



HUMANITIES INSTITUTE AT STONY BROOK PRESENTS



SHAKESPEARE'S FUTURES OR THE ARTS AND SCIENCES OF LOOKING AHEAD, 1500-1800

Thursday, February 23, 2017, 10:00am-6:45pm

Friday, February 24, 2017, 10:00am-1:30pm

The Humanities Institute at Stony Brook, 1008 Humanities Building, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY
More event information: 631-632-9983 or www.stonybrook.edu/humanities

What concepts of the future might have been available to Shakespeare and his contemporaries?

And how did their ideas about futurity impact our own history and criticism of the period?

In honor of the 400th anniversary of the Bard's death, and in concert with our own 21st century anxieties about the end of the species, leading historians, literary and theatre critics and performance studies scholars will examine the various modes of imagining time and futurity embedded in the work of Shakespeare and his interlocutors as they moved from forms and practices of prophecy and providence to contemplations of the inevitability of either progress or apocalypse. In doing so, we will illuminate the many modes of historical and planetary consciousness available to early modern denizens that continue to influence our own.

PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:

Margreta De Grazia, *University of Pennsylvania*, Keynote

J.K. Barret, *The University of Texas at Austin*

Dympna Callaghan, *Syracuse University*

Amy Cook, *Stony Brook University*

Tom Conley, *Harvard University*

Drew Daniel, *Johns Hopkins University*

Fran Dolan, *University of California, Davis*

Amy Graves, *University at Buffalo, SUNY*

Tim Harris, *Brown University*

Jean Howard, *Columbia University*

Heather James, *University of Southern California*

Chris R. Kyle, *Syracuse University*

Jean Marsden, *University of Connecticut*

Jeffrey Masten, *Northwestern University*

Carla Mazzio, *University at Buffalo, SUNY*

Jessica Rosenberg, *University of Miami*

Joseph Roach, *Yale University*

Benedict Robinson, *Stony Brook University*

Kathleen Wilson, *Stony Brook University*

Funded in part by the Stony Brook University Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Steering Committee.

Top Image: Fuseli, Henry. *Lady Macbeth Seizing the Daggers*, 1812. Oil on canvas, 101 x 127cm. Tate Britain.

Bottom Image: Blake, William. *Pity (Macbeth, Act 1, scene 7)*, 1795. Relief etching, finished with ink and watercolor, 42 x 57cm. Metropolitan Museum, NY.

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The Humanities Institute at Stony Brook was established in 1987 to promote interdisciplinary research and collaboration across the university. Through conferences, lectures, seminars, workshops, exhibitions, film series, and performances, HISB draws on and stimulates new knowledge at the cutting edge of intellectual life.