DramaNet

Early Modern European Drama
and the Cultural Net

THEATRE CULTURES WITHIN GLOBALISING EMPIRES

Looking at Early Modern England and Spain

International Conference
15–16 November 2012

Freie Universität Berlin
"Rostlaube"
Seminarzentrum,
Lecture Room L 115
Habelschwerdter Allee 45
14195 Berlin-Dahlem

www.fu-berlin.de/erc-dramanet

THEATRE CULTURES WITHIN GLOBALISING EMPIRES: LOOKING AT EARLY MODERN ENGLAND AND SPAIN

The conference aims, within the broad framework of DramaNet, to explore the particular cases of early modern England and Spain. These two European countries represent the only two competing imperial systems of the period, the former on the ascendant and the latter on the decline. Both powers had, by the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, managed to take dramatic culture to the masses and, through public staging in stationary theatres for affordable prices, reached a broad, socially diversified audience. England and Spain were also globalising Empires with wide-ranging cultural influence and growing multidimensional contacts with geographical spaces transcending Europe. The conference invites reflection and discussion on the following issues: How and to what extent are early modern English and Spanish theatrecultures interrelated with one another and/or with other European cultures? Considering the over-arching transmissive impact of England and Spain on the spaces they conquered, how could we describe these cultural connections in terms of theatre? One important aspect of this process is its two-way nature and the "floating back" of dramatic and other cultural-ideological material to and within metropolitan Europe.

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The DramaNet Project, funded by a European Research Council Advanced Grant, investigates early modern European drama and its global dissemination through the theoretical conceptualisation of the cultural net. Understood as a non-hierarchical structure created deliberately by human agency for given purposes, the cultural net enables the multi-directional circulation of conceptual and material forms, while facilitating the withdrawal of floating material from the net, irrespective of its spatial or temporal origin. Taken as an analytical tool, the concept of the cultural net frees literary texts from the boundaries of national cultures and enables reflection upon common traits between spatially or temporally separated dramatic works, as well as regarding the reception of a particular work in a given time or place remote from its origin. Moreover, the project investigates the role of theatre as a mass cultural phenomenon in social integration and, also, examines the relationship of theatre to other phenomena of early modern culture, while considering the extent to which early modern theatre can be regarded as organically modern. DramaNet examines the exchange of these conceptual and material desiderata that define early modern culture within European nation-states and between Europe and the non-European East, *viz*., India and Japan.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday, 15 November 2012

10:15–10:30   Introduction and Welcome by
JOACHIM KÜPPER (Freie Universität Berlin)

Section 1:   Transnational Aspects of European Drama
Chair: KATJA GVOZDEVA (Freie Universität Berlin/DramaNet)

10:30–11:15   *Session A*
M A KATRITZKY (The Open University, Milton
Keynes, UK):
*Stefanelo Botarga and Pickelhering: Fishy Italian
and English Stage Clowns in Spain and Germany*

11:15–12:00   *Session B*
TATIANA KORNEEVA (Freie Universität Berlin):
Carlo Gozzi's La Principessa filosofa *and his Comic
Actors*

12:00–12:15   Coffee Break

12:15–13:00   *Session C*
ROBERT HENKE (Washington University, St. Louis):
*Transnational Theatergrams of Poverty in Early
Modern English, Spanish, and Italian Theaters*

13:00–14:30   Lunch Break

**Section 2:   Intercultural Connections between English and
Spanish Drama**
Chair: GAUTAM CHAKRABARTI (Freie Universität Berlin/
DramaNet)

14:30–15:15   *Session A*
LEONIE PAWLITA (Freie Universität Berlin/DramaNet):
Dream and Doubt: Scepticism in Shakespeare's
Hamlet *and Calderón's* La vida es sueño

15:15–16:00   *Session B*
MADELINE RÜEGG (Freie Universität Berlin/DramaNet):
*The Patient Griselda Myth and Marriage Anxieties on
Early Modern English and Spanish Stages*

16:00–16:30   Coffee Break

16:30–17:15   *Session C*
MICHAEL ARMSTRONG-ROCHE (Wesleyan University,
Connecticut):
*Lope de Vega, John Webster, and the Duchess of
(A)malfi: Revisiting Comparative Narratives*

17:15–18:00   *Session D*
SUSANNE WOFFORD (New York University):
*Freedom and Constraint in Courtship across the
Boundary of Rank: The "Jest Unseen" of Love Letters
in* Two Gentlemen of Verona *and Lope de Vega's*
El Perro del Hortelano (Dog in a Manger)

Friday, 16 November 2012

Section 3:   Images of Spain on the English Stage
Chair: MADELINE RÜEGG (Freie Universität Berlin/DramaNet)

10:15–11:00   *Session A*
RALF HAEKEL (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen):
*The Image of Spain in the Early Modern English
Revenge Tragedy*

11:00–11:45   *Session B*
MARINA S. BROWNLEE (Princeton University):
Cervantine Curiosity and the English Stage

11:45–12:00   Coffee Break

12:00–12:45   *Session C*
SAUGATA BHADURI (Jawaharlal Nehru University,
New Delhi):
*Representations of Spain in Early Modern English
Drama: A Study in Polycolonial Angst*

12:45–14:15   Lunch Break

Section 4:   Between Europe and the Colonies
Chair: KIRILL OSPOVAT (Freie Universität Berlin/DramaNet)

14:15–15:00   *Session A*
BARBARA VENTAROLA (Julius-Maximilians-Universität
Würzburg):
*Multi-Didaxis in the Drama of Lope de Vega,
Calderón de la Barca and Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz*

15:00–15:45   *Session B*
JONATHAN GIL HARRIS (George Washington University,
Washington DC):
Tamburlaine in Hindustan

15:45–16:15   Coffee Break

16:15–17:00   *Session C*
GAUTAM CHAKRABARTI (Freie Universität Berlin/
DramaNet):
*'Eating the Yaban's Rice': Socio-Cultural
Transactions on the Mid-Colonial Bengali Stage*

17:00–17:45   *Session D*
RAJNISH KUMAR MISHRA (Jawaharlal Nehru University,
New Delhi):
*Indian Theatrical Experience in Globalising Empires:
Recognition of* Shakuntala *in the Early Modern
Europe*

17:45–18:15   Closing Remarks by MARTIN PUCHNER
(Harvard University)