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
Dymphna 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

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