



HUMANITIES WEST

Exploring History. Celebrating the Arts.

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Public Info: Humanities West

www.humanitieswest.org

Tickets: City Box Office 415/392-4400

www.cityboxoffice.com

HUMANITIES WEST PRESENTS

Shakespeare & Cervantes

Friday & Saturday, February 26 & 27, 2016

Marines' Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (SAN FRANCISCO, 16 December, 2015) Humanities West's 2015-2016 Season continues with ***Shakespeare & Cervantes***, a two-day program of lectures, discussions, and performances celebrating the literary and cultural contributions of two of Western civilization's greatest writers. The program takes place on Friday, February 26, from 7:30pm to 9:30pm, and Saturday, February 27, from 10am to 4pm, at Marines' Memorial Theatre, located at 609 Sutter Street in downtown San Francisco.

Tickets for ***Shakespeare & Cervantes*** are priced as follows: Single tickets for individual Friday programs are \$55 orchestra and \$45 balcony and individual Saturday programs are \$80 orchestra and \$55 balcony, single tickets for both days of each program are \$125 orchestra and \$90 balcony. Order direct from City Box Office 415-392-4400 or www.cityboxoffice.com. Free tickets are available in limited quantities for students age 25 or younger; inquire at info@humanitieswest.org.

Miguel de Cervantes (1547–1616) and William Shakespeare (1564 –1616) are widely considered to be two of Western civilization's greatest writers. Each helped to define modern forms of literature, while enriching the power and expressiveness of their respective languages. They lived amid the tumultuous interconnected histories of the Spanish Golden Age and the Golden Ages of Jacobean and Elizabethan England. On the 400th anniversary of their deaths, this two-day program celebrates both Shakespeare & Cervantes, the enduring themes and vivid characters in the timeless stories they created, and their respective literary contributions that have become deeply embedded in modern world culture.

On Friday evening, **Roland Greene** (Stanford) provides the opening lecture ***The Renaissance World of Cervantes and Shakespeare***, introducing the common elements in the world-views of these two European contemporaries who came to define the literature of their time. Weighing likenesses and differences, Greene will present an understanding of these two figures in relation to each other and to the world they had in common.

Completing the Friday evening program is a musical presentation, ***Crosscurrent: Renaissance Music from England and Spain***. Early music specialist **Shira Kammen** directs the new 20-voice chorus ***Gallimauffry***, performing music set to texts of Cervantes and Shakespeare, accompanied by **Peter Maund** (*percussion*) and **Michelle Levy** (*vielle*).

On Saturday, **Adrienne Martin** (UC Davis) lectures on ***Don Quixote: Life and Literature in Early Modern Spain***, focusing on Cervantes' creation of the novel through Don Quixote's life on the road, and on key aspects of daily life in Spain.

A presentation on ***Shakespeare's Stage / Shakespeare's Work*** by **Stephen Orgel** (Stanford) follows. Shakespeare's drama serves as a touchstone not merely for theater but for literature itself. Yet, Shakespeare wrote for performance, not for publication and his plays are deeply imbued with the conditions of his theater. This talk will explore the general culture of theater during Shakespeare's time with a focus on what was involved in writing for the stage, and—most important for our modern sense of Shakespeare—what happened when the scripts became books and the stage became literature.

The program continues with ***Shakespeare's Lost Play Cardenio and Its Spanish Connection***, a lecture provided by **Barbara Fuchs** (UCLA) about the strong English fascination with Spanish literature, even during the periods of greatest animosity between the two nations. By reconstructing the context for the missing *Cardenio*, Fuchs uncovers the powerful intellectual and literary connections that thrived between England and Spain despite Protestant suspicion and imperial rivalry.

Bay Area actors **Bruce Avery** (Theatre, SFSU) and **Lana Palmer** follow with a dramatic reading from ***Double Falshood, or The Distrest Lovers***. While this play is attributed to Lewis Theobald, many scholars now believe it is the lost ***Cardenio***, by William Shakespeare and John Fletcher.

Roland Greene returns for the final lecture, ***The Baroque World of Cervantes and Shakespeare***. The period of change after 1600: in politics and society, in technology, in the arts, and in the general state of knowledge, has come to be known as the

Baroque era. This lecture will ask what this meant for these two writers, Cervantes and Shakespeare, whose world-views were established in the preceding era, known as the Golden Age in Spain and the Elizabethan age in England. Greene looks at how a playwright, novelist, or poet adapts to the Baroque in late career, and how an understanding of the seventeenth-century Baroque contributes to our understanding of the late Cervantes and Shakespeare.

A panel discussion with the presenters will follow, addressing questions from the audience.

