

Performativity in Literature. The Lund–Nanjing Seminars. Kungl. Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien (KVHAA), *Konferenser 91.* Stockholm 2016. 280 pp.

Abstract

The volume *Performativity in Literature. The Lund–Nanjing Seminars* contains a series of wide-ranging essays on the application of performance theory and the concept of performativity in literary studies, as well as on the practical and theoretical implications of such applications. In three thematic sections, 'Identity', 'Changing reality', and 'Beyond eventness' – with literary examples from China, Sweden, and the English-speaking world – the essays seek answers to the fundamental question of what a particular text does in a certain situation. And, in answering, each essay conceives of the text not only as meaning but as action.

The seventeen papers were originally discussed in joint seminars in Lund and Nanjing in the beginning of 2014, and presented at a conference in Stockholm in October 2014.

Keywords

performance studies, performance theory, performativity, Performativität, Chinese literature, world literature, theatre studies, Mo Yan, Henriette Widerberg, Henry David Thoreau, Athena Farrokhzad, Edgar Allan Poe, Malin Biller, August Wilson, Christina of Sweden, Wang Youqin, Song Binbin, Helen Vendler, Han Shaogong, William Shakespeare, Shen Xiling, Farley Mowat, Gao Xingjian, Gertrude Stein, Harryette Mullen

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