

## "All sturm and no drang": Beckett and romanticism: Beckett at Reading 2006/

Hulle, Dirk van,
editor
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editor
Rodopi,
2007

Electronic books Conference papers and proceedings Criticism,
interpretation, etc.

This new issue of Samuel Beckett Today / Aujourd?hui contains three sections: Beckett and Romanticism, the conference proceedings of Beckett at Reading 2006, and finally a collection of miscellaneous essays. In the past few decades there have been scattered efforts to address the topic of Beckett and Romanticism, but it remains difficult to fathom his ambiguous and somewhat paradoxical attitude toward this period in literature, music and art history. Although far from being a comprehensive examination, the dossier on?Beckett and Romanticism? represents the first sustained attempt to give an impetus to the study of this complex theme. Presented here are contributions on Beckett?s attitudes toward Romantic aesthetics in general, including notions such as the sublime, irony, failure, ruins, fragments, fancy, imagination, epitaphs, translation, unreachable horizons, the infinite, the infinitesimal and the unfinished, but also on Beckett?s reading about the Romantic period, his affinity with specific Romantic artists and their influence on works such as Murphy, the trilogy, Krapp?s Last Tape and All Strange Away. The second part of the current issue presents a selection of papers given at the Beckett at Reading 2006 conference in Reading, organised by the Beckett International Foundation to honour the writer?s centenary. Reflecting the importance of the Beckett Foundation?s Archive to scholars, many of these essays present new empirical research in the field of manuscript studies. Further areas of research are illuminated by other contributions which, together with the essays contained in the 'Free Space? section, show the importance and benefits of scholarly dialogue and cross-fertilization between different approaches in current Beckett Studies

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**Título:** "All sturm and no drang" Beckett and romanticism: Beckett at Reading 2006 edited by Dirk Van Hulle and Mark Nixon

Editorial: Amsterdam New York, NY Rodopi 2007

**Descripción física:** 1 online resource (428 pages)

Mención de serie: Samuel Beckett today/aujourd'hui 18

**Nota general:** Includes selections of papers given at the Beckett at Reading 2006 conference in Reading April 30-May 2, 2006

Bibliografía: Includes bibliographical references

Contenido: "All Sturm and no Drang"; TABLE OF CONTENTS; INTRODUCTION; BECKETT AND ROMANTICISM; "ACCURSED CREATOR": Beckett, Romanticism, and "the Modern Prometheus"; FAILURE AND TRADITION: COLERIDGE / BECKETT; THE LONG VIEW: Beckett, Johnson, Wordsworth and the Language of Epitaphs; BECKETT AND ROMANTICISM IN THE 1930s; SAMUEL BECKETT AND ANTHROPOMORPHIC INSOLENCE; TWO VERSIONS OF NACHT UND TRÄUME: What Franz Schubert Tells Us about a Favourite Song of Beckett; THE "IRRATIONAL HEART": Romantic Disillusionment in Murphy and The Sorrows of Young Werther BECKETT'S SUBLIME IRONIES: The Trilogy, Krapp's Last Tape, and the Remainders of RomanticismROMANTIC AGONY: Fancy and Imagination in Samuel Beckett's All Strange Away; BECKETT AT READING 2006; "EN UN LUGAR DELLA MANCHA": Samuel Beckett's Reading of Don Quijote in the Whoroscope Notebook; NEITHERWAYS: Long Ways in Beckett's Shorts; FROM AN ABANDONED WORK: "all the variants of the one"; BECKETT AND "L'ORDRE NATUREL": The Universal Grammar of Comment c'est/How It Is; BECKETT AND THE GERMAN LANGUAGE: Text and Image; "WHAT A MALE!": Triangularity, Desire and Precedence in "Before Play" and Play "ALBA" AND "DORTMUNDER": Signposting Paradise and the Balls-aching WorldSAMUEL BECKETT'S "CHE SCIAGURA" AND THE SUBVERSION OF IRISH MORAL CONVENTION; A RUMP SEXUALITY: The Recurrence of Defecating Horses in Beckett's Oeuvre; MURPHY, ORDER, CHAOS; KNOWING HOW TO GO ON ENDING; THE THEATRE OF LE DEPEUPLEUR; "HOLO AND UNHOLO": The Beckett Digital Manuscript Project; FREE SPACE; BECKETT JUDAIZING BECKETT:" a Jew from Greenland" in Paris; "THE ACUTE AND INCREASING ANXIETY OF THE RELATION ITSELF": Beckett, the Author-Function, and the Ethics of Enunciation; DEMENTED VS. CREATIVE EMULATION IN MURPHY FALLING DOWN AND STANDING UP AND FALLING DOWN AGAIN ... MOLLOY: DE 'JEUX DE MOTS' AUX MODALITÉS PO(Ï)ÉTIQUES DE CONFIGURATION TEXTUELLE; POSTURE DE LA PRIÈRE, ÉCRITURE DE LA PRÉCARITÉ; RENCONTRE DE CHARLES JULIET AVEC SAMUEL BECKETT: "Cette parole nue qui vient de la souffrance"; NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

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**ISBN:** 9781435613430 electronic bk.) 1435613430 electronic bk.) 9789401205153 9401205159 9042023015 9789042023017

**Materia Nombre:** Beckett, Samuel 1906-1989)- Criticism and interpretation-- Congresses Beckett, Samuel 1906-1989)- Critique et interprétation Beckett, Samuel 1906-1989) Congrès Beckett, Samuel 1906-1989)

**Materia:** Romanticism- Congresses Romantisme LITERARY CRITICISM- European- English, Irish, Scottish, Welsh Romanticism Romantiek

Autores: Hulle, Dirk van, editor Nixon, Mark, editor

**Enlace a formato físico adicional:** Print version "All sturm and no drang". Amsterdam; New York, NY: Rodopi, 2007 9042023015 9789042023017 (OCoLC)181068599

Punto acceso adicional serie-Título: Samuel Beckett today/aujourd'hui 18

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