The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth's Department of Portuguese, the PhD Program in Luso-Afro-Brazilian Studies and Theory, and the Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture announce a lecture

*Origins, Life and Death of Heteronymy in Fernando Pessoa* by writer, translator and editor Richard Zenith

Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at 5:00 pm
UMass Dartmouth’s Board of Trustees Room
(Foster Administration Building)

Refreshments available
Free and open to the public
Parking lot 7 (visitor parking)

**Abstract.** Some scholars contend that Fernando Pessoa’s invention of the fictitious personalities and collaborators he called heteronyms was just a literary game. Others consider heteronymy a central feature of his creative genius and even of his psychology. Richard Zenith will trace the genealogy of the phenomenon and assess its significance for Pessoa and his writing.

Richard Zenith is a leading literary translator from Portuguese to English and a prominent expert on the writings of Fernando Pessoa. He edited many volumes of Pessoa’s work, including his prose masterpiece *Livro do Desassossego* (*Book of Disquiet*) and the seven-volume *Obra Essencial* (*Essential Works*). Among his translations are six books by Pessoa (including the *Book of Disquiet* and *Fernando Pessoa & Co: Selected Poems*, which won the 1999 PEN Award for Poetry in Translation), *Sonnets and Other Poems* by Luís de Camões (published by the Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture at UMass Dartmouth), *Education by Stone* by João Cabral de Melo Neto (winner of the 2006 Harold Morton Landon Translation Award from the Academy of American Poets), and many other works by Portuguese, Brazilian, and Lusophone African writers. He co-curated the international exhibition *Fernando Pessoa: Plural as the Universe* (São Paulo 2010, Rio de Janeiro 2011, Lisbon 2012) and is currently writing the first biography of Pessoa to be published in English (by Norton). In 2012, Zenith, who has lived in Lisbon since 1987, became the first naturalized Portuguese citizen to receive the prestigious Pessoa Prize, awarded annually to a person of Portuguese nationality who has made a particularly significant and innovative contribution to Portugal’s artistic, literary or scientific life.

Richard Zenith’s visit to Massachusetts is made possible in collaboration with the CLPIC at UMass Boston and, mainly, by the generous support of the *Camões Instituto da Cooperação e da Língua* (Lisbon).

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