



**18th Symposium of the International Brecht Society**

**Victoria, BC Canada**

**22–26 July 2026**

**Conference Schedule DRAFT**

**\*\*There will be various hybrid sessions (i.e. mix of in-person and remote presentations). Underlined names indicate remote presentation. Keynote presentations, panels, and other programming have unique Zoom links included. All times listed are Pacific Daylight Time\*\***

### **Sunday 19 July**

#### **Climate Disaster Survival Stories I**

**(pre-registration required)**

Sean Holman and Chelsea Haberlin

### **Monday 20 July**

#### **Climate Disaster Survival Stories II**

**(pre-registration required)**

Sean Holman and Chelsea Haberlin

### **Tuesday 21 July**

#### **Climate Disaster Survival Stories III**

**(pre-registration required)**

Sean Holman and Chelsea Haberlin

<b>13:00-18:00</b>	<b>Arrivals and Registration</b>
<b>18:30-20:00</b>	<b>Welcome Reception</b>

## Wednesday 22 July

<b>8:30-9:30</b>	<b>Light Breakfast &amp; Registration, cont.</b>		
<b>9:30-11:00</b>	<b>Keynote: Markus Wessendorf</b> , “Towards a Brechtian Dramaturgy of the Anthropocene” <a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a>		
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
<b>11:30-13:00</b> <b>Parallel Sessions</b>	<b>Panel 1</b> <i>Revolution and Gender</i> <b>Katherine Hollander</b> , “Brecht the Man, Brecht’s Men, Humans’ Brecht: Gender and Historical Contingency” <b>Friedemann Weidauer</b> , “‘Mein Körper gehört mir’ – Aber wem gehört die Welt? <i>Kuhle Wampe</i> and <i>Die Legende von Paul und Paula</i> in comparison” <b>Artun Ak</b> , The Nature of Revolution in Slatan Dudow and Bertolt Brecht’s <i>Kuhle Wampe</i> ” (hybrid session) <a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a>	<b>Panel 2</b> <i>Critical Gestures, Humanity, and Calls for Action</i> <b>Micha Braun</b> : “‘Können uns und euch und niemand helfen!’ <i>Mahagonny</i> as a call to action for today?” <b>Wei Jiang</b> , “Thomas Manns und Bertolt Brechts Vorstellungen von der ‘neuen Humanität’ mit Fokus auf ihren Auseinandersetzungen mit dem klassischen Erbe” <b>Troy Vettese</b> , “Of Useless Trees, Planetary Management, and <i>Wuwei</i> ” (hybrid session) <a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a>	<b>Panel 3</b> <i>Contextualising “Die Sintflut”</i> <b>Phoebe Von Held and Lizzie Stewart</b> “Contextualizing <i>Die Sintflut</i> ” “Producing <i>The Flood</i> ” (fully remote session) <a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a>
<b>13:00-15:00</b>	<b>Informal networking / meet and greet (catered lunch)</b>		
<b>Running</b>	<b>Drop-in exhibit: Berlin Verses – An Adaptation of Brecht and Eisler's <i>Hollywooder Liederbuch</i></b> (Andrew Munn)		
<b>15:00-16:00</b>	<b>Book Roundtable I: Unsere Hoffnung ist die Krise. Brecht’s Interviews as Resource and Call to Action</b> (Noah Willumsen, Katherine Hollander, Nikolaus Müller-Schöll, Markus Wessendorf)		
<b>16:15-17:45</b> <b>Parallel Sessions</b>	<b>Panel 4</b> <i>Brecht-Tage 2026 Report: BB’s Green Revolution</i>	<b>Panel 5</b> <i>Social Relations and the Non-Human</i>	<b>Panel 6</b>

