

# The Ironic Spectator

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winner of the 2015 ica outstanding book award this path breaking book explores how solidarity towards vulnerable others is performed in our media environment it argues that stories where famine is described through our own experience of dieting or or where solidarity with africa translates into wearing a cool armband tell us about much more than the cause that they attempt to communicate they tell us something about the ways in which we imagine the world outside ourselves by showing historical change in amnesty international and oxfam appeals in the live aid and live 8 concerts in the advocacy of audrey hepburn and angelina jolie as well as in earthquake news on the bbc this far reaching book shows how solidarity has today come to be not about conviction but choice not vision but lifestyle not others but ourselves turning us into the ironic spectators of other people s suffering

through an analysis of six major european narratives of the mid eighteenth to the mid nineteenth century this book makes a new approach to romantic irony by envisaging it in a broad european context in relation both to earlier concepts of irony and to traditional uses of irony in narration

a weekly review of politics literature theology and art

comprising the proceedings of a 2004 neh funded symposium marking the hundredth anniversary of chekhov s death chekhov the immigrant takes a multi disciplinary approach to chekhov s impact on american culture with articles by literary scholars contemporary authors of fiction and criticism theater directors and translators transcripts of forums on translating chekhov and chekhov and medicine and a dvd recording of a conversation about chekhov with the eminent american physician and author robert coles publisher s summary

moving beyond the usual sketchy account of austen s life and away from the serene and untroubled image of austen created in large part by her family after her death halperin reveals a robust vigorous and at times difficult woman with a large and diverse circle of family and acquaintances he documents

her troubled relationship with her hypochondriac mother her frank dislike of a sister in law and shed new light on the shadowy existence of a retarded older brother

this study provides insights into the literary techniques used by doris lessing to reveal the tension between enclosure and freedom in our society budhos demonstrates the ways in which lessing s narrative voice encloses and controls a body of work

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