

The Fifteenth IASEMS Conference

*Waters:
Fluidity and Crossing
in Shakespeare and Early
Modern Texts*

16-17 May 2025

Sala Conferenze Rettorato
University of Salento
Piazzetta Tancredi 7, Lecce

Scientific and Organising Committee

Maria Luisa De Rinaldis and **Maria Renata Dolce** (University of Salento) and the IASEMS Executive Board (**Maddalena Pennacchia, Nicoletta Caputo, Lisanna Calvi, Camilla Caporicci, Maria Elisa Montironi**)

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IASEMS





Friday, 16 May

9.00 Registration

9.30 Conference Opening and Welcome Remarks

Maria Grazia Guido, Head of the Department of Humanities, University of Salento

Maria Luisa De Rinaldis and **Maria Renata Dolce**, University of Salento

Maddalena Pennacchia, President of IASEMS

10.00-11.00 Keynote Lecture

Chair: Maria Luisa De Rinaldis

Subha Mukherji, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge Univ.
"Weary of solid firmness": Early Modern Crossings and Migrant Poetics

Coffee Break

11.15-13.15 Panel: *Re-Imagining Through Water*

Chair: Maddalena Pennacchia

Shaul Bassi, Ca' Foscari University of Venice
Ophelia in Venice: Hydrofeminist Re-Imagings

Maria Paola Guarducci, Roma Tre University
Origins, Slavery and Exile: Transformations and Re-Births on The Tempest's Island

Maria Valentini, Univ. of Cassino and Southern Lazio
Death by Water? Fluidity versus Solidity in Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra as an Opposition Related to Conflicting Concepts of Time

Silvia Silvestri, University of Bari "Aldo Moro"
"Lost... on a dangerous sea": Ominous Waters in Othello and its Narrative Sources

Lunch Break

14.45-16.15 Panel: *Transformations*

Chair: Laura Tosi

Michela Compagnoni, Roma Tre University
"Being without fixity": Fluidity, Transformation, and Disembodiment from The Tempest to Jeanette Winterson's "Ghost in the Machine"

John Joughin, Independent Scholar
On Fugitive Being and Piratical Identity: Shakespeare's Poetics of Submergence

Alina Bottez, University of Bucharest
Water as Boundary in Hamlet, Othello, and Several Transmediations

Break

16.30-18.30 Panel: *Crossings Borders/Realities*

Chair: Alessandra Squeo

Archie Cornish, University of Warwick
Bodies of Water: Enchantment, Disenchantment, and Early Modern River Personifications

Angelo Monaco, University of Bari "Aldo Moro"
Multiscalar Aquatic Crossings in the Sonnets

Rama Friedlander, University of Sheffield
Crossing the Rubicon and the Ebb and Flow of the Thames: Rivers in the Henry IV Plays

Zoe Gross, University of Sidney
Rivers as Shoring up Chastity in the Trinity Manuscript of Milton's Comus

19.30 Guided Tour

21.00 Social dinner with *pizzica* dance performance

Saturday, 17 May

09.30-11.30 Panel: *Mobility: (Is)Lands to Reshape Time/Identities*

Chair: Manuela D'Amore

David Lucking, University of Salento
"Though the seas threaten, they are merciful": Sea-Change in The Tempest

Joe Falocco, Texas State University
Shakespeare's Shipwrecked Sicilians

Pasquale Pagano, Univ. of Campania "L. Vanvitelli"
"Let this sad inter'm like the ocean be": Images of Fertility and Drought in Shakespeare's Sonnets

Anna Chiara Zambello, University of Padua
Desdemona's Clepsydra. Perceiving Tragic Rhythm Through Feminine Fluid Affects

Coffee Break

11.45-12.45 IASEMS General Meeting

12.45-13.15 Final Remarks

Maria Luisa De Rinaldis and **Maria Renata Dolce** (University of Salento) and the IASEMS Executive Board (**Maddalena Pennacchia**, **Nicoletta Caputo**, **Lisanna Calvi**, **Camilla Caporicci**, **Maria Elisa Montironi**)

