

SHAKESPEARE QUARTERLY



Autumn 1984
VOLUME 55, NUMBER 3
Published by the Folger Shakespeare Library



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Shake Scene

Trustees of Amherst College Name Werner L. Gundersheimer New Director of the Folger

After a four-month search for a successor to O. B. Hardison, Jr., whose father and a half year as Director ended in December, the Trustees of Amherst College announced on Saturday, 7 April, that the new Director of the Folger Shakespeare Library will be Dr. Werner L. Gundersheimer, 47, a 1959 graduate of Amherst who holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history from Harvard University. Dr. Gundersheimer will be moving to the Folger from the University of Pennsylvania, where he has been a member of the History faculty since 1966. The son of a distinguished art historian, Dr. Gundersheimer is a native of Germany. His family came to the United States in 1940, and he has been a U.S. citizen since 1945. Dr. Gundersheimer is the author of several books and numerous articles on the Renaissance, with a bibliography that includes such titles as *The Life and Works of Louis LeRoy* (1960), *Art and Life at the Court of Ercole I d'Este: The "De Triumphi Religiosis" of Giovanni Savonarola degli Amanti* (1972), and *Ferrara: The Style of a Renaissance Despotism* (1973). He has taught at a number of institutions in addition to Penn (the University of Wisconsin, Johns Hopkins University, Swarthmore College, and Tel Aviv University), and among his many academic honors are a Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship and a fellowship to Villa I Tatti, Harvard's Center for Italian Renaissance Studies in Florence. In 1974 the foreign ministry of Italy conferred on him the Order of the Star of Italian Solidarity in recognition of his work on fifteenth-century Italian history. Dr. Gundersheimer is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society of Great Britain and a member of the Renaissance Society of America, the Medieval Academy of America, and a number of other professional organizations. He founded the University of Pennsylvania's Seminar on the Renaissance, and he has served as Chairman of the Department of History at Penn. He is also a trustee of the Rosenbach Museum and Library

in Philadelphia, having chaired that institution's Board of Trustees from 1971 to 1979. Dr. Gundersheimer is married to Karen Rosenwald Gundersheimer, a well-known author and illustrator of children's books. The Gundersheimers have two sons, Benjamin and Joshua, the former an undergraduate at Amherst. When informed that Professor Gundersheimer would be leaving Philadelphia to take up new responsibilities in Washington, Sheldon Hackney, President of the University of Pennsylvania, said that "we will miss him at Penn, but we wish him well in his new endeavors. For anyone in Renaissance studies, or seriously interested in our cultural heritage, the Folger Library is at the center of things. It's a national treasure. How marvelous, therefore, that Werner Gundersheimer has agreed to assume its leadership." Meanwhile on the receiving end, George B. Beitel, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Amherst College, which administers the library, commented that "we are extremely fortunate that Dr. Gundersheimer has agreed to direct the Folger in the years ahead. His scholarly expertise and attainments make him the ideal person for this appointment." The staff and administration of SHAKESPEARE QUARTERLY are pleased to join the Trustees in welcoming Werner Gundersheimer to the Folger. Among other things, we look forward to working with him in his capacity as the next chairman of the journal's Executive Board.

Shakespeare's Globe Reborn: An International Conference Scheduled for June At Northwestern University

The Shakespeare Globe Centre (North America), in association with the International Shakespeare Globe Centre, is hosting a three-day conference, 28-30 June 1984, at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Sponsored in part by the British Council, the conference is designed to facilitate discussions among scholars and artists with an interest in the uses to be

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Baltimore County (5 February-23 April): "Love in the Western World," conducted by Jean H. Hagaman of Northwestern University (6 March-22 May); and "England and the Discovery of America, 1511-1660: Historical and Literary Aspects of Early English Colonization," conducted by Alden T. Vaughan of Columbia University and Jackson C. Boswell of the University of the District of Columbia (24 June-31 July). For further information about these and other Folger Institute programs, including information about fellowships available for scholars wishing to participate in them, write Lena Cowen Orlin, Acting Chairman, Folger Institute, 201 East Capitol Street, Washington, D.C. 20003, or call (202) 544-4660. For further information about the programs of the Newberry Library Center for Renaissance Studies, write Mary Beth Ronc, Acting Director, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610, or call (312) 983-9090.

Citadel Conference on Literature Scheduled for March 1985

The Fifth Citadel Conference on Literature, focusing on "The Poetry, Drama, and Prose of the Renaissance and Middle Ages," will take place 14-16 March 1985 in Charleston, South Carolina. Papers on any aspect of medieval and Renaissance literature will be welcome, and abstracts (250 words) or complete essays (20 minutes reading time) should be sent to Robert A.

White, Department of English, The Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina 29409, by 30 November 1984. The featured speakers at the conference will be Robert E. Kaske of Cornell University and Alvin Kernan of Princeton University.

New Series of Video Programs Produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company

Under the direction of John Barton, the Royal Shakespeare Company has recently completed a new series of video programs involving such distinguished RSC performers as Peggy Ashcroft, Sinead Cusack, Lisa Harrow, Alan Howard, Ben Kingsley, Jane Lapotaire, Ian McKellen, and Roger Rees. Each program is approximately 50 minutes long, and the topics addressed include "The Two Traditions," Shakespeare's heightened language and our own modern, naturalistic expectations; "Using the Verse," "Language and Character," "Set Speeches and Soliloquies," "Irony and Ambiguity," "Faction and Coolness," "Rehearsing the Text," "Exploring a Character," and "Poetry and Hidden Poetry." Designed to complement both classroom teaching and individual study of Shakespeare, the nine-part series is available for purchase or rental in various formats from Films for the Humanities, Inc., Box 2053, Princeton, New Jersey 08540.