**IASEMS**

**Italian Association of Shakespearean and Early Modern Studies**



**Shakespeare and his Contemporaries**

**The IASEMS Graduate Conference at The British Institute of Florence**

**Call for Papers**

Prophecy and Conspiracy in Early Modern England

**Florence 22nd April 2016**

The 2016 IASEMS Graduate Conference at The British Institute in Florence is a one-day interdisciplinary forum open to PhD students and researchers who have obtained their doctorates within the past 5 years. This year’s conference will focus on the themes of prophecy and conspiracy in early modern texts.

A number of texts written in Tudor and Stuart England feature sibyls, prophets, holy men and women or magicians; on the other hand, conspiracy is often at the heart of early modern narratives and dramatic actions. Such themes are to be understood in their wider connotations: they can be investigated in the political, religious, social, or literary context, taking into account all literary genres. The relation with classical antiquity is of obvious interest, as is a comparative analysis with contemporary non-English texts.

Proposals can therefore address, from a wide range of disciplinary perspectives, the impact and the implications of prophecy and conspiracy in any early modern English text.

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 20-minute paper), explaining the content and intended structure of the paper, and including a short bibliography
* abstracts are to be submitted by Saturday, 31 October 2015 by email to ilaria.natali@unifi.it
* all proposals will be blind-vetted. The list of selected papers will be available by the end of November 2015
* each finished contribution is to last no longer than 20 minutes and is to be presented in English: candidates whose first language is not English will need to have their proposals and final papers checked by a mother-tongue speaker
* participants will be asked to present a final draft of the paper two weeks before the Conference.

Selected speakers who are IASEMS members can apply for a small grant (<http://www.maldura.unipd.it/iasems/iasems_about.html>)

For further information please contact Ilaria Natali (ilaria.natali@unifi.it)