A department of English and American Studies outside of an English-speaking country is a phenomenon of extimacy. This makes the department particularly alert to the extimacy of language and subjectivity as such, to literary phenomena where languages and alphabets intricate and intersect, phenomena such as manifest themselves in the contemporary writings of Salman Rushdie or Kazuo Ishiguro, but no less so in the works of Shakespeare, Chaucer and Milton. It is from its position of extimacy that the department of English and American Studies at Tel Aviv University underscores and supports the rigorous scrutiny of literary texts in the English language, using the finest of the conceptual tools of literary theory, as a basis for critical thinking that is at the same time creative. More...
The Department of English and American Studies
is pleased to be hosting

a reading and talk by

CHARLES BERNSTEIN
ALL THE WHISKEY IN HEAVEN

Thursday, June 8th, 2017 | 16:00
Gilman Building 496

Reception to follow
The public is cordially invited to attend
Welcome to TAU's Academic Engagement in English and American Studies, introducing Professor Shoshana Felman. Felman is the Woodruff Professor of Comparative Literature and French, in the Department of French and Italian, at Emory University.

The event will take place on 5.6.18, 18:00-19:30 in building 281.

18:00: Entrance to the event
18:15: Welcome: Professor Felman introduces the workshop for the English and American Studies.
18:20: Opening: Professor Felman welcomes the attendees.
18:30: Presentation: "Writers on Trial: the Case of Oscar Wilde" (בעריכתו של אולמרט)
Welcome

The talk discusses some problems in conventional theories of ending, particularly those associated with Aristotle and Peter Brooks. It explores several varieties of unnatural ending in contemporary narratives. These can be identified in the works' fabulas, in their sjužets, and in performance. The lecture touches upon various kinds of unnatural ending: the non-ending of a narrative whose last words return the reader to the text's beginning and thus continues on infinitely; the ending that erases itself and takes a different fork; and multiple, incompatible endings, and other unnatural forms. The talk concludes with outlining the theoretical implications of these extreme endings.

Prof. Brian Richardson is a leading international scholar in the fields of narrative theory, modernism/postmodernism, and the history of the novel. Much of his work has been engaged with narrative theory as he attempted to expand existing models to be able to incorporate more radical techniques and practices of modern and postmodern experimental fiction. He is the author of the books: Unlikely Stories: Causality and the Nature of Modern Narrative (1997), Unnatural Voices: Extreme Narration in Modern and Contemporary Fiction (2006), Unnatural Narrative: Theory, History, and Practice (2015). For his biography and a complete list of publications, please visit: https://www.english.umd.edu/profiles/brichardson