Technologies of Motivation in Second- and Third-Language Learning: Identity and Ownership through Multilingual Performance and Intercultural Practice

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Students in world language classes throughout the United States are increasingly multilingual and multicultural.  Monographs and articles on language teaching pedagogy emphasize the need for new methods, approaches, and perspectives that harness the knowledge of our multilingual students to facilitate the acquisition of new languages, yet the creation of multilingual content and materials lags far behind the desire and impetus for change. This keynote address observes how young people are learning languages through the multilingual practices and intercultural performances of Hip Hop, Reggaeton, and Latin Trap rappers and singers the world over. It analyzes how they document their acquisition through translanguaged blogs and multilingual exchanges. Finally, it proposes ways of harnessing this energy and applying it in pedagogical approaches that embrace translation and translanguaging as tools that promote identity and ownership in the language acquisition process.