

Every human being having only one mother, it can therefore be surprising that someone has several mother tongues.

I had contact with foreign languages from my earliest age, when languages are still easy to learn. Born in Rotterdam, of Dutch parents, I went to nursery school in English in Geneva. Afterwards, I went to primary and secondary school in French (with Latin and Greek). After my A-levels (Swiss Maturité) I also passed the Cambridge Certificate, and then went to University in Geneva, where I graduated in economics (licence ès sciences économiques). Since 1969, I live in the German-speaking part of Switzerland where I am established. I permanently keep up my cultural roots in the four languages Dutch, French, English, and German.

Since 1997, I am a member of [ASTTI](#) (Swiss association of translators, terminologists and interpreters, Bern). Since 7th November 1995, I have been enlisted in the trade register of the Canton of Zurich as a free-lance translator. I have worked as a free-lance translator since 1992, when I set up my own business in Erlenbach (canton of Zurich, Switzerland). In fact, my activity as a translator already began in 1973, for a life insurance company, then for the Swiss Retail Hardware Association, a trade fair, and a bank.

Actually, I have translated since my youngest age.

Multilingual communication has always been a life necessity for me. I therefore gladly put my knowledge and my experience at your service.

## History

“The ideal translator is aged over forty, is an assiduous reader, has obtained a university degree in another field than language and has made his career in other fields than translation.” This is a quote that fully applies to me.

1969:	University degree in economics at the University of Geneva, Switzerland
1969:	Marketing for automatic transport devices in hospitals (overhead monorails)
1971:	Marketing for stirring vessels for the chemical industry
1971:	Assistant to the deputy manager in a life insurance company
1973:	Swiss hardware trade exhibition (marketing, sales, management till 1990)
1973:	Activities and translations for the Swiss hardware retail trade journal “persp
1973:	Activities and translations for the Swiss retail hardware association (known
1973:	Activities for the International Hardware Association (till 1996)
1990:	Data Pool (data base of the Swiss retail hardware association, bar codes,
1992:	Set up as a free-lance translator; part-time work with a bank (till 1994)

2012:

Twenty years of activity as a free-lance translator

## **Various interests give a broad view into different walks of life**

### **Hobbies:**

- Choir singing

[arscantata.ch](http://arscantata.ch)

- Theatre

[zcc.ch](http://zcc.ch)

- Solar Energy

[sSES.ch](http://sSES.ch)

- Languages

[astti.ch](http://astti.ch)

- Painting

- Scale models

[car43.ch](http://car43.ch)

- French chanson

[padampadam.org](http://padampadam.org)

- Animals

[sweetdog.ch](http://sweetdog.ch)

- Rebetiko