

## SIMULATING DRAMATIC NETWORKS

Ein Vortrag im Rahmen der Ringvorlesung DH des interdisziplinären Forschungsverbundes Digital Humanities in Berlin

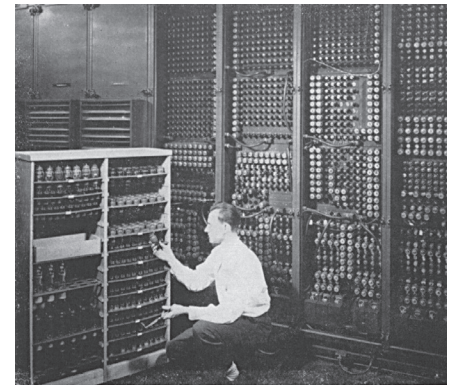
**Mittwoch, 29.11.2017 / 19:00 Uhr**

Akademiegebäude am Gendarmenmarkt  
Leibniz-Saal, Markgrafenstraße 38, 10117 Berlin

Um Anmeldung wird gebeten bis zum 23.11. unter  
<https://www2.bbaw.de/Anmeldung-DH-Moretti>

This will be a lecture on drama that, instead of analyzing real plays, as we literary critics usually do, will discuss a series of simulations of dramatic networks. Behind this research project – which is still in process at the Stanford Literary Lab – lie two assumptions: first, that a network of Hamlet is as plausible a starting point for analysis as Shakespeare's text itself; and, second, that simulations reveal aspects of literary form that actual works don't allow us to understand. The argument is twice removed from literary works – plays become networks become simulations – in the hope that this double somersault will make us see something we hadn't before.

Concretely, we establish four parameters – "centrality", "loyalty", "reciprocity", and "casting" – which we "turn" more or less like one does with the knobs of a stove or of a hi-fi system: we change their settings, and this changes dramatic form in different directions. It's really like conducting an experiment with the elements of literary structure. At the end, the outcomes are evaluated against four sets of tragic plays: by Sophocles, Shakespeare, Racine, and Ibsen. Whether the experiment was successful – in fact, what does "successful" even mean, in a case like this – will be for the audience to decide.



Replacing a bad tube meant checking among ENIAC's 19,000 possibilities.

**Begrüßung**  
**Eva Cancik-Kirschbaum**  
Freie Universität Berlin /  
Akademienmitglied

**Simulating Dramatic Networks**  
**Franco Moretti**  
Permanent Fellow am Wissen-  
schaftskolleg zu Berlin / Stanford  
University

**Der Vortrag wird in  
englischer Sprache gehalten.**

**Der Eintritt ist frei.  
Eine Anmeldung ist erforderlich.**

HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN



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### Weitere Informationen

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### Anfahrt

S-Bahn bis Friedrichstraße / U2 bis Hausvogteiplatz oder Stadtmitte / U6 bis Französische Straße oder Stadtmitte. Bei Anfahrt mit dem eigenen PKW empfehlen wir die Nutzung der umliegenden Parkhäuser.