

Vielberth Fellow Prof. Dr. David Savran

This semester, REAF was fortunate enough to be able to bring accomplished Performance Studies scholar Prof. Dr. David Savran (CUNY) to UR as a REAF Fellow with the generous support of the Vielberth Foundation. In addition to his keynote lecture for our anniversary conference, Prof. Savran gave two additional talks and hosted a research roundtable together with Regensburg American Studies students. On July 3, in a talk titled "The Glass of Water," he spoke on the performance history, political efficacy, and theatricality of the eponymous mundane object for working-within-the-system environmental protests against coal-mining shareholders. The following day, with his lecture and a colloquium on the lecture's topic, "Playwriting and the American Apocalypse," he surveyed the field of post-WW II American stage performances for representations of apocalypse as the un-representable *per se*, and how the performances use notions of post-apocalyptic temporalities of 'survival beyond death' to engage with this currently pressing ecological and political matter. Directly following this talk, Prof. Savran hosted a research roundtable with students of all levels in the American Studies programs, during which he discussed students' projects and referred them back to current debates within the discipline. REAF thanks Prof. Savran for his academic generosity, his inspiring scholarly integrity, as well as his wide-ranging current research, which we are eager to stay tuned with in the future, and wish him all the best from Regensburg!