

IASEMS



Italian Association
of Shakespearean and
Early Modern Studies

**Shakespeare and his Contemporaries
The IASEMS Graduate Conference
Villa Il Palmerino – Florence**

Call for Papers

**The Italian Brand:
Re-evaluating Italian Influence in Early Modern English Culture**

Florence, 19 April 2024

*An English man Italianate,
Becomes a diuell incarnate:
But an Italian Anghyfide,
Becomes a Saint Angelifide.*

Theophilus Field, *An Italian's Dead
Bodie*, 1600.

The 2024 IASEMS Graduate Conference, which will be held at Villa Il Palmerino – Vernon Lee's House in Florence – is a one-day interdisciplinary forum open to PhD students and researchers who have obtained their doctorate within the past 5 years.

For the 2024 edition, the Graduate Conference will encourage reflection on the movement of texts, language, customs, and people from Italy to early modern England, seeking to re-evaluate the 'Anglo-Italian connection' in the light of novel research projects from early career researchers. Specifically, starting from a reassessment of the great number of scholarly contributions that have investigated the issue (to mention only a few, Chaney 1998; Quondam 2006; Severi 2009; Tomita 2009; Wyatt 2012; Marrapodi 2014 and 2016; Fulton and Campopiano 2018) we would like to think about defining a distinct Italian 'brand' – in both the current sense linked to identity construction and the marketplace *and* the negative sense of being marked with infamy, which began to prevail after the break of England from Rome.

The graduate conference intends to explore such interactions in texts, performances, emergent literary criticism and aesthetic, translation practices and cultural models, and we welcome papers adopting

a variety of approaches to textual and non-textual sources. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The Italian cultural heritage and its remediation in early modern English cultural practices
- Anglo-Italian exchanges, contact zones and forms of hybridisation
- Landscapes, cities, houses, and ruins as sites of memory and Anglo-Italian cultural heritage / cultural pilgrimage
- Linguistic encounters: teaching Italian in England
- Learned travellers: itineraries and discoveries
- Receptions / Transformations of Roman cultural heritage and classical authority
- The printed word as a medium of cultural heritage
- Italy in the Isles: voices from/in Scotland and Ireland
- Changing perceptions of Italian culture and Italians across space (i.e. different Anglophone areas) and across time

Candidates are invited to send a description of their proposed contribution according to the following guidelines:

- the candidate should provide name, institution, contact info, title and a short abstract of the proposed contribution (300 words for a maximum 20-minute paper), explaining the content and intended structure of the paper; please include both a short bibliography and a short biographical note;
- abstracts are to be submitted by **Sunday 14 January 2024** by email to <iolanda.plescica@uniroma1.it> and <luca.baratta@unisi.it>;
- notification of acceptance will be sent by **Sunday 28 January 2024**;
- each finished contribution should not exceed 20 minutes and is to be presented in English (an exception will be made for Italian candidates of departments other than English, who can give their papers in Italian);
- participants will be asked to present a final draft of the paper ten days before the Conference.

Speakers who are IASEMS members can apply for a mini-grant to go towards travel expenses: (http://www.iasems.org/?page_id=2).

For further information, please contact Luca Baratta: <luca.baratta@unisi.it>.