



"Sou uma mulher com o corpo de homem. É este meu grande drama": Gênero e Travestismo em A confissão, de Bernardo Santareno [

2014

text (article)

Analítica

In the dramaturgy of Bernardo Santareno (1920-1980), life is always subject by conflicts: for example, by the regulatory rules of social conduct and the hegemonic discourses; and also, by the unique characters on the border of the "ideal", dissonant. Among scenes and acts, women, gays, transvestites, lesbians, prostitutes and rent boys, even if they are hindered, oppressed and censored, problematize their social place, besides questioning the conduct codes that governed the social and sexual life. In this work, I'm going to concentrate on the text *A confissão*, a dramatic text of just one act that is part of the volume *Os Marginais e a Revolução*, written by the Portuguese playwright in 1979. From the analysis of the main characters - Françoise, the transvestite and the Confessor, representative of the Catholic Church -, this paper is divided into two parts. In the first part, I borrow an important operator for reading Cultural Studies - the term "in-between place" (SANTIAGO, 2002) -, because I believe that the character Françoise can be best understood as a unique being who embodies the in-between place, since it causes the dispersion of the assumptions and principles of heteronormative cultural matrix, besides meaning the resistance of the subject to the rules, the rules that only push oneself into the field of the inhuman. In the second part, I talk about gender, transvestism and the investments for rematerialization of the body in order to think how this character, in comparison with the drag queens, points to the paradox of the transvestite condition from which he/she speaks, for example, Miskolci and Pelúcio (2007). Although Françoise fights to be respected in her difference, one can perceive a will of power limited by the social discourse inherent to the heteronormative cultural matrix. This work, therefore, has as theoretical basis studies based on homoeroticism, gender and queer theory

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