

Bertolt Brecht's Reception of John Gay's *The Beggar's Opera* in *Die Dreigroschenoper*

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to describe how Bertolt Brecht's reception to John Gay's *The Beggars Opera* in his drama *Die Dreigroschenoper*.

The research data is *Haupttext* which appears in the form of dialogue and monologue, as well as *Nebentext* in *The Beggar's Opera* and *Die Dreigroschenoper*, and other data of Bertolt Brecht's historical background, which contains information about how Bertolt Brecht's reception of John Gay's *The Beggar's Opera* in his *Die Dreigroschenoper*. The data sources in this study are the drama text entitled *Die Dreigroschenoper* by Bertolt Brecht, and the drama text *The Beggar's Opera* by John Gay. The data were collected by survey reading, focused reading and verification reading. The data is analyzed by using qualitative descriptive techniques and comparative methods. The validity of the data was obtained by considering the validity or semantic validity. Reliability or reliability is obtained through intrarater and interrater reliability.

The results showed that the similarities and differences between the drama *The Beggar's Opera* by Gay and *Die Dreigroschenoper* by Bertolt Brecht were due to the influence of Brecht's horizon of expectation when reading *The Beggar's Opera* by John Gay and then actualizing it in his *Die Dreigroschenoper*. The horizon of Brecht's expectations regarding the drama element causes a difference between Gay's drama and Brecht's drama in terms of the drama element. Brecht's desire is aiming to make a drama that enlightens the audience by creating the Epic Theater (*Episches Theater*). It encourages Brecht to actualize Gay's drama differently. The addition of the *Sprechen zum Publikum* and the long *Nebentext* are Brecht's novelty. Another novelty is the ironic ending which has a different ending from *The Beggar's Opera*. The differences in social phenomena which appear in the form of crime, corruption, and prostitution in Gay's drama and Brecht's drama show that Gay's depiction has not fulfilled the horizon of Brecht's expectations. Comparing to Gay's critic, the Marxist ideology which has become the way of his life has led Brecht to criticize differently. Gay's *The Beggar's Opera* criticized the moral decline that occurred in England at that time, meanwhile, Brecht criticized capitalism in Germany after Germany's defeat in the First World War in his *Die Dreigroschenoper*.

Kata Kunci: *Keywords: Reception, horizon of expectation, drama, drama elements, social phenomena*