

'Keats as a Reader of Shakespeare'

A seminar at the Keats-Shelley House, Rome, Thursday 5 May 2016

In order to mark the quatercentenary of the death of Shakespeare, and the bicentenary of Keats's decision to abandon medicine and become a full-time poet, with his first published poem appearing in *The Examiner* in May 1816, the Keats-Shelley House is hosting an afternoon seminar devoted to the theme of Keats as a Reader of Shakespeare.

The registration fee is €25, which includes refreshments, and full details of the papers and speakers can be seen below.

Advance booking is essential and all enquiries and bookings should be sent to info@ksh.roma.it

KEATS AS A READER OF SHAKESPEARE

14.00 Registration (tea and coffee served)

14.15 Welcome and Introduction (Giuseppe Albano, Curator, Keats-Shelley House)

14.30 'Shakespeare the Presider' (Maria Valentini, Associate Professor of English Literature, University of Cassino, Italy)

15.00 'How in the isle of Wight Keats met with Shakespeare', Nadia Fusini (Professor of Comparative Literature, Italian Institute of Human Sciences [SUM], Florence, Italy)

15.45 A reading of Keats's poems and letters inspired by the Bard, given by Rory Stuart and Michael Fitzpatrick

16.15 Break for refreshments

16.30 "'I look upon fine phrases like a lover": Shakespearean Quotations in Keats's Letters' (Bob White, Winthrop Professor of English, University of Western Australia)

17.15 "'In the dark backward and abysm of time": Tracing Shakespeare in Keats' (Davide Crosara, Adjunct Professor, La Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy)

Bob White MA (Adelaide), D.Phil (Oxford), FAHA: Chief Investigator for the Australian Research Council's Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions, and Leader of the Centre's Meanings Programme. He has been an Australian Professorial Fellow and is Winthrop Professor of English at the University of Western Australia. He has published books and articles on Shakespeare and the Romantics, including *Keats as a Reader of Shakespeare* (1987) and *Hazlitt's Criticism of Shakespeare* (1996). Among his recent works are *Pacifism in English Poetry: Minstrels of Peace* (2008) and *John Keats: A Literary Life* (2010), which has been revised and reissued in paperback. He is a past President of the Australian and New Zealand Shakespeare Association and a fellow of the Australian Humanities Academy.

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Davide Crosara is Adjunct Professor in English at La Sapienza Università di Roma, where he also completed his doctoral work. He has published essays and articles on Harold Pinter, William Shakespeare, English Romanticism, James Joyce and Samuel Beckett (the most recent – *The Last Carrot. Samuel Beckett and food* - written together with Rosy Colombo - was published in *Fictions*, edited by Alba Graziano, 2015). He is currently developing a research project on negative epistemology in Shakespeare's plays; the first outcome of this project, a study on the ambivalent presence of print in *Twelfth Night*, is due for publication in September 2016. He is also contributing to the completion of the 'Meridiano' Mondadori on John Keats, edited by Nadia Fusini.

Maria Valentini is Associate Professor of English Literature at the University of Cassino (Italy), where she has held several positions, ranging from Vice Head of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures to Responsible for International Relations for the Faculty of Humanities. Her BA thesis on Shakespeare and Pirandello, which obtained the Pirandello prize from the Centro di Studi Pirandelliani (Agrigento), was translated into Italian and published in 1990 (Bulzoni Editore). Her Ph.D. thesis from La Sapienza Università di Roma dealt with the concept of time in Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra* and was eventually published in 2005 as *Marc'Antonio e la necessità del tempo* (Bulzoni Editore). Other publications include studies on Shakespeare and War, Shakespeare and 20th Century European Culture, the question of authorship in *King Lear*, *Myth and Myths in 'Antony and Cleopatra'*, and *Conflicting Notions of Time in 'Antony and Cleopatra'*. Her other works include publications on Jonathan Swift, D.H. Lawrence, James Joyce, Walt Whitman and Nathaniel Hawthorne, plus a translation into Italian of E.M. Forster's *The Machine Stops* including a generous introduction.

Nadia Fusini is Professor of English and Comparative Literatures at the Scuola Normale (Pisa). She previously taught Shakespearean Criticism and Philology at La Sapienza Università di Roma for several years. She has translated and commented upon many writers, including Virginia Woolf (Premio Mondello 1995 for her translation of *The Waves*), John Keats, William Shakespeare, Samuel Beckett, Mary Shelley, Wallace Stevens (Achille Marazza Award 1996 for her translation of *The Auroras of Autumn*). Among her most significant studies are particularly noteworthy: *Opere* (Meridiani Mondadori 1999) and *Possiedo la mia anima. Il segreto di Virginia Woolf*, Mondadori 2006 (translated into many languages), both devoted to Virginia Woolf; and *Di vita si muore. Lo spettacolo delle passioni in Shakespeare* (Mondadori, 2010), devoted to Shakespeare (Premio Napoli 2011). Nadia Fusini has published extensively on the topic of female identity: *La Luminosa. Genealogia di Fedra* (Feltrinelli 1988); *Uomini e donne. Una fratellanza inquieta* (Donzelli, 1995); *Nomi. Dieci scritture femminili* (Donzelli 1996); *Donne fatali. Ofelia, Desdemona, Cleopatra* (Bulzoni 2005). Her successful narrative production includes: *La Bocca più di tutto mi piaceva* (Donzelli 1996 e Mondadori 2004); *Lo specchio di Elisabetta* (Mondadori 2004), *L' amore necessario* (Mondadori 2008); *La figlia del sole. Vita ardente di Katherine Mansfield* (Mondadori, 2012), *Hannah e le altre* (Einaudi, 2013). Her latest book is *Vivere nella tempesta* (Einaudi, 2016).