## The Classics in Fanfiction and Adaptation

## 19 February 2025

Organised by Andrea Baldan, Francesco Giusti, Nina Heise, and Simon Prahl

Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Campus Westend, SH 0.109

The global dissemination of Dante's *Commedia* is evident in its diverse reception in contemporary literature, cinema, music, and in the visual and performing arts. The medieval poem has been interpreted, translated, and adapted countless times over the centuries, and the celebrations of the 700th anniversary of Dante's death in 2021 have further boosted these efforts. The workshop sets out to explore recent cases of adaptation, including fan fictions uploaded to the *Archive of Our Own* platform between 2013 and 2022 and children's books published after 2021. These cases will also prompt theoretical reflection on questions of appropriation and adaptation for different audiences and through different media.



Actualizations of English and German "classics" will serve as a foil for Dante's (re)appropriation in non-profit (fan) fiction. William Shakespeare's works are widely adapted across the *Archive of Our Own* in different forms and formats – including re-readings of popular plays through the lens of the *Commedia*. In a German context, Goethe and Schiller are two of the most famous authors and classicists. Fan fiction often depicts them in a modern setting, as teachers, coffee shop owners or actors. The workshop will thus also interrogate how historic authors are transposed into the contemporary.

## Programme

13:30-13:45 Andrea Baldan, Nina Heise, and Francesco Giusti, Introduction

13:45-14:45 Simone Marsi (Parma), *The Adaptation of the Divine Comedy in Contemporary Children's Literature* 

14:45-15:45 Nina Heise (Frankfurt): *Divine Comedies? How Fan Fiction Engages with Canon(s)* via Shakespeare and Dante

15:45-16:00 Coffee Break

16:00-17:00 Mattia Petricola (Padova), "Do You Mind if I Call You Dan?": Transforming the Comedy through Fan Fiction

17:00-18:00 Patricia Heise (Frankfurt): *Goethe und Liebe. Affective (Re)Charging of Goethe and Schiller in Fan Fiction* 



Studiengruppe FF5: Appropriation. Ethische, the, ästhetische und politische Dimensionen von Aktualisierung