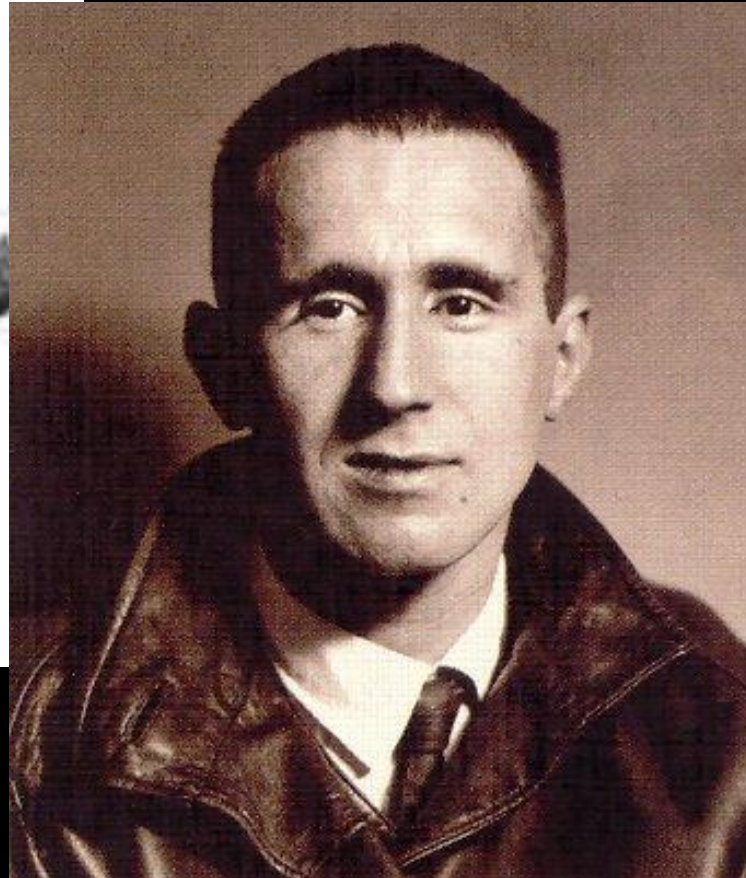
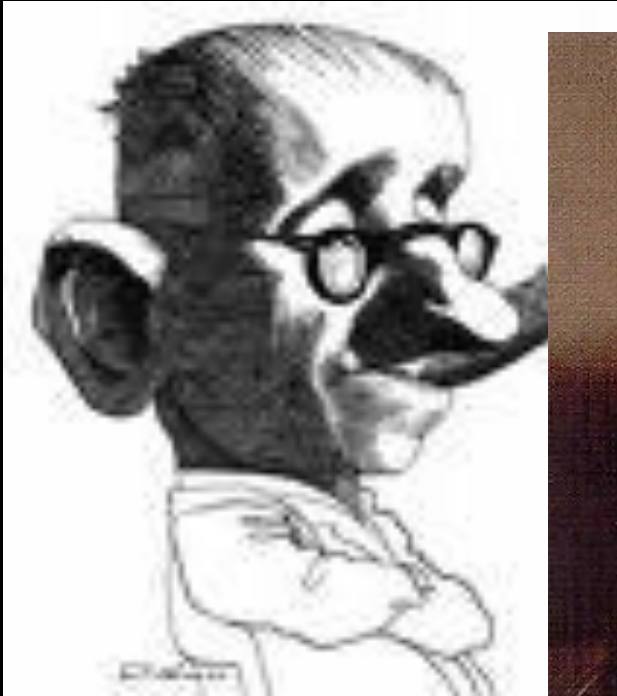


BERTOLT BRECHT




**The students of
the IV C class**

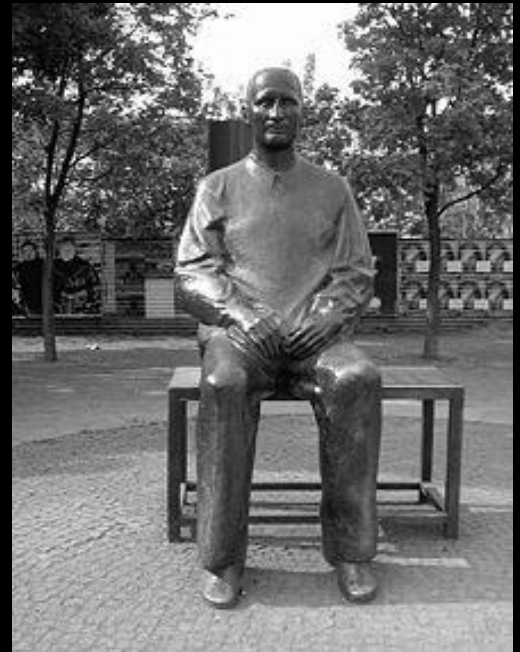
Bertolt Brecht was born in Augsburg, Germany, on 19th February, 1898. He studied philosophy and medicine at the university of Munich before becoming a medical orderly in a German military hospital during the first world war. This experience reinforced his hatred of war and influenced his support for the failed socialist revolution in 1919.



After the war Brecht returned to university but eventually became more interested in literature than medicine. His first play to be produced was “Bael” (1922). This was followed by “Drums in the Night”, a play about a soldier returning from war, “Jungle of the Cities” (1923) and “A Man’s a Man” (1926).



In 1927 Brecht collaborated with the composer Kurt Weill to produce the musical play “Mahagonny”. They then produced “The Threepenny Opera”. Although based on “The Beggar’s Opera” that was originally  produced in 1728, Brecht added his own lyrics that illustrated his growing belief in Marxism. He also worked with the composer Hanns Eisner in “The Measure Taken” (1930).



After leaving Germany in 1933, Brecht lived in Denmark, Sweden and the Soviet Union. He arrived in the United States in 1941 and the after settling in Hollywood, he helped with the writing of the film “Hangman Also Die” (1943)



Brecht attempted to develop a new approach to the theatre. He tried to persuade his audiences to see the stage as a stage, actors as actors and not the traditional make believe of the theatre. Brecht required detachment, not passion, from the observing audience. The purpose of the play was to awaken the spectators minds so that he could communicate his version of the truth.



Brecht's plays reflected a marxist interpretation of society and when Adolf Hitler gained power in 1933 he was forced to flee from Germany. While living in exile he wrote anti-Nazi plays such as "The Roundheads and the Peakheads" and "Fear and Misery of the Third Reich". This was followed by "Galileo" (1939), "Mother Courage" (1939), "The Good Man of Szechuan" (1941), "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" (1941) and "The Caucasian Chalk Circle" (1943)



The End

Picone & Iscare