservation in an inherently unstable environment. This volume is an insightful and

refreshing account of interpreters' behavior from the other side of the  
glass-fronted booth.

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