

All for Nothing: Hamlet's Negativity By Andrew Cutrofello Along the way we meet Hamlet in the texts of Kant Coleridge Hegel Marx Schopenhauer Kierkegaard Nietzsche Freud Russell Wittgenstein Heidegger Benjamin Arendt Schmitt Lacan Deleuze Foucault Derrida Badiou Zizek and other philosophers.

Hamlet as performed by philosophers with supporting roles played by Kant Nietzsche and others: Why is this? Wherefore? What should we do? Entering from stage left: the philosopher's Hamlet. The philosopher's Hamlet is a conceptual character played by philosophers rather than actors. He performs not in the theater but within the space of philosophical positions, In All for Nothing Andrew Cutrofello critically examines the performance history of this unique role. In Shakespeare's play Hamlet's speech and action are characteristically negative; he is the melancholy Dane: Most would agree that he has nothing to be cheerful about: Philosophers have taken Hamlet to embody specific forms of negativity that first came into view in modernity. What the figure of the Sophist represented for Plato Hamlet has represented for modern philosophers, Cutrofello analyzes five aspects of Hamlet's negativity: his melancholy negative faith nihilism tarrying (which Cutrofello distinguishes from delaying) and nonexistence. Whirling across a kingdom of infinite space the philosopher's Hamlet is nothing if not thought-provoking. A specter is haunting philosophy--the specter of Hamlet. The philosopher's Hamlet personifies negativity. All for Nothing: Hamlet's Negativity

