

Love 's Tragedy in Diverse Communities:
Othello and *Romeo and Juliet*



Dr. Vernon Dickson, Mr. Carlos Escobar, Dr. Andy Strycharski, & Dr. James Sutton
Florida International University
October 14, 2016

Agenda

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| 8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. | Registration and light breakfast |
| 8:15 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. | Context and rationale for PD and First Folio Exhibit feedback |
| 9:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | William Shakespeare's <u>Othello</u> Special presentation by Dr. Ayanna Thompson |
| 11:30 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Lunch |
| 12:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. | William Shakespeare's <u>Romeo and Juliet</u> Special presentation by Dr. Carla Della Gatta |
| 2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Final thoughts |

Most successful experience or activities teaching William Shakespeare's Othello

Difficulties with teaching the play or questions you have about the play

How is this play relevant to issues of race, identity, and/or exile?

Ideas taken from or inspired by Dr. Ayanna Thompson

Questions for Dr. Ayanna Thompson

Most successful experience or activities teaching
William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet

Difficulties with teaching the play or questions you have about the play

How is this play relevant to issues of race, identity, and/or exile?

Ideas taken from or inspired by Dr. Carla Della Gatta

Questions for Dr. Carla Della Gatta

Further Readings: Dr. Ayanna Thompson

Bland, Sheila Rose. "How I Would Direct *Othello*." In *Othello: New Essays by Black Writers*, ed. Mythili Kaul. Washington, DC: Howard University Press, 1997. 29-41.

Callaghan, Dymphna. *Shakespeare Without Women: Representing Gender and Race on the Renaissance Stage*. London and New York: Routledge, 2000.

Crowl, Samuel. "'Ocular Proof': Teaching *Othello* in Performance." In *Approaches to Teaching Shakespeare's Othello*, eds. Peter Erickson and Maurice Hunt. New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2005. 162-168.

deGravelles, Karin. "You Be *Othello*: Identification and Boundary in the Classroom." *Pedagogy* 11.1 (2011): 153-175.

Lennix, Harry J. and Laurence Fishburne. "Two Actors on Shakespeare, Race, and Performance: A Conversation between Harry J. Lennix and Laurence Fishburne." *Shakespeare Bulletin* 27.3 (2009): 399-414.

Marks, Elise. "'Othello/Me': Racial Drag and the Pleasures of Boundary-Crossing with *Othello*." *Comparative Drama* 35 (2001): 101-123.

Further Readings: Dr. Carla Della Gatta

Adams, Pamela E. "Teaching *Romeo and Juliet* in the Nontracked English Classroom". *Journal of Reading* Vol. 38, No. 6, (Mar 1995), p. 424-32.

Avery, Bruce. "You Don't Know Jack: Engaging the Twenty-First-Century Student with Shakespeare's Plays". *Pedagogy* Vol. 11, No. 1 (2011), p. 135-52.

Conaway, Charles. "Teaching *Romeo and Juliet* in and against Modern Popular Culture". *This Rough Magic*, Vol. 2, No. 2, (December 2011), p. 25-52.

Holmer, Joan Ozark. "'O, What Learning Is!': Some Pedagogical Practices for *Romeo and Juliet*". *Shakespeare Quarterly* Vol. 41, No. 2, (Summer 1990); p. 187-94.

Hunt, Maurice, Ed. *Approaches to Teaching Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'*. New York: The Modern Language Association, 2000.

Speaker Information

Dr. Carla Della Gatta

Assistant Professor of Critical Studies, University of Southern California

Dr. Carla Della Gatta is an Assistant Professor of Critical Studies at the USC School of Dramatic Arts. She has published essays in collected editions from Oxford University Press and Palgrave Macmillan, and in journals such as *Shakespeare Studies* and *Bulletins of the Comediantes*.

Dr. Vernon Dickson

Associate Professor of English, Florida International University

Professor Dickson is the author of *Emulation on the Shakespearean Stage*, which explores theories and practices of imitation and emulation primarily through their enactment on the English Renaissance stage. Dr. Dickson has published articles related to Shakespeare, *Hamlet*, the Renaissance, exemplarity, and emulation in *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Studies in English Literature*, and *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*.

Mr. Carlos Escobar

English Teacher, Felix Varela Sr. High, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Mr. Escobar teaches AP English Literature at Felix Varela and has served the College Board and M-DCPS in various roles: College Board Advisor for AP English Literature and Composition, member of the AP English Literature Test Development Committee, reviewer of the redesigned SAT, and District and National mentor to new AP English teachers. Recently he co-authored the teacher's editions of *Advanced Language & Literature: For Honors and Pre-AP English Courses* and *Literature & Composition: Reading, Writing, Thinking*.

Dr. Andy Strycharski

Instructor of English, Florida International University

Andrew Strycharski directs the film studies certificate program at Florida International University, where he teaches courses in film and in English Renaissance Literature. He received his Ph.D. in English in 2004 from the University of Texas at Austin. His publications on English Renaissance Literature include the co-edited volume *Re-reading Mary Wroth* (Palgrave, 2015) and numerous articles in such journals as *Criticism*, *Studies in English Literature 1500 – 1900*, and the *Sidney Journal*. He has won research fellowships from the Folger Shakespeare Library, the American Philosophical Association, and the Folger Institute, and he currently serves as President of the International Sidney Society.

Dr. James Sutton**Associate Professor of English, Florida International University**

Dr. Sutton is an Associate Professor of English at Florida International University. He is the author of *Materializing Space at an Early Modern Prodigy House* (2005). Since earning his Ph.D. in Renaissance Studies from Yale University in 1995, he has taught courses on all aspects of early modern literature and culture, including Shakespeare and Spenser, at FIU. He also conducts research on matters of Elizabethan and Jacobean culture, focusing on the intersection of literature, architecture and design, and political life. Most recently, along with Gayle Williams and Shawn Tonner from the FIU Libraries and Klaudio Rodriguez from the Frost Art Museum, Dr. Sutton led the campaign to bring Shakespeare's First Folio to FIU. He has now begun research on a project that will investigate the meanings and relevance of Shakespeare in contemporary Miami.

Dr. Ayanna Thompson**Professor of English, George Washington University**

Dr. Thompson is Professor of English at George Washington University, and she specializes in Renaissance drama and issues of race in/as performance. Professor Thompson has served as a Trustee of the Shakespeare Association of America and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Association of Marshall Scholars.