

# *“TRANSLATING THE MUSIC OF POETRY”*

by

**DR. ALEXIS LEVITIN**

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Alexis Levitin's translations have appeared in well over two hundred literary magazines. His 23 books include the Brazilian author Clarice Lispector's *Soulstorm* and the Portuguese poet Eugénio de Andrade's *Forbidden Words*. His most recent work is a co-translation into Portuguese of Wallace Stevens' *Notes Toward a Supreme Fiction*. In July, Northwestern University Press will be bringing out his co-translation from the Bulgarian of Georgi Gospodinov's *And Other Stories*.

**WEDNESDAY,  
MARCH 28, 2007  
2:00 – 3:15**

**BELKNAP RESEARCH  
BUILDING 139**

The greatest challenge for the translator of poetry is to transpose the music of the foreign tongue into the different music of the English tongue. The hope is that the new music will prove faithful to the inner life of the original. Dr. Alexis will speak of the process of translating his most recent book, *Forbidden Words: Selected Poetry of Eugénio de Andrade* (New Directions, 2003). Eugénio de Andrade was Portugal's best-loved contemporary poet at the time of his death, June 13, 2005. The reading accompanying the lecture will be bilingual.