

On Comical Moments

By Vaclav Havel

5 Adam Thirlwell: There are also many moments when you quote from your own essays. In one essay you say that man should be at the center of politics. This phrase gets repeated, sarcastically, in your play. It's almost as if you're writing the play against yourself.

10 Vaclav Havel: I think it's important for one to take a certain distance from oneself. I've always tried to see the absurdity of my own dealings, my own acts—and I think that this is reflected not just in the plays but in my civic life as well. I always noticed, even in my dissident life, the comical moments.