	<p><b>Troy Vettese</b> <b>Marc Silberman</b></p>	<p><b>Robert Franklin</b>, “Anthropocene Seasonality and Environmental Rhythms in <i>Mother Courage and Her Children</i>” <b>Carl Martin</b>, “The Liminal Littoral in Brecht’s <i>Leben Eduard des Zweiten</i>.” <b>Henrique Laurentino</b>, “Brecht’s Legacy in the Portuguese Culture”</p>	<p><b>Gestic Dissonance: Queer Aesthetics and Temporalities After the End of (the) (Hu)Man</b></p> <p><b>Sam Kolodezh</b>, “<i>Saint Joan of the Stockyards</i> and the Ridiculous Hope of the Counter-Apocalypse: Brecht in the Key of Camp”</p> <p><b>Kara Raphaeli</b>, “Be a Mensch: Nonbinary Embodiment and the Brechtian Stage”</p> <p><b>Wind Woods</b>, “Gestic Refusal and Non-Performance: What if Brecht’s <i>Chalk Circle</i> was a Cypher?”</p>
<b>17:45-19:30</b>	<b>Dinner on your own</b>		
<b>19:30-21:30</b>	<b>Performance:</b> Climate Disaster Survival Stories (Sean Holman/Chelsea Haberlin)		

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## Thursday 23 July

<b>8:30-9:30</b>	<b>Light Breakfast</b>		
<b>9:30-11:00</b>	<p><b>Keynote: Abhilash Pillai</b>, “Brecht in the Capitalocene: Performing Resistance from the Global South”</p> <p><a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a></p>		
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
<b>11:30-13:00</b> <b>Parallel Sessions</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Panel 7</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Opera and the Lehrstück in the Anthropocene</i></p> <p><b>Stephen Brockmann</b>, “Brecht, <i>Mahagonny</i>, and the Anthropocene”</p> <p><b>Francesco Sani</b>, “Brecht and the Scope of Art in the Anthropocene: Dialectics and the</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Panel 8</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Nature and Disaster: Sezuan, Galileo, Caucasian Chalk Circle</i></p> <p><b>Anshul Malik</b>, “Alienation and Ecology: Brechtian Techniques in Contemporary Indian Theatre”</p> <p><b>Eve Yi Lin</b>, “‘Nature’ in the Court of Humanity”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Panel 9</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Talking About Rivers and Trees. “Critical Gestures” on Infrastructure, Relationality, and Ecological Sensitivity</i></p> <p><b>Fanti Baum</b>, “‘lying on one’s back’: Becoming a Diplomat”</p> <p><b>Bernhard Siebert</b>, “Beyond Birnam. Performing Arboreality After Brecht”</p> <p><b>Julia Schade</b>, “‘The raging Torrent is called Violent’: Liquid Dramaturgies in the Wake of</p>

	<p>Political Meaning of Creative Expression”</p> <p><b>Anthony Squires</b>, “Contradiction &amp; Hope: <i>Der Jasager / Der Neinsager</i>”</p> <p>(hybrid panel)</p> <p><a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a></p>	<p><b>Martin Woesler</b>, <i>Brecht's Caucasian Chalk Circle</i> and the Chinese <i>Yuan Zaju Huilan Ji: Paths of Transcultural Adaptation</i>”</p> <p>(hybrid session)</p> <p><a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a></p>	<p>Extractivism”</p> <p><b>Leon Gabriel</b>, “Gestures in the Contact Zone: Infrastructural Dramaturgy and the Promise of Indigenous Epistemologies”</p> <p>(hybrid session)</p> <p><a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a></p>
<b>13:30-15:00</b>	<b>Working Lunch / IBS Business Meeting (bring your own lunch)</b>		
<b>15:00-16:30</b>	<b>Presentation/Exhibit:</b> Landscapes of Exile / Brecht’s Paper War (running drop-in exhibit) (Grisha Meyer, presentation in German with Q&A in German and English)		
<b>16:30-17:00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
<b>17:00-18:00</b>	<b>Lecture-Recital:</b> “Hanns Eisler’s and Bertolt Brecht’s <i>Hollywood Elegies</i> ” (Harald and Sharon Krebs)		
	<b>Dinner on your own / evening free</b>		
<b>19:00-21:00</b>	<b>Workshop:</b> Performing the Non-Human I (Conrad Alexandrowicz) <b>Pre-registration required</b>		
<b>20:00-22:35</b>	<b>Optional film evening in collaboration with DEFA Film Library</b> <i>Das Lied der Ströme/The Song of the Rivers</i> (dir. Joris Ivens, 1954, 95 mins, Germ. <u>with no sub.</u> ) <i>Der Schneider von Ulm/The Tailor of Ulm</i> (dir. Lutz Dambeck, 1979, 14 mins, Germ. with Eng. sub.) <i>Eine Hinterlassenschaft/A Legacy</i> (dir. Peter Voigt, 2004, 22 mins, Germ. with Eng. sub.)		

