



Stage and Tribunal: two places where values are discussed, debated upon and also communicated. And evidently, not only in case of Schiller, whose 250<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary is being celebrated this year. The second colloquium of the „Wertewelten“-Project will pursue the different mental topographies of both entities. In order to achieve this, the forum will provide a platform for discussion for experts from the fields of both theatre and law. The colloquium is especially interested in those key moments that indicate turning points, moments in which the theatre becomes a tribunal or vice versa. Significantly, those moments do not only reveal values but also arouse emotions and have a certain synergy potential. It is our primary concern to look at the concepts of „stage“ and „tribunal“ as two entities that are intrinsically different *but* closely related at the same time, where values are discussed and communicated. In this regard two aspects are of crucial importance: firstly, moments in which stage and literature become a part of an intermediary process of communicating values in a very unique way and, secondly, moments in which the tribunal becomes a theatrical platform where „justice“ and „injustice“ are literally staged in such a way that specific affects and emotions are released.

It is important to be aware that the current historical situation has a special significance in the modern conception and perception of values – not only because it is the year of Schiller but also because of a certain culture- and time-specific context in which the constitution of values takes place.

Last but not least the question of a befitting medium, i.e. language, needs to be considered. With respect to the topic “dialogue” of last year’s conference, language thus continues to be an integral element in a debate associated with values of all kinds. The diverse conceptual approaches, be it cultural or disciplinary, do not only refer to different sets of values but also to associated connotations that, in turn, evoke specific interpretations. Consequently certain legal conceptions such as “niedere Beweggründe” (base motives) and “archaische Moralvorstellungen” (archaic moral concepts) appear to be specifically defined and in accordance with rationally comprehensible and objectifiable criteria. The judge’s scope of interpretation, however, takes an individual case into account. On the contrary, the theatrical adaptation of an individual fate provides a platform for a public discussion of values.

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