Since World War II, the artistic imagination has been the source and subject of some of the most innovative works of literature, art, media and performance around the world. How have artists taken inspiration from the traumas of colonialism, authoritarianism and the Holocaust to reshape the moral and creative landscapes of our contemporary world and its demands? How do they situate themselves and their work in relation to postwar currents like existentialism, magical realism, postmodernism, postsocialism, environmentalism, human rights, animal rights, and post-humanism? This hybrid course is an introductory survey of some of the most gripping world literature, art and media since World War II. Our survey will include the bewildering short stories of Jorge Luis Borges, Clarice Lispector, and Haruki Murakami; Holocaust and human rights poetry; iconic paintings from Frida Kahlo and British graffiti artist Banksy; the famous 1963 performance of Tchaikovsky’s Swan Lake; film classics like Ingmar Bergman’s The Seventh Seal and Roberto Benigni’s Life is Beautiful; Madonna’s controversial concert The MDNA Tour; and Marjane Satrapi’s graphic memoir Persepolis. All texts will be taught in English translation. Satisfies GER (HU) and L&S International req. Affiliated with Cultures & Communities and Digital Arts & Cultures. No prior literature coursework or foreign language training required.