The International Spread of Shakespeare

SECOND CALL FOR PAPERS

Applications for the Congress are rolling in. Please don’t delay your submission. Accommodation is at a premium and we want our delegates to get the best!

Several scholars have pleaded for a stream in the conference simply for the discussion of Shakespeare. This is possibly a reaction to a plethora of ‘themed’ conferences in recent years. We are happy to oblige. Scholars wishing to present on aspects of Shakespearean interpretation or textual scholarship are now in from the cold! We will accept such papers on merit until that strand in the programme is full.

In case you are wavering, here is a tribute (unsolicited!) from Chris Wortham of the University of Western Australia, who gave a plenary paper at the last Congress (2003):

The Congress was a great success from all points of view.

The Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa is a vibrant body and seems set fair to flourish. The intellectual quality and spread of the papers gave us so much to think about and learn from. The delegates were all such positive people and the atmosphere throughout was quite joyously convivial. I have seldom attended a conference so free of strife and cross-currents of in-fighting! No doubt and your Executive Committee and your team of conference organisers must take the credit for this. Such good things don’t happen by chance or accident! Of course it was a great joy and privilege to be a keynote speaker at such a gathering.

We are pleased to announce that our plenary speakers have been finalised:

Graham Bradshaw (University of Chuo, Japan)
Thomas Cartelli (Muhlenberg College, USA)
John Gillies (University of Essex, United Kingdom)
Please take a look at the Pumba Private Game Reserve website, where we will be going for our Congress game experience and dinner: http://www.pumbagamereserve.co.za/ This is an exceptional opportunity!

If you have queries regarding your visit to the Congress, the Arts Festival or South Africa in general, do not hesitate to contact the Congress team.

Papers of 25 minutes duration are invited on the following or related topics:

1. How Shakespeare uses nation, geography and territory
2. Shakespeare’s impact beyond England in his own time
3. Connections between Shakespeare and international trade, now and then
4. The impact of ‘travelling Shakespeare’ (tours, television and film) on local theatre and culture
5. Indigenous Shakespeare outside Britain: fact or fiction?
6. Is electronic Shakespeare outside Britain: fact or fiction?

New conference strand
7. Interpreting Shakespeare (see announcement above)

Abstracts of no more than 300 words should be sent to the conference convenor, Ms Hildé Slinger <h.slinger@ru.ac.za> to reach her by no later than 31 January 2007.

Those who wish to coordinate special interest sessions should notify the convenor of the proposed topic and participants. For further information, and to answer any queries, please contact the convenor, Ms Hildé Slinger <h.slinger@ru.ac.za> or Prof Eddie Baart <shakespeare@ru.ac.za>

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE FORMAT

Sunday 24 June

Flights met (bus times for transfer from Port Elizabeth Airport to Grahamstown to be announced)

14h00-16h00 Registration and settling in

Monday 25 June

08h30-10h00 Registration
09h00-10h00 Shakespeare Society AGM
10h00-10h30 Orientation and Meet & Greet Tea
10h30 CONGRESS OPENING
and Plenary Address followed by papers
18h30 Welcome Cocktail Party
Tuesday 26 June

08h30-12h00  Morning session: Plenary address, Papers & Seminars
12h15        Game Park and Conference Dinner (into the evening)

Wednesday 27 June

08h30        Morning and afternoon: Papers & Seminars
19h00        Congress Show

Thursday 28 June

Delegates not staying for the Arts Festival depart after Breakfast (Airport bus
departure times to be announced)

NATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL (28 June – 8 July 2007)

Delegates are reminded that the conference is arranged to back onto the National
Arts Festival, South Africa’s premier arts events which takes place annually in
Grahamstown. Please take the opportunity to enjoy this amazing event while
you are in South Africa.

The Congress is independent of the Festival. For details of the Festival please
visit http://www.nafest.co.za/ Accommodation need be booked through the
Congress only.

TRANSPORT

Grahamstown’s nearest airport is Port Elizabeth, a distance of 130km (about an
hour and a half drive from Grahamstown) and a short flight from Johannesburg,
Cape Town and Durban.

Delegates requiring a car can hire one at the airport. Delegates requiring bus
transport will be met by prior arrangement on 24 July, in time for registration, tea
and settling in (between 14.00 and 16.00).

Buses will be arranged to meet selected flights before and after the conference
(details to be supplied later).

The Conference Travel Agent (SURE GO TRAVEL in Grahamstown: see below)
can have earlier flights met, set up pre-Conference tours around Cape Town
and/or a luxury bus tour along the famous Garden Route from Cape Town to
Grahamstown. You can also arrange after- Conference tours to all parts of South
Africa with the Conference Travel Agent.
SURE GO Travel will make any travel arrangements for delegates and may be contacted by phone (+27 (0) 46 622 2235, fax (+27 (0) 46 622 3982) or email (marian@suregotravel.co.za)

VISAS

Foreign delegates are advised to check with their local authorities to determine whether they will require a visa to enter South Africa.

CONGRESS AND FESTIVAL ACCOMMODATION

Note that the Congress immediately precedes the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown, which puts accommodation at a premium during this period. Delegates are advised to book promptly.

For direct booking of private B & B contact Jeannine Baart: e.baart@ru.ac.za

Budget accommodation throughout Congress and the Arts Festival in Rhodes University Residences is available from 24 June. Delegates have single rooms and communal bathrooms at a cost of R183.00 Bed & Breakfast.

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Fax: +27(0)46 603 8566
(Contingency only) Cell: 082 553 0245

REGISTRATION

To register for the Congress, please use the online registration form: http://www.ru.ac.za/institutes/isea/shake/RegistrationForm.html