Roman Jakobson

A Complete Bibliography of his Writings

compiled and edited by
Stephen Rudy

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Preface

Roman Jakobson's brilliance, vitality, and longevity were legendary. Few scholars in our century have combined so vast an erudition with so seminal a contribution to a variety of scientific disciplines. In the spirit and substance of his work Jakobson typified the best of twentieth-century scholarship. He made bold discoveries that revolutionized old paradigms of research, while remaining forever mindful of the accomplishments of the past. He pursued a diversity of scientific interests without ever lapsing into mere eclecticism. Finally, he possessed a theoretical and critical intelligence capable of offering sweeping explanatory models without sacrificing the specificity of the phenomena under investigation.

Jakobson's work was a vast dialogue – between colleagues, between disciplines, between different languages and cultures, between the past, the present and the future. A bibliography of his writings is a simulacrum of the great movements in linguistics, literary theory and semiotics of our century. It reflects the centers that promoted scientific research in the midst of political and human catastrophes, the congresses that permitted exchange and international collaboration despite the limiting forces of nationalism and parochialism, the publishers and journals that disseminated scholarly writings in an age often marked by voracious commercialism, and finally, the editors and translators who displayed a selfless devotion to the spread of knowledge. In many respects, a complete bibliography of the writings of Roman Jakobson is as much a contribution to the historiography of twentieth-century science as it is, first and foremost, a permanent record of his enormous role in shaping the "sciences of man" as we understand them today.

A measure of the esteem and reputation of any scholar is the effort made to record his contribution to scholarship. Jakobson was honored during his lifetime by three major bibliographies. The first two were appended to the Festschriften published on the occasions of his sixtieth and seventieth birthdays. The third, *Roman Jakobson: A Bibliography of His Writings*, which appeared as a separate brochure in 1971 on the occasion of his seventyfifth birthday, forms the basis of the present work.*

^{*} A Bibliography of the Publications of Roman Jakobson, in For Roman Jakobson: Essays on the Occasion of His Sixtieth Birthday, 11 October 1956, comp. by M. Halle, H.G. Lunt, H. McLean, and C. H. van Schooneveld (The Hague: Mouton, 1956),

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Although I have relied on the earlier guides to Jakobson's writings for much of my data, this bibliography differs significantly from them in format. There is no subdivision into "books and papers" as opposed to "miscellanea" (newspaper articles, letters, forewords, interviews, and poems): in Part One Jakobson's writings are listed chronologically by the year of their first publication. In cases where there was a considerable gap between the year of first publication and the year in which the work was written, cross-references are provided under the latter.

Jakobson's works have been translated into almost two dozen languages, and registering them suitably presents a formidable bibliographic task. In the previous bibliographies translated articles were listed independently, according to their date of publication: in the present work they are listed as subentries under the data of publication for the original. This format enables a reader to locate easily translations of a given work. Moreover, the subentries have been ordered chronologically, which offers an interesting perspective on the reception of Jakobson's work around the world, especially in the last two decades. Authorized reprintings are listed as subentries in a similar fashion; reprintings of translations – under the subentry for the given language. (Major collections of Jakobson's works are treated as books and listed chronologically: see index 2.)

The authoritative edition of Jakobson's works is his Selected Writings, volumes I-VII (henceforth abbreviated as SW, I-VII), the plan and thematic arrangement of which he himself determined. Since SW contains the majority of the items in this bibliography and is the major source for anyone interested in Jakobson's thought, it seemed desirable to correlate the present bibliography closely with it. Thus, for works Jakobson saw fit to include in the Selected Writings, cross-references to SW are provided under the main entry immediately after the data on its first place of publication. If the item was republished in SW under a different title, in a revised version, or in translation, it is so noted.

To assist further in using this bibliography in conjunction with the Selected Writings, I have departed from the usual bibliographical practice of listing, within the publications for a given year, major books and monographs first, then articles and reviews. Instead, works contained in SW are listed first, in sequence by volume number. This enables a reader to locate by subject those items Jakobson himself considered of primary importance, since the volumes of SW are essentially thematic. Works for a given

^{1-12;} revised version in *To Honor Roman Jakobson: Essays on the Occasion of His Seventieth Birthday, 11 October 1966* (The Hague-Paris: Mouton, 1967), xi-xxxiii; *Roman Jakobson: A Bibliography of His Writings*, with a foreword by C. H. van Schooneveld. The Hague-Paris: Mouton, 1971. 60 pp.

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year not included in SW are then listed in the following order: original books, collections of translated articles, papers, and miscellanea. Such an arrangement adheres to a basically chronological format while reconciling it to the most readily available source of Jakobson's work, the *Selected Writings*. Part Two of this bibliography details the exact contents of SW and includes cross-references to the chronological listings in Part One.

The indexes should further aid the reader in locating a particular item. Included are indexes of: 1) titles of works in the language in which they were first published, as well as of works included in SW in English translation or in their original (previously unpublished) Russian version; 2) major translated collections of Jakobson's writings by language; 3) co-authors; 4) personal names; and 5) periodicals.

This bibliography has been in progress for more than five years. During the entire course of compiling it, I have been privileged to have had access to Jakobson's own collection of his publications, which now forms part of his archive preserved in the Institute Archives and Special Collections of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. I owe a particular debt of gratitude to Paul Gray, President of M. I. T., for appointing me as a Research Associate during the spring semester of 1983 to work on the preliminary classification of Jakobson's archive, on volumes VI and VII of the Selected Writings, and on the present work. Krystyna Pomorska's knowledge and support were crucial in seeing this work to completion.

Several colleagues generously shared their native competence in languages more or less foreign to me. Olga Yokoyama of Harvard University checked Jakobson's works in Japanese and provided transcriptions of their titles. Itamar Even-Zohar of Tel-Aviv University was kind enough to supply a list of Jakobson's publications in Hebrew. Elmar Holenstein of Ruhr Universität Bochum, whose bibliography of Jakobson's works in German (with D. Münch: see 1980 g. 4) proved most useful, has been a true helpmate down this long road. Ivan Fónagy, whose editions (with G. Szépe: see 1969 g, 1982 e) of Jakobson in Hungarian are exemplary from a bibliographical point of view, corrected my lapses in his native tongue. Luciana Stegagno-Picchio was kind enough to verify my data for Jakobson's Portuguese works. Diacritical difficulties in Czech were alleviated by Peter Steiner, a true connoisseur and champion of the Prague School. Brent Vine's expert aid at a crucial stage in the preparation of the manuscript facilitated the appearance of this work immeasurably. Needless to say, whatever errors remain - and they are inevitable in a work of this complexity - are my own.

This bibliography is "complete" in the sense that it contains everything published or authorized for publication in Jakobson's lifetime. The com-

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ing years will no doubt see many new collections and translations, as well as the publication of archival materials. It is my hope that this work, which outlines the contours of Jakobson's intellectual legacy, will help to spur the further dissemination of his thought.

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