



# THE INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2013



## Professor Peter Holbrook, ISA Chair



Dear fellow Shakespeareans from round the globe:

“Thou met’st with things dying, I with things newborn” remarks the astonished Shepherd of *The Winter’s Tale*. William Shakespeare died in 1616, but has been reborn ever since in seemingly limitless acts of performance, understanding, scholarship, transformation, critique, celebration. His legacy – “What He Hath Left Us”, as Ben Jonson beautifully put it – will never be more with us than four years from now, when the International Shakespeare Association holds its 10th World Shakespeare Congress. I am delighted, therefore, to send you this first in a series of ISA Newsletters reporting on preparations for the Congress, which will take place in late July and early August of 2016. Uniquely, ambitiously, fittingly, this quatercentenary World Congress will be based in not just one but *two* locations: in Shakespeare’s birthplace, and final resting-place, Stratford-upon-Avon; and in the city where he made his name and where his genius flourished, London. On behalf of the Executive Committee of the ISA it is my great pleasure to congratulate the team from Strat-

ford and London who put together the winning bid for the right to host this 10th Congress (against, I might add, stiff competition!): Professor Michael Dobson (Shakespeare Institute, University of Birmingham); Rev. Dr Paul Edmondson (Shakespeare Birthplace Trust); Dr Farah Karim-Cooper (Shakespeare’s Globe); Professor Gordon McMullan (King’s College London); Jacqui O’Hanlon (Royal Shakespeare Company); Dr Diana Owen (Shakespeare Birthplace Trust); Patrick Spottiswoode (Shakespeare’s Globe); and Professor Ann Thompson (King’s College London). These distinguished Shakespeareans, who bring together an extraordinary range of gold-standard scholarly, cultural, and artistic organizations, will work in partnership with the Congress and Executive Committees of the ISA to commemorate Shakespeare’s life, works, and world-wide legacy in a dazzling and, I anticipate, an historic, programme of scholarly, performance, and cultural events. Those of you who attended the Association’s ninth World Congress in Prague, led by Professor Martin Procházka of Charles University, know just how memorable and uplifting these World Congresses, which typically unite the most diverse international academic and non-academic engagement with Shakespeare, can be. I very much hope you will start planning now to see Shakespeare re-born in Stratford and London in summer 2016!

Peter Holbrook

### Find out more about the host organisations for WSC 2016:

<http://www.shakespeare.org.uk/home.html>

(2016 principal partner)

<http://www.shakespeare.kcl.ac.uk/>

(2016 principal partner)

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/edacs/departments/shakespeare/index.aspx>

(2016 principal partner)

<http://www.rsc.org.uk/>

(2016 principal partner)

<http://www.shakespearesglobe.com/>

(2016 principal partner)

<http://www.esu.org/>

(2016 affiliated host)

<http://www.kes.net/>

(2016 affiliated host)

<http://www.stratford-upon-avon.org/>

(2016 affiliated host)



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### The 2016 World Shakespeare Congress, Stratford/London



The 2016 World Shakespeare Congress – four hundred years after the playwright’s death – will celebrate Shakespeare’s memory and the global cultural legacy of his works, and will, uniquely and appropriately, have a dual location: it will be held both in Stratford-upon-Avon, among the key sites of his personal life, and in London, close to his most famous workplace. The 2016 hosts – in Stratford, the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, and the Shakespeare Institute, University of Birmingham; in London, Shakespeare’s Globe and the London Shakespeare Centre, King’s College London – look forward to welcoming delegates and their partners and families from around the world.

Stratford will be the location for the first half of the week; London for the latter half. Stratford plenaries will take place in or around the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, with seminars and workshops at the Shakespeare Centre and the Shakespeare Institute; London plenaries will be held in the Globe Theatre, with seminars and workshops at King’s College London and Shakespeare’s Globe. Theatregoing and other cultural opportunities at this Congress will be unparalleled: in Stratford, delegates will have privileged access to the two RSC stages and to the five Shakespearean sites cared for by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and, in London, to the two Globe stages (the Globe itself, and the new Wanamaker indoor theatre), as well as to the exciting range of performances, concerts and exhibitions that will form ‘Shakespeare400’, a London season for the Quatercentenary year.

