



Università Ca'Foscari Venezia

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: SHABEGH - SHAKESPEARE IN AND BEYOND THE GHETTO

FUNDING PROGRAMME: CREATIVE EUROPE - CULTURE

CALL: CE Culture Cooperation Projects 2016 – Category 1: smaller scale cooperation projects – coop1

SCIENTIFIC FIELD: English Literature

HOST DEPARTMENT/CENTRE: Department of Linguistics and Comparative Cultural Studies

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Prof. Shaul BASSI

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 349.348,71	€ 85.000,00

ABSTRACT:

Two landmark anniversaries will coincide in 2016: the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death and the 500th anniversary of the establishment of the Jewish Ghetto of Venice, a place that would give its name to such segregated areas worldwide and serve as the historical backdrop for Shakespeare's most controversial play, *The Merchant of Venice*. The setting and the play are fundamentally ambivalent artifacts of European civilization, having been both instruments of intolerance and catalysts for cultural exchange.

The project promotes the transnational circulation and mobility of people, ideas, and artworks, bringing together cultural and creative organisations from four different countries; it targets a wide range of different audiences, including children and the deaf community. It fosters, mainly through the theatre performance and the creative workshops but also through all symposia, the development of emerging European talent. It translates a classic of European culture such as Shakespeare in different contemporary media and languages to expand and diversify its audience. It provides training for different creative players.

The project will have a strong impact on the future of the Ghetto of Venice as a fundamental heritage site; the scope of the theatrical performance, in the framework of the two anniversaries, will put the Ghetto on the map no longer as just a destination of religious pilgrimage or as a site of Holocaust memory, but also as a centre of cultural production and performance, as it was in the early centuries of its existence. The dissemination tools, especially the *Shylock Encyclopedia*, will constitute an essential reference point for theatres, cultural, and educational institutions dealing with Shakespeare.

SHABEGH will be an experiment for a network that may extend beyond the project and get further partners involved in the future. The Summer school and the most successful creative workshops are planned to become formats that can be repeated as sustainable activities after the completion of the present project.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
June, 1 st 2016	December, 31 st 2018

PARTNERSHIP:

1	UNIVERSITA' CA' FOSCARI VENEZIA	Italy	Lead Partner/Coordinator
2	Fondazione Giorgio Cini onlus	Italy	Partner
3	QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON	United Kingdom	Partner
4	LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITAET MUENCHEN	Germany	Partner
5	THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK	United Kingdom	Partner
6	Teatrul Municipal Tony Bulandra Targoviste	Romania	Partner

WEBSITE: available after the starting date