

The Research Institute for Literature and Cultural History

2022/23 RILCH Seminar Programme

Dante and the witnessing of violence

Professor Brad Evans, University of Bath

Friday 4 November 2022 @ 5.30pm, via Teams

This seminar will address the enduring legacy of Dante Alighieri when it comes to the witnessing of violence. Looking at the way the poet deals with the triangulation between perpetrators, victims and witnesses to violence, it will attend to both the ecology of suffering in his work and ask what ethical lessons can be drawn today. The talk will further attend to the role of the sacred as it appears in the *Divine Comedy*, including how Dante's commitment to sacrificial violence proves integral to how to think about violence today.



Brad Evans is a political philosopher, critical theorist, and writer, who specializes on the problem of violence. He is author of over 20 books and edited volumes, including most recently *Ecce Humanitas: Beholding the Pain of Humanity* (2020); *Conversations on Violence: An Anthology* (with Adrian Parr, 2020) and *The Atrocity Exhibition* (2019). Having led a dedicated series of discussions on violence with

the New York Times, he currently leads the *Los Angeles Review of Books* "Histories of Violence" section. Brad is currently the Chair of Political Violence and Aesthetics at the University of Bath, United Kingdom.

Please register to attend this event [here](#).