The Congress, which will take place in late July/early August 2016, will run in Stratford from Sunday evening to Thursday morning; delegates will transfer to London during the day (coaches will be provided) ready for the London reception at the British Library on Thursday evening; from then until Saturday night, the Congress will continue in London. Plenaries – featuring leading writers, theatre practitioners and critics – will, along with seminars and workshops, be divided evenly across the two sites, and in both locations the 2016 Congress will offer unequalled opportunities to engage with the current state of play in Shakespearean criticism, pedagogy, theatre history and performance studies, and to connect with Shakespearians from across the globe.

The hosts for this Quatercentenary Congress will welcome what we expect to be a record number of delegates to a unique range of cultural and intellectual opportunities in the places where Shakespeare was born, acted, wrote, and died. We look forward to seeing you, and to sharing with you in reflecting on the place of Shakespeare in cultural memory, in Stratford and in London in the summer of 2016.

Visit [www.wscprague.com](http://www.wscprague.com) to see coverage of the 2011 WSC in Prague

### Asian Shakespeare Association

### ANZSA

We are delighted to announce the formation of the Asian Shakespeare Association (ASA), “a non-profit, non-government organization dedicated to researching, producing, teaching, translating, and promoting Shakespeare from an Asian perspective.” ASA is now accepting founding members, and will hold an online election of Executive Committee members in February 2013. To join the Association, register online at <http://AsianShakespeare.org>.

**Associate Professor Bi-qi Beatrice Lei, National Taiwan University**

The next biennial conference of the Australian and New Zealand Shakespeare Association (ANZSA) will be held in September or October 2014 (dates to be confirmed) at the University of Southern Queensland in the picturesque garden city of Toowoomba, located at the edge of the Great Dividing Range in Queensland, Australia. Direct flights are now available from Sydney. The conference will be held in conjunction with the annual Shakespeare in the Park Festival, which will be in its eleventh year. More information forthcoming on the ANZSA website (<http://conference.anzsa.org/>).

**Dr Laurie Johnson, University of Southern Queensland**





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## Shakespeare in China

**Professor Gary Yang (Donghua University, China) reports on the Shakespeare Association of China and the 2014 Shanghai International Shakespeare Festival:**

### **Re-organization of the Shakespeare Association of China; 2013 Conference**

The Shakespeare Association of China was established in 1984 and held two Shakespeare festivals and a number of conferences before its registration was cancelled in 2003 for alleged (and highly debatable) violations of bureaucratic regulations. Since then, some leading members of the Association have been making efforts to get it restored, and a plan for re-organization has recently passed administrative registration. To mark this achievement, the Association will hold a Shakespeare conference in Beijing in April 2013. We welcome papers and speeches by international guests on any Shakespeare-related topic. Interested individuals and institutions are encouraged to contact Professor Gary Yang (details below).

### **2014 Shanghai International Shakespeare Festival**

The Shanghai International Shakespeare Festival will be held on 18-24 May 2014. Chinese Shakespeareans wish to invite their colleagues from around the world to join them in celebrating the 450th anniversary of the Bard's birth. The Festival will include the following events: around 30 performances by Chinese and international troupes; 5-10 plenary speeches by invited speakers; 3-5 special sessions arranged by supporting institutions; 10-15 seminars proposed by participants; and 3-5 workshops run by artists from performing teams. We also look forward to competitions in student Shakespeare performance and Shakespearean design, as well as other cultural activities that will enhance participants' experiences of both Shakespeare and China. The local organizing committee is seeking the participation and support of interested institutions. Supporting institutions might organize special panels at the Festival; propose speeches; participate in seminars, workshops, and performances; or post scholarly advertisements. Note that there is no financial obligation in becoming a supporting institution, as the organizing committee receives sponsorship from local sources.

