

ARMENIAN SHAKESPEARE ASSOCIATION (2016-2026)

ASA SHAKESPEARE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

LET'S TALK ABOUT MACBETH:

Treachery for/of Power and where is 'the Milk of Human Kindness'?

27, 28 (online) and 30 (in person) April 2026, Yerevan, RA

Address of Conference sessions 1 and 2: Manoogian Hall, American University in Armenia (AUA), Bagramyan av. 40, Yerevan, Republic of Armenia (online, all presentations in English)

ASA Conveners: H.J. Seymour, Armine Ghalachyan and Marina Hakopyan

PROGRAMME

SESSION 1: MONDAY 27 April

12am: Opening remarks from Dr. Mica Hilson (English & Communications, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, American University in Armenia)

12.10: Welcome from J. H. Seymour (ASA Chair), *The Historical Contexts of Macbeth on the Armenian Stage and Page since 1864*.

12.30: Keynote: Pr. Sheila T. Cavanagh (Emory University, USA), *“The Power of Scotland’: Macbeth (an undoing) and Dunsinane*.

13.00: Oksana Fedorkiv (Vasyl Stefanyk Carpathian National University, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine), *Macbeth and the Formation of the Ukrainian Shakespearean Stage: From Les Kurbas to Contemporary Interpretations*

13.30: Srabani Basu (SRM University of AP, India), *Where is 'the Milk of Human Kindness?' Macbeth and the Collapse of the Purushartha*.

14.00: Valentina Rossi (University of Noverdrate, Italy), *Anointed by Lord. Sacredness of Power vs Individual Ambition in William Davenant's Macbeth*.

14.30: Ingibjörg Þórisdóttir (University of Iceland, Iceland), *Analysis of five Icelandic translations of Shakespear's Macbeth*.

15.00 Sabina Lashkowska-Hinz (Polish Shakespeare Association, Poland), *Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player; (Macbeth, 5.5): The Iconographical Redefinition of Lady Macbeth in Joel Coen's The Tragedy of Macbeth (2021)*.

15.30 Isaac Chong (Shakespeare Institute, Stratford-on-Avon, UK) *Speaking the Magic Words: Finding Medieval Conjurations in Macbeth's Speeches*.

16.00 **Break 15mns** Projection of a New Documentary about Armenian Genocide directed by Ara Yernjakyan, Artistic Director of Yerevan Chamber Theatre (YCT)

16.15 Attila Sebök (scholar, composer and opera singer, Budapest, Hungary), *Suspended Time: A Musical and Phenomenological Analysis of Time Consciousness in Giuseppe Verdi's Operatic adaptation of Macbeth*.

16.45 Pr. Silvana Fernandez (University de la Plata, Argentina) *Of Kerns, Galloglasses, and English*.

17.15 Keynote: Pr. Emerita Lois Potter (University of Delaware, USA), *Can Macbeth be both Modern and Tragic?*

17.45 Conference Special Guest in-person: Elliot Huxtable (Artistic Director of Canterbury Shakespeare Festival) and Charlotte Groombridge (Manging Director of Canterbury Shakespeare Festival), on directing Macbeth in Armenian at Yerevan State Chamber Theatre, followed by Masterclass for AUA students.

SESSION 2: TUESDAY 28 APRIL

12.00 Bálint Szele (University of Pannonia, Hungary), *The Tyrant, Whose Sole name Blister Our Tongues: Macbeth in Hungary*.

12.30 Vahe Arsenyan (Yerevan State University, Armenia), *Shakespeare's Macbeth and its Screen Adaptation of A.Kurosawa's 'Throne of Blood'*.

13.00 Pr. Mădălina Nicolaescu (University of Bucharest, Romania), *Voices of the Tyrant: Radio Performances of Macbeth in Romania*".

13.30 Oana-Alis Zacharia (University of Bucharest, Romania), *Mirroring the Tyrant: Negotiating Machiavelli and Gentillet in Macbeth*.

14.00 David Livingstone (Palacký University, Czech Republic), *A Walking Shadow: Shakespeare's Macbeth in Literature and on Screen*.

14.30 Iryna Kazymir & Oksana Halaibida (Kamianets-Podilskyi Ivan Ohienko National University, Ukraine), *Beyond the "Sound and Fury": The Functional Vitality of Macbeth's Eponyms in Contemporary Discourse*.

15.00 Amalya Soghomonyan (Yerevan State University, Armenia), *Abuse and the Corrupting Power of Tyranny in William Shakespeare's Macbeth*.

15.30 Break 15 mns Documentary film (TBC)

15.45 Kitamura Sae (Musashi University, Tokyo, Japan) *Is Macbeth the Most Suitable Shakespearean Tragedy for High School Students?*

16.15 Yael Bassam (Trinity College, Dublin) *Experiments in Supernatural Architecture: the Weird Sisters*.

16.45 Anna Kowalcze-Pawlik (University of Lodz, Poland), *'Gainst nature still!': EcoMacbeths at International Shakespeare Festival in Gdańsk*.

17.15 Keynote: Pr. Alexa Alice Joubin (George Washington University, USA), *Global Macbeth as Inclusive Pedagogy*.

17.45 Koel Chatterjee: *Indian Shakespeare: Prophecy, Witchcraft and Indian Macbeths*.

SESSION 3: THURSDAY 30 APRIL

Address of Session 3: Conference Hall 220, Yerevan State Institute of Theatre and Cinema (YSTCI), Amirian st. 26, Yerevan (in-person, all presentations in Armenian language)

Convener: Anush Aslibekyan (YSTCI, ASA)

11.00 Welcome from Sarah Nalbandyan, Dean of YSTCI

11.05 Anush Aslibekyan (YSTCI and ASA), *In Memoriam of distinguished Shakespeare scholar Professor Harry Keyishian, USA (1932-2026)*.

11.15 H.J. Seymour (ASA), *Historical Context of Shakespeare's Macbeth and Challenges of Adaptations and translations in Armenian*.

11.45 Q&A with Elliott Huxtable (Artistic Director of Canterbury Shakespeare Festival) and Lusine Yernjakyan (Director of Chamber Theatre) on their joint production of *Macbeth*.

12.20 Armine Galachyan (University of Slavonic Studies, Yerevan, Armenia), *Ukrainian-Armenian film director Roman Balayan's movie 'Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk District' based on Nikolai Leskov's eponymous novella*.

12.50 Artsvi Bachchinyan (Institute of History of National Academy of Sciences, Armenia), *Macbeth-like Characters in Armenian Literature Before and After Shakespeare*.

14.00-16.00 Masterclass with British director Elliott Huxtable (Canterbury Shakespeare Festival, UK) for YSTCI students at the Chamber Theatre, Mashtots av. 58