

## Law and Humanities Roundtable 2023

### Shakespeare at Large: Law and the First Folio Performances, Identities, Con-Texts

At the fifth annual Law and Humanities roundtable, scholars with a background in law and humanities deliver original, interdisciplinary, and humanities-focused paper presentations occasioned by the 400th anniversary of the publication of Shakespeare's First Folio in 1623.

The roundtable event will take place on **July 12th, 2023**, in "Fair Verona", where Shakespeare laid the scenes of his *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. It will be held at the **Società Letteraria di Verona**, located in the very centre of Verona, with an impressive view over the Arena, i.e. the Roman amphitheatre hosting the biggest open-air opera house.

A further event will take place on **July 13th, 2023**, during which performances, identities, and con-texts related to the First Folio will be explored. The additional event will comprise a **visit to the Juliet's Tomb and a theatrical performance**.

The conference is organised in association with the journal *Law and Humanities* (Routledge/Taylor & Francis), a peer-reviewed journal, providing a forum for scholarly discourse within the arts and humanities around the subject of law.

Wednesday 12th July 2023  
Società Letteraria di Verona  
Piazzetta Scalette Rubiani, 1

The event will be livestreamed:  
<http://www.societaletteraria.it/streamingvideo/>

Thursday 13th July 2023  
Museo degli Affreschi 'G.B. Cavalcaselle' alla tomba di Giulietta  
via Luigi da Porto 5 - 37121 Verona

In cooperation with:



For further information  
please email the Organising Committee:

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UNIVERSITÀ  
di VERONA

Dipartimento  
di SCIENZE GIURIDICHE



## Shakespeare at Large: Law and the First Folio

LAW AND HUMANITIES  
ROUNDTABLE 2023

July 12-13, 2023  
(in-person and online)

Società Letteraria di Verona

Museo degli Affreschi 'G.B. Cavalcaselle'  
alla tomba di Giulietta

Wednesday 12th July 2023  
Società Letteraria di Verona  
Piazzetta Scalette Rubiani, 1

09.30 - 10.00 *Registration - Welcoming Addresses*

**Daniela Brunelli**

(President, Società Letteraria di Verona)

**Stefano Troiano**

(Head of the Law Department, Università di Verona)

**Giovanni Rossi**

(Coordinator of the PhD in European and International Law, Università di Verona)

*Convenors*

**Matteo Nicolini** (Università di Verona)

**Gary Watt** (University of Warwick)

**David Gurnham** (University of Southampton)

10.00 - 10.30 *Inaugural Lecture*

**Ian Ward** (University of Newcastle, UK)

*England in 1623*

**SESSION I Performances**

CHAIR:

**Chiara Battisti** (Università di Verona, IT)

10.30 - 10.50

**Sara Ramshaw** (University of Victoria, Canada)

*The Rhetoric of Improvisation: In Shakespeare, In Law*

10.50 - 11.10

**Ruth Houghton** (Newcastle University, UK)

*Performing a constitution: A history of Magna Carta in Shakespeare's King John*

11.10 - 11.20 *Discussion*

11.20 - 11.30 *Coffee Break*

**SESSION II - Identities**

CHAIR:

**David Gurnham** (University of Southampton, UK)

11.30 - 11.50

**Gary P. Bagnal** (Queen University Belfast, UK)

*"But is this law?" Hamlet: 5.1.8. 2nd Clown*

11.50 - 12.10

**Luke McDonagh** (London School of Economics, UK)

*History of authorship and ownership of plays during the English Renaissance*

12.30 - 12.50

**Patrick O'Callaghan** (University College Cork, Ireland)

*Law and the Inner Self: Reflecting on the Roots of Intellectual Property Law*

12.50 - 13.00 *Discussion*

13.00 - 15.00 *Lunch & Break*

**SESSION III - Con-Texts**

CHAIR:

**Sidia Fiorato** (Università di Verona, IT)

15.00 - 15.20

**Silvia Ferreri** (Università di Torino, IT)

*Shakespeare and Voltaire: Both legally vulnerable and successful*

15.20 - 15.40

**Sean Mulcahy & Kate Seear** (La Trobe University, Australia)

*The tribunes of the people, the tongues o' the common mouth': Parliamentarians as representatives when scrutinising laws*

15.40 - 16.00

**Fulvia Abbondante** (Università di Napoli Federico II, IT)

*On Caliban's Side: Race, Gender and Postcolonial Discourse in Othello, The Merchant of Venice and The Tempest*

16.00 - 16.20

**Wojciech Engelking** (University of Warsaw, Poland)

*Caliban as the legal subject: Shakespeare, the Valladolid Debate, and Alberico Gentili*

16.20 - 16.30 *Concluding Remarks*

**Gary Watt** (Warwick University, UK)



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10.00 - 11.30 *Visit to the Juliet's Tomb (with an English-speaking tourist guide)*

11.30 - 12.30 (At the Juliet's Tomb)

**Jamie Sefton** will perform *I will be brief* (Romeo and Juliet, 5.3.229), a dramatic epilogue