

**13th Conference of the FIEC**

**The Conference's Secretary General**

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*a) Definite title of lecture*

“Looking at the pain: Spatial Deixis and Body Language in Sophocles’ *Trachiniae* and *Philoctetes*”

*b) Determination of the language I want to deliver the lecture in*

I want to deliver my lecture in English

*c) Address (institutional address) and e-mail*

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*d) Final abstract (no more than 700 characters)*

It is medically impossible to measure somebody’s pain. Although affecting the body, pain is completely invisible. How to represent it onstage then? How did ancient authors do it?. There were many ways in which it was possible for a Greek tragedian to represent pain onstage: metaphors that described it, interjections representing physical pain, allusions to gestures performed by the actor or the use of a different kind of mask. I believe, however, that there was a very different strategy used by the tragic text to visually and psychologically represent pain onstage. I would like to analyze the way in which, by using spatial deixis, the playwright was able to materialize something invisible in front of his audience’s very eyes. This paper will focus mainly on Sophocles’ *Trachiniae* and *Philoctetes*.