

**Old Masters in New Interpretations**  
**second edition**  
*Rediscovering Shakespeare*  
**conference of young researchers**

**October 27-28, 2016**  
**First Circular**

Dear Colleagues and Students,

Following the successful outcome of the first edition of the "Old Masters in New Interpretations" conference, we would like to announce the second edition of this event. Therefore we are delighted to invite you to take part in the conference of young researchers and their Masters, both in literature and in life, to be held in the beautifully located town of Olsztyn, Poland, 27-28 October 2016. This time, since the year obligates, it will be devoted to various re-interpretations of one particular Old Master, i.e. William Shakespeare.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

[Prof. Jacek Fabiszak](#), Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, PL

[Prof. Mikołaj Jazdon](#), Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, PL

[Dr Karol Samsel](#), University of Warsaw, PL

**FIRST CIRCULAR AND CALL FOR PAPERS**

In celebration of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare we would like to provide a space for academic discussion for all interested in the influences of the playwright and his works on the texts of culture that were created after Shakespeare. It is difficult to overemphasize Shakespeare's influence on many realms of art throughout the centuries. Since his death in 1616, the poet and his works have been the subject of diverse literary output and literary allusions as well as academic research in various aspects and methodologies. The very first verses of praise that appeared as early as the first part of the 17<sup>th</sup> century (poem "On Mr. Wm. Shakespeare, he died in April 1616" by William Basse, written somewhere between 1616 and 1623, or the famous Ben Jonson's eulogy of 1623), sparked a never-ceasing interest in Shakespeare and his works. From then on the poet continuously inspires more and more generations of scholars, artists and recipients of popular culture. The evidence of that may be found in the popularity of the projects such as *National Theatre Live* which enables the spectators around the

world to rediscover plays like *Hamlet* or *As You Like It*, or in the music productions like album *Ophelia* by Natalie Merchant to name but a few of multiple creative initiatives carrying open or veiled references to Shakespeare.

Thence, we are eager to know which of the features of Shakespeare's works are most appealing to the young researchers of today and how he is perceived by them. We also warmly invite more experienced scholars to take part in the conference to share their views and expertise.

Consequently, we would like to confine the conference discussions to both direct and indirect references to Shakespeare and his works. The following aspects serve as an inspiration for the topics of papers. Please do not feel limited by them:

- Why is WH *a master*?
- Direct and indirect references to WH in literature, theatre and other media
- Translating WH
- WH and art
- How to teach (about) WH?
- WH from various perspectives (structuralism, new historicism, postcolonial criticism and other)
- Speculation and doubts about WH
- WH in pop culture, parody, pastiche
- Shakespearian themes and stylistics:
  - Madness
  - Illusory nature of the world
  - Protagonist
  - Female
  - Irony
  - Politics and power
  - Love and romance

You are very welcome to add more.

The language of the conference will be **English**. Papers are scheduled to take 20 minutes, followed by a 10-minute discussion. We are also prepared to organize a poster session. You are, therefore, welcome to submit your poster proposals. The speakers are asked to submit abstracts of proposed papers, not exceeding 150 words, by **24 June 2016**, using the following e-mail address: [oldmasters2016@gmail.com](mailto:oldmasters2016@gmail.com)

You will be notified of the acceptance/rejection of your submission by **30 June 2016**.

The Conference fee is **250 PLN / \$ 65 / € 60** and it covers the following:

- conference materials
- coffee breaks
- two lunches
- a reception
- reviews of the articles accepted for publication
- post-conference publication .

The fee should be paid by **1 September 2015**. Details concerning the bank account of the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn as well as some useful information regarding the conference venue and accommodation and the link to our official webpage will be provided in our next circular.

With best regards,

**Conference organizers**

Prof. Joanna Kokot

Dr Anna Kwiatkowska

Eliza Gładkowska, MA

Dorota Gładkowska, MA