



GLADSTONE'S
LIBRARY

Taming Shakespeare

With Emma Rees

FRIDAY, 11TH - SUNDAY, 13TH MAY

The poet Ben Jonson was uncannily prescient when, in the preface to the First Folio of 1623, he declared that Shakespeare was 'not of an age but for all time'. But why have Shakespeare's plays endured? And what is it about the idea of 'Shakespeare' that continues to signify good taste and highbrow status? Why and how did Shakespeare become – for some people at least – a sort of intellectual cough medicine: necessary, but not enjoyable? Whether you already love Shakespeare's plays, or whether they're a source of frustration to you, this course will enrich your understanding and enjoyment of them. It will be a weekend of Shakespeare without fear, with just one play – *The Taming of the Shrew* (c. 1594) – to read or watch in advance, and with all other materials provided for you.

Emma Rees was Gladstone's Library's Political Writer in Residence in 2016. She is Professor of Literature and Gender Studies at the University of Chester and has taught Shakespeare and Renaissance literature in universities for over 20 years. In 2017 she finally achieved her goal of seeing every one of Shakespeare's 37 plays live on stage at least once, and came out of the experience with a better understanding of why some of them are so very rarely performed.

Residential from £230,
non-residential £160.

Discount rates for clergy and
students apply.

Call: 01244 532350

Email: enquiries@gladlib.org



Programme

Friday, 11th May

5.30pm	Welcome and introductions
6.45pm	Dinner
8pm	Session 1: Who's Shakespeare? Whose Shakespeare?

Saturday, 12th May

8am	Breakfast
10am	Session 2: Shakespeare's 'Sisters': From Scolds' Bridles to Rooms of their Own
11am	Coffee
11.30am	Session 3: Staging Shakespeare: 'Some Squeaking Cleopatra Boy my Greatness'
1pm	Lunch
2.30pm	Session 4: <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> : A Play of an Age? Or For All Time?
4pm	Session 5: Film - <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> (Franco Zeffirelli, 1967, 122 mins)
6pm	Drinks
6.45pm	Dinner
8pm	Session 6: 'A Love So Furious': Liz / Richard; Kate / Petruchio; Antony / Cleopatra

Sunday, 13th May

8am	Eucharist at St Deiniol's (optional)
8am	Breakfast
10am	Session 7: Shakespeare for the Twenty-first Century
11am	Coffee
11.30am	Final Session: Why Shakespeare? My Shakespeare?
12.30pm	Lunch - 'Our revels now are ended'