

Shakespeare and the Mysteries

There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy...

SAT Conference 2012

What are the implications for the Authorship Question of Shakespeare's profound knowledge of Renaissance Neoplatonic and Hermetic traditions? These are present not only in passing allusions but also in the deep structure of his dramas, open to interpretation as allegories of initiation, transformation and regeneration.

Programme Schedule

10:30 *Arrivals & Coffee*

11:00 **Introduction by Mark Rylance**

Shakespeare's Globe as Sacred Theatre and Cosmic Stage.

11:30 **Peter Dawkins**

The Lost Word and Swan Song: Rosicrucian and Baconian Themes in Shakespeare's comedies and romances.

12:15 **Julia Cleave**

*Initiations, Transmutations and Resurrection Fables:
A Midsummer Night's Dream, Antony & Cleopatra and All's Well that Ends Well.*

13:00 *Lunch*

14:15 **Earl Showerman**

Shakespeare's Physic: Hermetic and Alchemical Magic in The Winter's Tale, Pericles and All's Well that Ends Well.

15:00 **Susan Sheridan**

Shaking the Spear: The Hermetic interests of the Sidney/Pembroke Circle with special reference to Cymbeline.

15:35 **Ros Barber**

Death's a Great Disguiser: Resurrecting Shakespeare.

16:15 *Tea & Cake*

16:45 **Claire van Kampen**

Shakespeare and Divine Proportion: The Tempest and the Music of the Spheres.

17:30 **Forum/Q&A**

18:00 *The End*