Multitudinous Seas: The Ocean in the Age of Shakespeare

Bernhard Klein and Steve Mentz, Organizers

**Introduction**: **Possible Consequences of an Oceanic Turn** (SM; 5 minutes)

1. A wetter globalism.
2. A bluer ecocritisim.
3. A poetics of the sea.
4. Technology as craft.

**Introductions of Seminar Members and Leaders**: What draws you to the sea? (10 min)

**Questions** **for and from the Seminar** (BK; 15 minutes)

1. The politics of the sea: globalization, empire, trade, cultural encounters, ‘discovery’, colonialism

2. Contemporary views of the sea: perspective, cartography, travel, meaning, forms of discursive control, water/land divide

3. Experiencing the sea: danger, risk, shipwreck, meditation, prayer, monstrosity, sea as self or other, sea as natural force

4. The sea in critical discourse: space/place, reality/metaphor, ‘blue cultural studies’, validity of modern terms such as ‘globalization’, early modern ‘anxiety’

5. ‘The sea and theatre’: poetics, drama, stagecraft, theatrical space, performance, representation, genre

**Papers** **in Groups** (20 minutes each)

1. Oceanic Encounters

Tamsin Badcoe, “Confound and swallow navigation up’: Seafaring and Prayer in Early Modern Literature”

Maria Shymgol, “At ‘the slimy bottom of the deep’: The Sea-Monster in Early Modern Cartography and Shakespeare’s Dramaturgical Seas”

1. Watery Borders

Jemima Matthews, “The Thames: ‘a little Sea, and a great River”

Hillary Eklund, “Coming Amain and Picking Sallets in Shakespeare’s *2 Henry VI*”

1. Global Exchange

Rita Banerjee, “The Ocean and its Traffique: Miscegenation and Conversion in *The Island Princess* and *The Renegado*”

Imtiaz Habib, “Translating Khoree”

Valerie Traub, “’With in all the worlde is contained’: Shakespeare and Global Cartography”

**Possible Futures** (20 minutes)

**Questions from auditors** (10 min)