

Banalopoulou Christina

TragedyMachine(s): Deleuze, Guattari and the “Ethography” of Greek Debt Sustainability.

standard lecture

Through placing particular emphasis on the narratives that frame Greece’s current condition as a “national debt crisis,” I will argue that the relation between Greece and its international creditors is not a dialectical relation of a resolvable exchange, but a series of asymmetrical and non-resolvable creditor/ debtor power relations that sustain, and thus never cancel, debt. In the case of Greece, the inscription (graphein) of sustainable debt is performed through a contradictory “ethography” that, on the one hand, frames as ethical the debt that is sustainable, and thus infinite and non-payable, and on the other, calls upon narratives of ethos in order to demand its repayment. According to Deleuze and Guattari, Nietzsche traced that contradictory inscription of infinite debt, and its potential destruction, back to attic tragedy. In my presentation I will argue that Deleuze and Guattari’s Anti-Oedipus calls for a machinic understanding of tragedy that could conceptualize performances that resist this contradictory “ethography” of Greek debt sustainability.

Bio:

Christina Banalopoulou is a fourth year PhD candidate in Theatre and Performance Studies. She holds a BA in sociology and an MA in social and cultural anthropology, both from Panteion University of Athens, Greece. She is also a Certified Movement Analyst (CMA), a salsa dancer and zumba instructor. Christina is currently working on her dissertation: “TragedyMachines: Performances of Power and Resistance after the Greek Referendum of 2015.” Her research interests include the interplay between performance studies and Deleuze studies.