*Ancillary programs providing opportunities to learn more about the featured topic and related issues complement this two-day event. For a complete program schedule and additional information about the presenters please visit www.humanitieswest.org

About Humanities West

Serving the Bay Area since 1983, Humanities West Explores History and Celebrates the Arts through time and across the globe, bringing illuminating lectures and dynamic performances that focus on the people, places, and events that have shaped, and still inform, modern cultures.

Each season Humanities West presents a number of programs in which leading scholars and artists present lectures, performances, readings and discussions to audiences in San Francisco's Marines' Memorial Theatre. These one- or two-day events represent an opportunity unique not only to the Bay Area, but also to the entire United States. In cooperation with other institutions, such as the Mechanics' Institute Library and the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, additional public lectures and panels are presented to further expand upon program topics

CALENDAR LISTING: EVENTS/LECTURES/ARTS & CULTURE

WHAT: *Shakespeare & Cervantes*

Humanities West presents *Shakespeare & Cervantes*, a two-day program of lectures, discussions, and performances celebrating the literary and cultural contributions of two of Western civilization's greatest writers.

Presenters include Roland Greene (*Stanford*), Adrienne Martin (UC Davis), Stephen Orgel (*Stanford*), and Barbara Fuchs (*UCLA*). Shira Kammen directs *Gallimaufry*, the new chamber chorus of 20 voices, performing music set to texts of Cervantes and Shakespeare, accompanied by Peter Maund (*percussion*) and Michelle Levy (*vielle*). Bruce Avery and Lana Palmer dramatize what many scholars now believe is the lost Shakespeare play, *Cardenio*.

**WHEN: 7:30pm to 9:30pm, Friday, February 26, 2016
10am to 4pm, Saturday, February 27, 2016**

**WHERE: Marines' Memorial Theatre
609 Sutter Street, San Francisco**

**TICKETS: \$25 - \$80
Tickets are available through City Box Office at
415-392-4400 or online at www.cityboxoffice.com
Group tickets: info@humanitieswest.org**

PUBLIC INFO: 415/391-9700 or www.humanitieswest.org

***Ancillary Programs for Shakespeare & Cervantes**

HUMANITIES WEST SALON at the Rex

featuring Richard Savino, David Morris and Ann Moss

Vihuelist and guitarist Richard Savino, David Morris (viola da gamba) and Ann Moss (soprano) will explore the rich and varied musical repertoire of the Siglo de Oro, the Spanish golden age. Included will be settings of villancicos, romances and tonos humanos performed alongside solo fantasias, tientos, danzas and diferencias from the 16th through 17th century. Features composers Luis Milan, Alonso Mudarra, Diego Ortiz, Jose Marin, Juan Hidalgo and Gaspar Sanz.

When: 6:00pm, Thursday, January 21, 2016

Where: Hotel Rex
562 Sutter Street, SF, CA

Cost: \$25

TIX: www.cityboxoffice.com or 415-392-4400

FIRESIDE CHAT with George Hammond – Shakespeare & Cervantes – Preview

Join Humanities West board member George Hammond for a preview of the two-day lecture/performance series ***Shakespeare & Cervantes***.

When: 6:30pm, Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Where: Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA

Cost: Free

PERFORMANCE: Heroes & Antiheroes in Shakespeare & Cervantes

Bruce Avery (Theatre Arts, SF State University) holds a PhD in English Literature and Classics from UC Santa Cruz. He has written on Spenser, Joyce, Kipling, Marlowe, Shakespeare, and pedagogy. He is an actor and director, and has played Polonius in *Hamlet*, Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Old Capulet in *Romeo & Juliet*, among others. His directing credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *As You Like It*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*.

When: 6:00pm, Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Where: Mechanics' Institute
57 Post Street, SF, CA

Cost: \$15

RSVP: www.milibrary.org

MEETUP with Humanities West at the Hotel Rex Library Bar

When: 6:00pm, Friday, February 26, 2016

Where: Hotel Rex
562 Sutter Street, SF

Cost: No-host Bar

HUMANITIES WEST BOOK DISCUSSION with Lynn Harris

Will of the World: How Shakespeare Became Shakespeare

Humanities West Book Discussion on Shakespeare led by Lynn Harris – *Will of the World: How Shakespeare Became Shakespeare* (2004) by Stephen Greenblatt

When: 5:00pm, Monday, February 29, 2016

Where: Commonwealth Club of California
555 Post Street, SF, CA

Cost: \$5

Tickets: www.commonwealthclub.org or 415-597-6700

HUMANITIES WEST BOOK DISCUSSION with Lynn Harris

Don Quixote (1605) by Cervantes, Edith Grossman translation

Humanities West Book Discussion on Cervantes led by Lynn Harris – *Don Quixote* (1605) by Cervantes, Edith Grossman translation

When: 5:00pm, Monday, March 28, 2016

Where: Commonwealth Club of California
555 Post Street, SF, CA

Cost: \$5

Tickets: www.commonwealthclub.org or 415-597-6700