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The Shakespearean Theatre Conference



The 4th Shakespearean Theatre Conference, “Shakespeare in a Changing World,” will take place from June 15-18, 2022. In the wake of the pandemic’s great interruption, it will ask how the study and performance of Shakespearean theatre might respond to the rapid and very real changes we are witnessing, while also investigating the relationship of this theatre to the similarly rapid changes of Shakespeare’s time. The organizers invite proposals for 20-minute papers, full sessions, and workshops on all aspects of Tudor and Stuart drama, while especially encouraging proposals that focus on historical change, old and/or new. Proposals might, for example, consider Shakespearean drama in relation to the histories of race, gender, religion, and emotion; to climate change; to changing performance and editorial practices; to the changing forms of oppression and liberation, including authoritarianism, economic exploitation, free speech, and democratic enfranchisement; to the changing media landscape; to language change; and to the many other factors that shape the history of its transmission and reception.

Plenary speakers:

Antoni Cimolino (Artistic Director, Stratford Festival)

Brian Cummings (University of York)

Alexa Alice Joubin (George Washington University)

The Shakespearean Theatre Conference is a joint venture of the University of Waterloo and the Stratford Festival, and brings together scholars and practitioners to talk about how performance influences scholarship and vice versa. Paper sessions are held at the University of Waterloo’s Stratford campus, with plays and special events hosted by the Stratford Festival. The Festival has announced a 2022 season that includes *Hamlet*, *Richard III*, *All’s Well That Ends Well* (the last two in the beautiful new Tom Patterson Theatre), and Wole Soyinka’s *Death and the King’s Horseman*, as well as two world premières: *Hamlet-911*, by Ann-Marie MacDonald, and *1939*, by Jani Lauzon and Kaitlyn Riordan.

<https://uwaterloo.ca/english/shakespeare>

Conference organizers

- **[Kenneth J.E. Graham](#)**, Department of English, University of Waterloo
- **[Alysia Kolentsis](#)**, Department of English, St. Jerome's University
- **Katherine Laing**, Interim Director of Education, Stratford Festival

Archives

The 3rd Shakespearean Theatre Conference took place from June 19-22, 2019. After an opening reception at the Stratford Festival Archives, about 90 people gathered at the University of Waterloo's Stratford Campus to explore the conference theme, "Festival and Festivity." Highlights of the conference included keynote lectures by M.J. Kidnie (Western University), Farah Karim-Cooper (Shakespeare's Globe), and Paul Prescott (University of Warwick), along with roundtable discussions of *Othello* and *Merry Wives of Windsor* by directors, scholars, and actors from the Stratford Festival's 2019 productions. In all over 70 speakers addressed such topics as Shakespeare festivals from the eighteenth century to the present day, festival theory, the politics of festivity, the Stratford Festival in the 1950s, *The Shoemaker's Holiday*, festive comedy, and festive violence, while participants kicked up their heels in workshops on dance and actor training. The full program is below, as are those of the first two conferences.

- [2019 Conference Program \(PDF\)](#)
- [2017 Conference Program \(PDF\)](#)
- [2015 Conference Program \(PDF\)](#)

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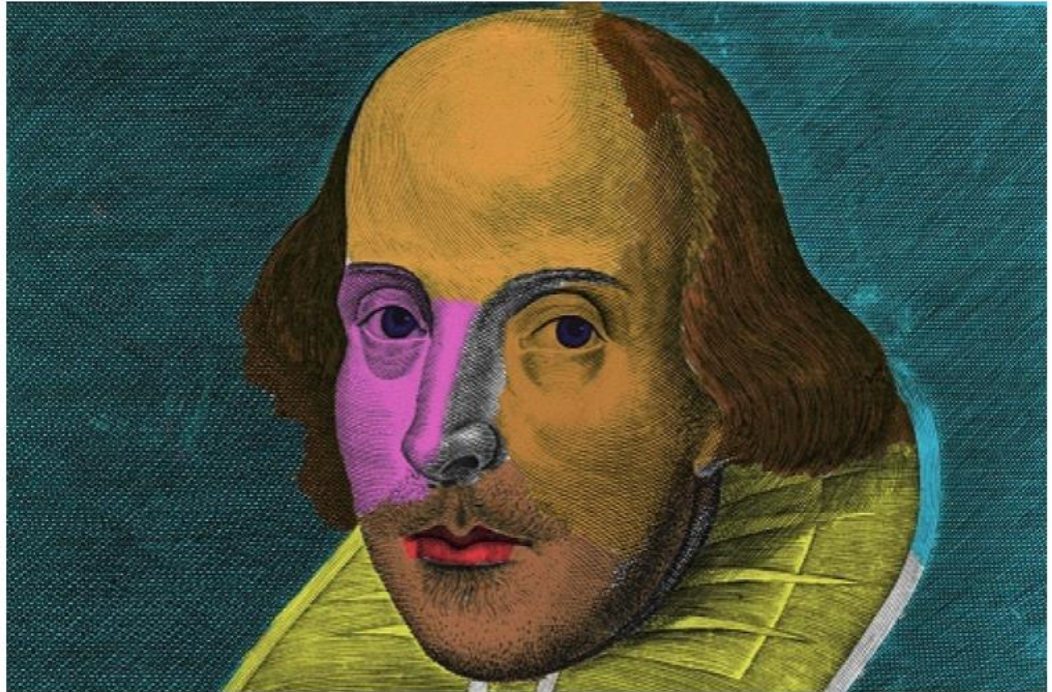
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