

Preface & Acknowledgments

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**Cognitive Linguistics and Lexical Change: Motion Verbs
from Latin to Romance**

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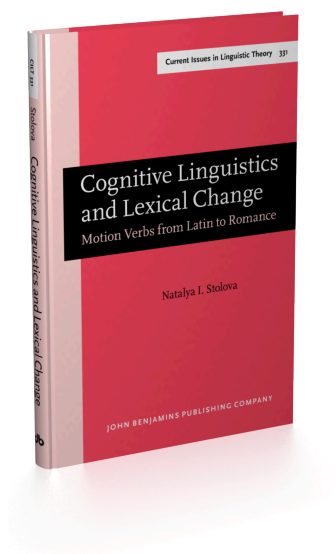
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Preface & Acknowledgments

My interest in the development of motion verbs from Latin to Romance goes back to my doctoral dissertation of 2003 at the University of Pennsylvania under the supervision of Paul M. Lloyd. His passionate interest in historical Romance linguistics and his distinguished scholarship, especially his monumental *From Latin to Spanish* (1987), have been a great source of inspiration for me.

An important point in the writing process of the present monograph was my participation in the 8th International Conference on Late and Vulgar Latin held at St Catherine's College, Oxford in September 2006. It offered me the first opportunity to present some of the study's key findings. I am especially grateful to the conference organizer and editor of its proceedings, Roger Wright (University of Liverpool), for his comments on my paper (Stolova 2008) and for discussing with me on several occasions my progress on this book. I am also thankful to the president of the session at which I gave my paper, Benjamín García-Hernández (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid), for providing me with his publications on Latin preverbatization.

Another venue which provided me with helpful feedback on some of the present study's main findings was the session on historical and contrastive description of the Romance languages at the 25th International Congress on Romance Linguistics and Philology held at the University of Innsbruck in September 2007. I am particularly grateful to the session's president, Peter Koch (University of Tübingen), for taking his time to discuss with me at length my presentation which was later published in the Congress' proceedings (Stolova 2010a).¹

My gratitude also goes to Joel Rini (University of Virginia), Donald Tuten (Emory University), Yanira B. Paz and Haralambos Symeonidis (both at the University of Kentucky), who were the organizers of the sessions on Hispanic and Romance linguistics at the annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference which I have been attending since 2006. Although at the University of Kentucky I spoke mostly on topics other than the topic of the present book, I always tried to integrate historical Romance data with cognitive linguistics, posing the following questions: (1) How can the cognitive framework help us explain the developments attested from Latin to Romance and (2) How can the developments attested from

1. Earlier, in 2004, Prof. Koch had kindly provided me with papers of his on cognitive historical Romance onomasiology and semasiology.

Latin to Romance help us refine and expand the cognitive framework? The fact that my audience found these questions stimulating, gave me the inspiration to advance these questions with regard to lexical change.

Another source of inspiration has been the work of Steven N. Dworkin (University of Michigan) on Spanish and Romance lexical change. I am thankful to him for providing me with his publications and for offering helpful comments and suggestions on earlier versions of parts of the manuscript. I have also greatly benefited from the conversations with David A. Pharies (University of Florida) about Latin and Romance word-formation and with Christopher J. Pountain (Queen Mary, University of London) about the phenomenon of capitalization. I am likewise grateful to Mark Davies (Brigham Young University) for discussing with me the textual composition, architecture, and interface of his *Corpus del Español* (Davies 2007): a number of Spanish examples in Chapters 6 and 7 of the book derive from this 100 million word historical corpus.

I would also like to thank several persons at my home University where I have been working since 2003. I am grateful to the staff at the Inter-Library Loan Department at Colgate library, particularly its Coordinator Ann Ackerson, for patiently helping me access the difficult-to-get multi-volume materials. At the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures I would like to thank my colleagues Frederick Luciani, Fernando Plata Parga, Patrick Riley, and Franziska Merklin for answering my questions about Spanish, French, and Italian. I am also thankful to Oana Patilea, Colgate University Class of 2012 and a native speaker of Romanian, for sharing with me her linguistic insights. My most sincere thanks also go to Patricia Ryan for going over my manuscript with me and making excellent suggestions on its English style. My work with both Ms. Patilea and Ms. Ryan was sponsored by the Colgate University Research Council, whose support I hereby gratefully acknowledge.

I have long admired the Current Issues in Linguistic Theory (CILT) series for combining linguistic data with theoretical advances. Because this book is both data-driven and theory-oriented, I would like to thank the General Editor of the CILT series, E.F.K. Koerner, for taking on this project and for supporting my work throughout all its stages with extraordinary dedication, remarkable patience, and generous help. Special thanks are also due to the three anonymous referees who read my manuscript with great care and offered detailed comments, constructive criticism, and valuable suggestions, all of which allowed me to refine my ideas and improve their presentation. Needless to say, I am the only one responsible for any remaining shortcoming. Last but not least, I would like to express my gratitude to Anke de Looper and Patricia Leplae at John Benjamins for their most professional assistance throughout the production process.