

Program modules

Forum for literature, culture and society



Discussions and debates

The Literaturforum im Brecht-Haus encourages critical discourse through its regular conferences, panel discussions and public dialogues. The main focus of these events are literary issues and aesthetics but also debates about current social conflicts and controversies in recent history.



Readings and book launches

Essential components of the Forum's programming are moderated presentations of new literary works and projects as well as discussions of non-fiction works about historical and political topics, which enable direct encounters with the authors themselves.



Curated program series

Occasional multi-event series and workshops, curated by scholars, artists and public figures, complement the substantive orientation of the Forum's overall program.



A Forum for Brecht

Brecht and his work are a recurring presence in our programming efforts. In addition to the annual Brecht-Tage in February we regularly schedule events and lectures dedicated to his life, his times and his literary and theatrical contributions.

lfb TEXTE

Education and Publications

With *lfb TEXTE* the Literaturforum presents its own publication series. In cooperation with the Brecht-Weigel-Gedenkstätte and the Bertolt-Brecht-Archiv of the Academy of Arts of Berlin we can offer presentations, guided tours of the museum and Brecht's personal library as well as relevant film screenings to interested student and scholarly groups.



Guest events and facilities rental

To complement its program, the Literaturforum invites proposals for co-sponsored events by established organizations. Also, the Forum's facilities may be rented by groups for their own programs that conform to our profile.



About us

A historical site

Situated in the center of Berlin, the Literaturforum is located in the Brecht-Haus, a house of literature offering a diverse spectrum of events. The building became known as the last living and working quarters of Bertolt Brecht and his wife Helene Weigel after returning to Germany from exile during the Third Reich. Besides their apartments, which can be visited in the Brecht-Weigel-Gedenkstätte, the building also houses the Bertolt-Brecht-Archive, established in 1956.

Origins as the Brecht-Zentrum

The Literaturforum is the successor institution of the Brecht-Zentrum der DDR (East German Brecht Center), founded in 1978. Its mission was to provide lectures, discussions, workshops and group tours that promoted public access to Brecht's creative and intellectual legacy. In addition to numerous publications, e.g. proceedings of the annual Brecht-Tage, the Brecht-Zentrum published *notate*, which became an internationally appreciated journal about all things concerning Brecht.

Revival as the Literaturforum

After the turmoil in 1989 the Brecht-Zentrum ceased its activities. Formerly under the auspices of the East German Ministry of Culture, it was now transferred to the Berlin Office for Cultural Affairs, and a sponsor organization (Gesellschaft für Sinn und Form) was established in 1991 to support its mission. Under the new name BrechtZentrumBerlin the focus shifted to events about literary and artistic issues beyond Brecht. After the Brecht heirs objected to the use of his name in 1992, it was changed once again to the Literaturforum im Brecht-Haus.

Current status

As a site of exchange, discussion and knowledge production, the Literaturforum is a key player in contemporary literary and cultural discussions. In the spirit of Brecht we initiate critical debates about the social function of art and culture as well as about literature at the crossroads of history, the present and the other arts.



Contact



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