



Performing Arts Section Meet & Greet #3
Wednesday, December 4, 2024 @ 1:00 PM EST / 10:00 AM PST

“How many goodly creatures are there here!”: Thematic finding aids for collections at Shakespeare’s Globe

Against a background of global pushback against Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, this presentation introduces a 2024 project at Shakespeare’s Globe to create four thematic finding aids that will help users find disability, gender, queerness and race in our collections at Shakespeare’s Globe. Delivered with the aid of a Research and Innovation grant from The National Archives, these go beyond our 20th and 21st century organisational and performance history to look at the four themes in the texts themselves. We will be annually revising and updating them to add material from new seasons.

Improving the discoverability of these themes is important because we know students and researchers are keen to find them. The new finding aids mean we have been able to move on from a few hits in the catalogue, to substantial documents offering starting points for research. The project has improved our subject knowledge, which may help us reach new audiences through future programming. Availability on both the website and the catalogue should mean a wider global audience than those able to come in person to our collections.

An important aspect of the project has been working with the support of an Inclusion Advisory Panel of volunteers with lived experience.

Dr Philip Milnes-Smith, RMARA, works as the digital archivist at Shakespeare’s Globe. He also volunteers for the Archives and Records Association as co-training officer for the Archives for Learning and Education Section. As one of the ARA’s Diversity and Inclusion Allies, he has co-led disability and accessibility training for record-keepers. He founded the Disability Collections Forum in 2022.

Please register at: <https://forms.gle/y7yF4HqiGhi1W3uP9>

You will receive the link 48 hours before the event.