

in transit ion

frankfurt lectures in literary and cultural studies

28 January 2022 / ZOOM/ 6 pm CET For registration: https://uni-frankfurt.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEtce-prj8iHdR7J9TunR11weixbjFs21ib

Afropessimism A Reading & Conversation with Frank B. Wildersons III

Frank B. Wilderson's 2020 book *Afropessimism* has generated a fervent debate about the lasting presence of slavery and the centrality of anti-Black violence for the project of modernity. Wilderson's melange of memoir, philosophy, and poetic reflection has instantly become a reference point in a branch of critical theory that interprets the tenacity of anti-Black racism as a sign that the subjugation of Black people organizes Western civilization. Nominated for the National Book Award in Nonfiction, *Afropessimism* is provocative in the best sense. As Claudia Rankine puts it: "There are crucial books that you don't agree with, but one still comes to understand the importance of the thought experiment. *Afropessimism* is one of those books." Frank B. Wilderson will read excerpts from *Afropessimism* and engage in a conversation with his German translator, Jan Wilm. The event will conclude with a Q&A-session with the audience.

A transdisciplinary lecture series by the departments of American Studies, English Studies, and Anglophone Literatures and Cultures



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