12. Międzynarodowy Festiwal Literatury i Teatru
between.pomiędzy
Trójmiasto 10—16 maja 2021

The Twelfth Beckett Seminar in Gdańsk 2021

Dates: 12th and 13th May 2021 (21.00 Gdańsk/Paris/CET time)

Organized by The University of Gdańsk in partnership with Florida State University (USA), Federal University of Goiás (Brazil) and the Trinity Centre for Beckett Studies (Ireland).

"You turn on without moving from your place the light above you. Your eyes light on the watch lying beneath it. But instead of reading the hour of night they follow round and round the second hand now followed and now preceded by its shadow." (*Company*)

Dedicated to the memory of
Ryszard Ronczewski and Jerzy Limon

INVITATION

The University of Gdańsk Samuel Beckett Seminar will be held on 12th and 13th May 2021 as part of the Between.Pomiędzy Festival of Literature and Theatre. Our intention is to respond to the unprecedented relevance of contemporary topics like incessant waiting, overwhelming frustration, uncertain futures, and enforced isolation to the lives of people around the world. We are well aware that artistic representations of typically Beckettian themes are no longer matters for highbrow speculation conducted just among scholars but have become part of the common experience of everyone. Concentrating on the ways in which artistic achievements of Beckett have triggered enormous creativity in the virtual world (in Wuhan, Moscow, Warsaw, Dublin, Tallahassee, Worcester, Boston, and elsewhere), we also intend to take this occasion to review several activities of the research group, including a laboratory film, *Beckett on the Baltic* (by SE Gontarski), and various forms of approaching *Ohio Impromptu*, a miniature that Beckett sent to Gontarski forty years ago this year.

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The speakers include:

Ohio@40: SE Gontarski (USA), Jon McKenna (UK), Robson Corrêa de Camargo (Brazil), Paul S. Shields (USA), Octavian Saiu (Romania), and Nicholas Johnson (Ireland). Chair: Tomasz Wiśniewski (Poland).

The Virtual Beckett: Nicholas Johnson (Ireland), Kathryn Syssoyeva (USA), Diana Zhdanova (Russia), Przemysław Wasilkowski (Poland), Adrianna Cudnik (Polska), Philip Salata (USA), Daniel Jackson (USA) Lloyd Bricken (USA) and Kyle Gillette (USA). Chair: Tomasz Wiśniewski (Poland).

Keynote address:
Professor SE Gontarski (Florida State University), *Beckett's Dystopian Trilogy: The Irrelevance of Godot*

Special session:
Godot in Wuhan: Professor Peng Tao (Central Academy of Drama, Beijing), Wang Chong (Théâtre du Rêve Expérimental, Beijing) in conversation with Tomasz Wiśniewski

We would like to invite students, scholars, and artists who wish to join us in both sessions: *Ohio@40* and *The Virtual Beckett*. Contact us at: tomasz.wisniewski@ug.edu.pl by 10th May 2021. There is no conference fee.

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The University of Gdańsk Samuel Beckett Seminars have been organized every year since 2010 by the Beckett Research Group in Gdańsk, led by Tomasz Wiśniewski. They have been attended by scholars and artists from various parts of the world and have resulted in several publications, film documentaries, workshops/laboratories, and theatre productions. Guest speakers have included: Marcello Magni (Complicite), Douglas Rintoul (Transport Theatre), Jon McKenna (UK), Antoni Libera (Poland), Jarosław Fret (Teatr ZAR), Enoch Brater (USA), H. Porter Abbott (USA), Derek Attridge (United Kingdom), Antonia Rodríguez-Gago (Spain), Nadia Kamel (Egypt), Mark Nixon (UK), Luz Maria Sánchez-Cardona (Mexico), Robson Corrêa de Camargo (Brazil), Octavian Saiu (Romania), and Patricio Orozco (Argentina). Professor S.E. Gontarski is the honorary patron of the research group. For more information see: www.between.org.pl.

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