



LIFELONG LEARNING MISSISSAUGA

Shakespeare for Our Times

Tuesdays, April 4 to May 23, 2017 – 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

This series explores our fascination with Shakespeare's creations in different media – stage, screen, opera, musicals. The controversial: *Kate*, the Shrew; Shylock, the Jew; Richard III, the Monster, and the beloved: Falstaff; *Romeo and Juliet*. All are firmly rooted in our cultural heritage.

April 4 "Theatre is not a nursing home": Merchants of Venice of the Stratford Festival
Ted McGee, University of Waterloo

Drawing on the Stratford Festival Archives, this talk examines textual revisions and staging decisions of several productions, to explore how they attempted to sharpen, exploit, defuse or contain the controversial issues of the play.

April 11 *The Taming of the Shrew: Modern and Not-So-Modern Anxieties*
Alan Somerset, Western University

When did Shakespeare's play first begin to arouse anxieties about the "taming" and how have the last four Stratford productions faced, or failed to face, the issue?

APRIL 25 Shakespeare's "Native English" *Alysia Kolentsis, University of Waterloo

This talk explores the rich and dynamic linguistic climate of Shakespeare's time, and it considers how we might trace the influence of the changing English language on Shakespeare's works.

APRIL 18 Verdi Celebrates the Bard *Linda Hutcheon, Michael Hutcheon, U of Toronto

Giuseppe Verdi set *Macbeth* early in his career, but then ended it decades later with adaptations of both *Othello* (*Otello*) and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (*Falstaff* – his one and only comedy).

May 2 *The Literary Setting of Twelfth Night* *Elizabeth Pentland, York University*

We will explore how Shakespeare took up Ilyria's ancient history as he adapted a popular Italian tale for the stage during the final years of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

May 9 *Richard III – Monster or Mr. Nice Guy?* *Norma Rowen, York University*

Shakespeare's Richard III, hunchbacked, ugly, totally immoral – or seriously maligned? Examining anew Shakespeare's portrayal. Is it itself a grievous distortion, or was Shakespeare right after all?

May 16 *Hamlet Goes to the Movies* *Alan Somerset, Western University*

This talk discusses four Hamlet films, starring Laurence Olivier (1948), Mel Gibson (1990), Kenneth Branagh (1996), and Ethan Hawke (2002). We will view film clips focusing on Hamlet's relationship with Ophelia and Gertrude and looking at himself in the "To be, or not to be" soliloquy.

May 23 *Shakespeare on the Broadway Stage* *Linda Beck*

The Boys from Syracuse, *Kiss Me Kate*, *West Side Story*, just three Broadway musicals heavily influenced by Shakespeare. A look at what happens when you put Shakespeare onstage with Rogers and Hart, Cole Porter and Leonard Bernstein.

Burnhamthorpe Community Centre, 1500 Gulleden Drive, Mississauga, ON L4X 2T7

Registration fee \$40 per person per series

For information or to register, go to www.lifelong-learning-mississauga.com or phone 647-300-4878