



## CALL FOR PAPERS

# SHAKESPEARE AND PRESENTISM

at the Rose Theatre, Kingston, on Saturday July 28 2018

A decade and a half since Terence Hawkes published *Shakespeare in the Present*, and Helen Moore named presentism as the “new kid” on the theoretical block, and more than two decades since Hugh Grady applied the term “presentism” to Shakespeare studies in *Shakespeare’s Universal Wolf*, this colloquium will provide a forum for examining the richness and the variety of the ways in which presentism has come of age, its theoretical and critical development, and its continuing impact on Shakespeare and early modern English studies.

We particularly welcome papers that address the following issues: definitions and explanations of presentism; applications of presentist analysis to the texts of Shakespeare and his contemporaries; (new) meanings that presentist analysis opens up in the texts of Shakespeare and his contemporaries; (new) meanings that presentist analysis opens up in 21<sup>st</sup>-century contexts; considerations of temporality vis-à-vis presentist thought; speaking with the living vs. speaking with the dead; distinctions between literary presentism and philosophical presentism; the Frankfurt School and presentist thought; the significance of aesthetics in presentist thought; the significance of subjectivity in presentist thought; anti-positivism vs. positivism; the relationship between presentism and new historicism; anachronizing vs. historicizing; the relationship between presentism and cultural materialism; the significance of politics in presentist thought; the role of the literary critic in presentist thought; feminist, queer, transgender, race, postcolonial, global, ecocritical, or ecofeminist theory and criticism as inherently presentist developments; the impact of presentist thought on Shakespeare in performance; the relationship between presentist analysis of Shakespeare’s texts and contemporary activism.

200-word proposals for 25-minute presentations at this free event, together with a brief cv., should be sent by

June 29 2018 to Evelyn Gajowski:

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