Shakespeare’s Sonnets: A Global Perspective

Global Shakespeare has never been so local and familiar as it is today. The translation, appropriation and adaptation of Shakespeare’s plays across the world have been the subject of much important recent work in Shakespeare studies. The Sonnets, however, are often overlooked.

This proposed collection of essays seeks to bring together an international range of Shakespeare scholars, practitioners and teachers, to explore the global reach of Shakespeare’s Sonnets and the ways in which they are translated and reshaped by different languages and cultures across the world.

Contributions might focus on a single sonnet, a group of sonnets or the whole Quarto sequence; on the intersection of Sonnet narratives and Shakespeare biography; on the performance of Sonnets in relation to theatre, film and other media. We are interested in representing a broad geographical, historical, and cultural range of perspectives, exploring what the Sonnets mean now in the 21st century but also something of their cultural life in the past, and identifying distinctive regional, national and transnational identities.

Possible areas of interest include:

- The Sonnets in Translation
- Editions and Anthologies
- The Sonnets and Performance
- The Sonnets, Gender and Sexuality
- The Sonnets and Politics
- Shakespeare’s Biography through the Sonnets
- Quoting Shakespeare’s Sonnets
- The Sonnets in the Classroom

Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be emailed to the editors, Jane Kingsley-Smith, University of Roehampton, London (J.Kingsley-Smith@roehampton.ac.uk) and W. Reginald Rampone, Jr, South Carolina State University (wrampone@scsu.edu), by 1 September 2020.