

SAT Conference 22 November 2015
SHAKESPEARE'S HISTORIES
Whose agenda do they serve?

11.00 Introduction *Professor William Leahy*

Most of us know Shakespeare's History plays as two great tetralogies covering 100 years from the downfall of Richard II through the civil wars and the clash with France, culminating in the defeat of Richard III and the establishment of the Tudor Dynasty. No other dramatist has ever formed such a grand conception of history as this, especially when we add other history plays *King John* and *Henry VIII* (and probably *Edward III*), we are stunned by the extraordinary scale of Shakespeare's achievement. His characterisations of figures like Richard II, Richard III and Henry V have become deeply embedded in our national consciousness; but all are open to doubt on historical grounds.

11.10 *Professor Andrew Hadfield*
Shakespeare's Political World

12.00 *Donna Murphy*
Shakespeare and the Earl of Northumberland in Five Histories

12.45 *Gerit Quealy*
A Play-full delve into the Henries: Why Authorship Matters to Actors

13.30 Lunch

14:30 Sources and Scenes from the Histories* Director: *Greg Thompson*

15.30 *John Casson*
King John: Research, Revision, Politics and Prequel

16.00 Tea & Cake

16.30 *Ramon Jiménez*
George Peel didn't write The Troublesome Reign of John

17.00 *King John Qs*

17.15 Panel Forum / Q&A Chaired by William Leahy

18.00 Wine Reception for the Launch of *30-Second Shakespeare*

19.00 The End

* Speeches and scenes to be read by Richard Clifford, Derek Jacobi, Annabel Leventon and Mark Rylance.