For more information about these and other events relating to Shakespeare in China, please contact Professor Yang at [l-yang@dhu.edu.cn](mailto:l-yang@dhu.edu.cn) or [shks100@gmail.com](mailto:shks100@gmail.com).

### **German Shakespeare Society**

The German Shakespeare Society, the oldest of its kind worldwide, will celebrate its 150th anniversary on the occasion of Shakespeare's 450th birthday in April 2014. A Jubilee conference on the theme of "Celebrating Shakespeare" will be held on 24 to 27 April 2014 in Weimar. The conference will include performances, workshops, lectures, panels, seminars, and other activities. This Jubilee will launch a series of Shakespeare events to be held throughout the year in cooperation with the Bremen Shakespeare Company and other cultural institutions, culminating in a two-day conference in Bochum on 14-15 November 2014, on the theme of "War and Peace". For details on these events, visit [www.shakespeare-gesellschaft.de](http://www.shakespeare-gesellschaft.de)

### **German Shakespeare Company**

From 25 to 28 April, 2013 the German Shakespeare Company will meet in Munich for its annual spring conference. The topic is "Money and Power in Shakespeare" and the rich cultural and academic programme includes performances of *Timon of Athens*, lectures, workshops, and discussions with (among others) the author Albert Ostermaier, whose topical rewriting of *The Merchant of Venice* will be presented in a rehearsed staging. Details and registration are available online at [www.shakespeare-gesellschaft.de](http://www.shakespeare-gesellschaft.de)



# THE INTERNATIONAL SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION

## ISA Membership Renewal

The International Shakespeare Association is a membership organization.

**Annual dues payable in February are £15.**

Please find a membership subscriptions form attached to this newsletter or visit <http://www.shakespeare.org.uk/explore-shakespeare/students-and-enthusiasts/international-shakespeare-association.html>

## OBITUARY

Bille Brown



(1952-2013)

The International Shakespeare Association wishes to acknowledge the life and work of Bille Brown, who passed away on 13 January, 2013. A renowned actor, director, and dramatist, Bille was also a passionate Shakespearean, and served as Master of Ceremonies at the 2006 World Shakespeare Congress in Brisbane, Australia. An account of his life can be found here:

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/arts/stage/bille-brown-a-truly-original-titan-of-the-theatre/story-fn9d344c-1226553857152>

## The Shakespeare Association of Korea

“Shakespeare in Global/Local Contexts”

1-2 November 2013, National University, South Korea

Call for Papers

The Shakespeare Association of Korea invites papers exploring topics and issues relating to the theme of “Shakespeare in Global/Local Contexts” for an international conference to be held on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of its foundation. The conference aims to bring together scholars, actors, directors, and teachers of Shakespeare to discuss academic, theatrical, and pedagogical issues of Shakespeare in global and local contexts. Topics of discussion may include (but are not restricted to):

- \* Adaptation and Appropriation
- \* Performance/Stage History and Reception/Dramaturgy
- \* Translation
- \* Teaching Methods
- \* Politics/Religion/Ethics
- \* Feminism
- \* Postcolonialism

The keynote speaker for the conference is Michael Dobson (Shakespeare Institute, University of Birmingham, UK). Other invited speakers include Peter Holbrook (University of Queensland, Australia), Alexander Huang (George Washington University, USA), Gary Yang (Donghua University, China), Ryuta Minami (Shirayuri College, Japan), Bi-qi Beatrice Lei (National Taiwan University), and Li Lan Yong (National University of Singapore).

Please send a 250-word proposal and a brief curriculum vitae with contact information to Hyosik Hwang (Chungbuk National University) or Kyungjin Bae (Inha University) at [sakorea2013.info@gmail.com](mailto:sakorea2013.info@gmail.com) by 10 March, 2013.

## WSC 2016 Hosts



*Dr. Nick Walton, The International Shakespeare Association, The Shakespeare Centre, Henley Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6QW, United Kingdom*