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**Friday 24 July**

<b>8:00-9:00</b>	<b>Light Breakfast</b>
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9:00-11:00	<p align="center"><b>Lecture-Performance: Buying Brass in the Curacene</b>          (Teresa Kovacs, Kevin Rittberger, Marc Silberman)          (hybrid session)  <a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a></p>		
11:00-11:30	<p align="center"><b>Coffee Break</b></p>		
11:30-13:00	<p align="center"><b>Keynote: Martin Revermann, “Brecht and/on Time”</b>  <a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a></p>		
13:00-14:30	<p align="center"><b>Lunch on your own</b></p>		
14:30-15:30	<p align="center"><b>Book Roundtable II: Author Meets Critics.</b>          Bertolt Brecht’s Adaptations and Anti-Capitalist Aesthetics Today          (Anthony Squires, Jack Davis, Joerg Esleben, Noah Willumsen, Wei Zhang)</p>		
<p><b>15:45-17:15</b>  <b>Parallel Sessions</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Panel 10</b>  <i>Brecht, Prose, and Environmental Thought</i></p> <p><b>Wei Zhang</b>, “Anthropocene Resonance between Brecht and Zhuangzi”  <b>Kristopher Imbrigotta</b>, “Adaptability and Ecological Consciousness in the <i>Stories of Mr. Keuner</i>”  <b>Necdet Sevimili</b>, “The reification of suffering and alternative pedagogies of resistance: Brecht as a theorist of spectatorship”</p>	<p align="center"><b>Panel 11</b>  <i>Human Potential, Aesthetics, and Praxis</i></p> <p><b>Elisa Mazzocato</b>, “Brecht und Dürrenmatt: Strategien der Verfremdung für das Theater im Anthropozän”  <b>Elena Pnevmonidou XXXX</b>  <b>Paul Brodowsky</b>, “A Manifesto for Theatre Practice in the Anthropocene”          (hybrid session)  <a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a></p>	<p align="center"><b>Panel 12</b>  <i>Brecht in Dialogue with Karl Kraus and Peter Weiss</i></p> <p><b>Guillaume Reussner</b>, “Bertolt Brecht, Karl Kraus und das verfremdende Theater im Anthropozän”  <b>Loren Kruger</b>, “‘When Speaking About Trees is Almost a Crime’: Exile, Death and Renewal in <i>The Aesthetics of Resistance</i>”</p>
<p align="center"><b>Evening free / Dinner on your own</b></p>			
17:30-19:30	<p align="center"><b>Workshop: Performing the Non-Human II</b> (Conrad Alexandrowicz)  <b>Pre-registration required</b></p>		

