

"SHAKINOMICS"*: Building bridges in Shakespeare studies – 28 November 2010

Draft Programme Schedule

10.30 COFFEE & GREETINGS

11.00 Welcome – “Shakinomics”/Biography

Dr William Leahy

11.15 “No Biography: Shakespeare, Author”

Dr Sean Gaston

What does it mean for the tradition of biography, literary history or the inventions of autobiography, if the greatest writer in the English language had a life – or bequeathed a life – that is no more than a blank, a bit of coldness, an emptiness?

11.45 “Imagining Shakespeare”

Prof Willy Maley

Imagining Shakespeare's life, looking at the George Moore play *The Making of an Immortal* (1927) and other fictional lives of the bard.

12.15 “What is Biography?”

Fay Weldon in discussion with William Leahy

Prof Fay Weldon discusses issues of biography, autobiography and Shakespeare's biographies with Dr William Leahy

1.00 Building Bridges

Actors recite passages of Shakespeare

1.15pm Lunch

2.30 Building Bridges

Actors recite passages of Shakespeare

2.45 “The Soul's unerring mirror”

Charles Beauclerk

Literary criticism took a wrong turn with Shakespeare by ignoring the primary role of the unconscious in literary creation. The consequences for Shakespearean biography have been disastrous.

3.15 “Shakespeare, Bacon”

Peter Dawkins

3.45 “Biography: Shakespeare, Neville”

Prof William Rubinstein

Biography and the case for Sir Henry Neville (c. 1562-1615)

4.15 Tea & Cake

4.45 “Evidence and Interpretation: Shakespeare, Marlowe”

Ros Barber

Comparing Marlovian and Stratfordian interpretive frameworks and the extent to which they 'join the dots' of primary source evidence into a coherent biographical narrative.

5.15 Forum/Q&A

6.00 THE END