Lectures
Discussions
Workshops

# TRAGEDY & RESISTANCE

16.–17. 4. 26

Literaturforum im Brecht-Haus
Chausseestraße 125
10115 Berlin-Mitte

Eintritt frei!
Informationen zur Anmeldung auf **www.lfbrecht.de**.

Social Media @lfbrecht
Grafik: Annagraphics

Eine Initiative der Universität Gent, der Northumbria University, des Literaturforums im Brecht-Haus, des Arbeitskreises Politische Ästhetiken sowie der THALIA-Forschungsgruppe Theater, Literatur und Performance, UGent-VUBrussel. Mit freundlicher Unterstützung durch die Universität Gent.

Northumbria University NEWCASTLE
GHENT UNIVERSITY
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Literaturforum im Brecht-Haus

## Tragedy & Resistance
Lectures, discussions, workshops

Many contemporary challenges in our divided, unjust, and unequal world – ecocide, authoritarianism, populism, militarism, neo-imperialism, and nationalism – have their roots in the early modern European era. Early modern European drama – especially tragedy – represents and critiques that era, and tells us a lot about how we got here, and where we might go next.

This matters because our contemporary challenges necessitate an active and resistant response. Dominant approaches to literary analysis have often focused on 'unsettling' discourses that stimulate critical thinking, but with an open-ended, 'anti-instrumentalist' approach, and without necessarily connecting this to substantial social action.

In contrast, this event takes a transdisciplinary, transnational, and transhistorical approach to a specific historical genre – early modern tragedy – to foster an 'activist humanism' by offering an experimental space for contemporary social engagement and resistance, and by engaging literary scholars in dialogue with and to the benefit of activists, educators, and theatre makers. Interpreting early modern plays is therefore not an end in itself but a means to stimulate criticality framing and informing action and resistance.

[Veranstaltung auf Englisch / Event in English]

# 16.4.

**13:30**
Online Keynote Lecture
by **Caroline Levine** (Cornell University)

**14:30**
Questions and discussion, response led by **James Jarrett** on *Tragedy as Humanist Activism Now*

**15:15**
## Session 1: Gendered/Sexed Resistance

**Lena Kirsch** (Friedrich-Schiller Universität Jena): *Female leadership and resistance in Charlotte von Stein's »Dido« (1794)*

**Isabel von Holt** (Universität Hamburg): *Daniel Casper von Lohenstein's Plays as Exercises of Queer Resistance: A Neobaroque Reading*

**16:15**
Questions and discussion

**19:00**
Podiumsgespräch
[Veranstaltung auf Deutsch / Event in German]
## Zur politischen Reaktivierung historischer Tragödien

Mit **Jette Steckel, Ulrich Rasche** und **Cornelis van der Haven**
Moderation **Sophie Diesselhorst**

Wie können frühneuzeitliche Tragödien aus der Zeit 1550–1800 auf eine Weise reaktiviert werden, die uns heute zum kritischen Nachdenken über unsere Gesellschaft anregt – gar zu politischem Handeln motiviert?

[Veranstaltung auf Englisch / Event in English]

# 17.4.

**9:00**
Keynote Lecture
by **Marco Checchi** (Northumbria University)

**10:00**
Questions and discussion, response led by **Adam Hansen** on *Marlowe and Resistance*

**11:00**
## Session 2: Classical Resistances

**Marta Lietti** and **Marco Formisano** (Ghent University): *Unsettling Borders in Sophocles' »Oedipus at Colonus«*

**Sotera Fornaro** (University of Campania): *Tragedy and Resistance: The Antigone Paradigm*

**12:00**
Questions and discussion

**13:30**
## Session 3: Early Modern Resistances

**Canberk Doğalı** *Resistant Hermeneutics of Jouissance in »Antony« and »Cleopatra«*

**Emma Barrett** (University of Limerick): *Witchcraft, resistance, and masculinity in »The Tragedy of Sophonisba« (1606)*

**James Ee** (Cambridge University): *Samson Agonistes, The Tragedy of Antiperistasis*

**14:30**
Questions and discussion

**15:30**
## Session 4: Tragedy and Resistance Now

**Mia Zeko Panić** (University of Osijek): *The Child as Contemporary Pharmakos: Sacrifice, Ritual, and Pre-Dramatic Structures in Marius von Mayenburg's »Freie Sicht«*

**Adam Hansen** (Northumbria University): *Marlowe and Resistance*

**Cato Rooryck** (Ghent University): *»The land that is us«: King Lear as a Confrontation with Australia's Colonial Past and Present in »The Shadow King«*

**16:30**
Questions and discussion

Koordination **Cornelis van der Haven** und **Adam Hansen**