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## Saturday 25 July

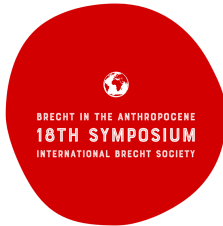
<b>8:00-9:00</b>	<b>Light Breakfast</b>	
<b>9:00-10:30</b>	<b>Keynote: Theresa May</b> , “Coming into Relation: The Power of Stories in Cultural Collaborations” <a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a>	
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
<b>11:00-13:00</b>	<b>Performance: Performing the Non-Human - Walk through the Mystic Vale</b> (Conrad Alexandrowicz)	
<b>13:00-14:30</b>	<b>Lunch on your own</b>	
<b>14:30-16:00</b> <b>Parallel Sessions</b>	<b>Panel 13</b> <i>Colonialism, Exploitation, and Crisis Capitalism</i>  <b>Aldo Milohnić and Jakob Ribič</b> , “Historicization versus Naturalization in Brecht’s and our ‘Dark Times’” <b>Nikolaus Müller-Schöll</b> , “Brechts A-humanismus: „Der Ölkrieg“, Autoritarismus und Brechts Spielräume der Resilienz” <b>Ella Ziel</b> , “Environmental Agency and Industrialist Exploitation in <i>The Exception and the Rule</i> ”	<b>Panel 14</b> <i>Technology, Mediation, Science</i>  <b>Tom Kuhn</b> , “BB and the Automobile: Snapshots from a Love Story” <b>Sebastian Kirsch</b> , “Straßenszene im Anthropozän: Vom Steyrwagen zum Autobot” <b>Thereza de Jesus Santos Junqueira</b> , “Crossing the Ocean with Bertolt Brecht”
<b>16:15-19:15</b>	<b>Workshop: RASA Box + Brecht. Ecology and the Human Body</b> (Abhilash Pillai) <b>Pre-registration required</b>	
<b>19:30</b>	<b>Gala Dinner Reception at UVic University Club (optional)</b> <b>Pre-registration and fee required</b>	

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## Sunday 26 July

<b>9:00-10:00</b>	<b>Light Breakfast</b>		
<b>10:00-11:30 Parallel Sessions</b>	<p><b>Panel 15</b> <i>Ecocritical Storytelling and Brecht in Canada</i></p> <p><b>Jörg Esleben and Misha Kostrov</b>, “A Brechtian Toolkit for Canadian Ecocritical Theatre”</p> <p><b>Jure Zrilic</b>, “International Law in the Capitalocene: A Brechtian Intervention”</p> <p><b>John Bessai</b>, “Epic Estrangement for the Anthropocene: Brechtian Techniques in NFBC Digital Storytelling” (hybrid session) <a href="#">[Zoom link to join]</a></p>	<p><b>Panel 16</b> <i>Brecht, Global Capitalism, and Theory</i></p> <p><b>Hunter Bivens</b>, “‘The monster rises, making merchandise of nature itself.’ Brecht, Mauler, and Bersiev on Labor and Ecological Metabolism</p> <p><b>David Schwartz</b>, “Dialectical Theater as an Instrument for Environmentally Engaged Performance: Insights from Romania”</p>	<p><b>Panel 17</b> <i>Mining Regimes and Justice in “Mahagonny”</i></p> <p><b>Lily Climenhaga</b>, “Documenting Mahagonnys: Intersectional Critique, <i>Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny</i>, and Resource Extraction in Documentary Theatre”</p> <p><b>Eyck Marcus Wendt</b>, “Justice Beyond the Pit: Political Provocation and the Opera”</p> <p><b>Elia Rediger</b>, “Artistic Reflections on ‘The Irrationality of the Operatic Form’”</p>
<b>11:30-11:55</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>		
<b>12:00-13:30</b>	<b>Seeing the Forest for the Trees: Symposium Plenary Roundtable and Workshops Debrief</b>		
<b>TBD</b>	<b>Optional group excursion TBD</b>		
<b>18:00-21:00</b>	<b>Closing Party and Farewells (hosted by Elena Pnevmonidou)</b>		

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**18th IBS Symposium Organizing Committee:**

Micha Braun, University of Leipzig (Germany)  
 Stephen Brockmann, Carnegie Mellon University (USA)  
 Joerg Esleben, University of Ottawa (Canada)  
 Kristopher Imbrigotta, University of Puget Sound (USA)  
 Abhilash Pillai, National School of Drama (India)  
 Elena Pnevmonidou, University of Victoria (Canada)  
 Marc Silberman, University of Wisconsin (USA)  
 Stefan Soldovieri, University of Toronto (Canada)  
 Anthony Squiers, American Musical and Dramatic Academy (USA)  
 Markus Wessendorf, University of Hawaii (USA)

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The University of Victoria  
 The University of Puget Sound  
 The University of Toronto  
 International Brecht Society  
*German Life and Letters*  
 Newworld Theatre



German Life and Letters

International Brecht Society