



Università degli Studi di Messina
Dipartimento di Civiltà Antiche e Moderne



Centro Europeo di Studi su
Mito e Simbolo



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

One Hundred Years of **K**kafka

International Conference



26 OCTOBER 2024

On-line 08:30-15:30 (London) / 09:30-16:30 (Rome)

TO JOIN: <https://kafka-2024.github.io/Conference/>

Walter Benjamin pointed out that to truly grasp Kafka's work, one must consider his perceived failure, as evidenced by his last will, which directed that his works be destroyed. This notion of failure suggests that attempts to interpret his writings might also be flawed. Yet, it is within this context of failure that Kafka crafted a new vision of humanity. He developed a keen sense of emerging laws and relationships, despite the lack of guarantees, which is ironic for him who was an insurance agent.

Kafka, much like his character the eternal wanderer Hunter Gracchus, was an outsider. This is mirrored in the animals of his stories, who are secluded beneath the earth, shielded from the world above. From this unique perspective, Kafka was able to look beyond the mundane and identify 'messianic splinters'—small yet significant glimpses of possible future transformations scattered amid the debris of the present.

Scientific and Organising Committee

Aisling Reid (Queen's University, Belfast)

Valentina Surace (University of Messina)

Morning Session

Opening remarks 8:30 (London) / 9.30 (Rome)
Giuseppe Ucciardello (University of Messina)

Panel 1 8.45-10.30 (London) / 9.45-11.30 (Rome)

Chair Aisling Reid (Queen's University, Belfast)

Caterina Resta (University of Messina)
Kafka e la "malattia della tradizione". Il divergente accordo tra Benjamin e Scholem

Natascia Mattucci (University of Macerata)
Kafka pro and contra. Critical profiles of membership

Sandro Gorgone (University of Messina)
The vertigo of guilt. Günther Anders' duel with Kafka

Flash Presentation Chiara Vita (University of Messina)
The attentiveness to creatures. Walter Benjamin interpreter of Kafka

Discussion

Panel 2 10.40-12.00 (London) / 11.40-13.00 (Rome)

Chair: Craig Wallace (Queen's University, Belfast)

Rebecca Bamford (Queen's University, Belfast)
Kafka and Nietzsche on perspectivism and affect

Annalisa Caputo (University of Bari)
Una letteratura minore? Kafka come cartina di tornasole

Flash Presentation Dominic Harkin (Queen's University, Belfast)
Gracchus among the Eleatics: Notes on an Aspect of Kafka's Humour

Discussion

Lunch Break 12.00-14.00 (London) / 13.00-15.00 (Rome)

Afternoon Session

Panel 3 14.00-15.15 (London) / 15.00-16.15 (Rome)

Chair Sandro Gorgone (University of Messina)

Valentina Surace (University of Messina)
Kafka between Law and Exile

Aisling Reid (Queen's University, Belfast)
The Isle of Exile: Dora Diamant and the Kafkaesque World of Exile

Craig Wallace (Queen's University, Belfast)
*The "logic of a dream... or a nightmare":
Animated Film Adaptations of Kafka's The Trial and Metamorphosis*

Discussion

15:30 (London) / 16.30 (Rome)

Closing remarks Aisling Reid and Valentina Surace