



## NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

The Frick Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University Libraries Present

### From Stage to Page: 400 Years of Shakespeare in Print

*Collaboration between Pittsburgh institutions celebrates renowned playwright's impactful body of work*

PITTSBURGH, PA, March 23, 2023 – The Frick Pittsburgh, in partnership with Carnegie Mellon University Libraries, is pleased to announce the presentation of **From Stage to Page: 400 Years of Shakespeare in Print** and **Inventing Shakespeare: Text, Technology, and the Four Folios**, a celebration of the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's First Folio. Printed in 1623, the First Folio, or **Mr William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies** is the earliest comprehensive compilation of Shakespeare's works in print, and preserves some of the playwright's best-known works, including **Macbeth**, **The Tempest**, and **As You Like It**. **From Stage to Page** offers the rare opportunity to see not only a First Folio, one of only 230 surviving, in person, but all four of Shakespeare's folios displayed in one room.

"We are tremendously excited to collaborate with Carnegie Mellon University Libraries to bring this remarkable exhibition to the Frick," said Frick Executive Director Elizabeth E. Barker. "The plays of William Shakespeare—including those passed down to us through early publications such as the celebrated the First Folio—continue to shape the ways in which our society thinks about and describes the world. We're grateful to our neighbors at CMU for their support and partnership in making this exhibition possible."

#### ABOUT THE EXHIBITIONS

**From Stage to Page**, presented at the Frick Art Museum, spotlights all seven Shakespeare Folios held in the CMU Libraries' Special Collections: one copy of the First, and two copies each of the later folios — the Second, printed in 1632, Third (1663), and Fourth (1685). The exhibition offers a rare (and, in Pittsburgh, unprecedented) opportunity to view the First Folio alongside copies of each of the later Folios. Constituting one of the best collections of Shakespeare Folios in the country — only a handful of

institutions have all four — the CMU Folios have never before been displayed to the public. This exhibit represents an important first, both for the Frick and for CMU. Beyond showcasing the richness of CMU Libraries' holdings in early Shakespeare editions, **From Stage to Page** will tell the story of how the four Folios engineered Shakespeare's legacy in the 17th-century and beyond.

"The occasion for this exhibition is the 400th anniversary of the printing of the First Folio of Shakespeare's plays, but the idea behind it is how literary culture is transmitted and preserved by reprinting. The First Folio has been described as 'the book that gave us Shakespeare', and that's true. If the First Folio hadn't been printed, we would have lost half of Shakespeare's plays, including **Macbeth!** And because of that, I think, the First Folio is treated almost like a relic," remarked Sam Lemley, Curator of Special Collections at the Carnegie Mellon University Libraries. "Meanwhile, the later Shakespeare Folios have been historically dismissed. But these later folios are just as fascinating and played a significant role in preserving Shakespeare through time — in other words, the story that begins after the First Folio is one that's worth telling. So not only is **From Stage to Page** an unprecedented opportunity in Pittsburgh to view all four of Shakespeare's folios in one room, but by gathering the four folios together, it offers a fuller, more nuanced view of how Shakespeare was kept in print and read in the first century after his death."

The Frick's presentation of **From Stage to Page** will also include objects displayed from the museum's permanent collection, highlighting the Frick family's interest in and enjoyment of Shakespeare's works. These objects include a box set of Shakespeare's plays owned by Henry Clay Frick and materials owned and used by the Frick children, Childs and Helen, in their studies.

"Childs and Helen Frick's childhood love of Shakespeare is well-documented, and we are excited to share this part of their story with our visitors," remarked Dawn R. Brean, chief curator, director of collections at The Frick Pittsburgh. "Shakespeare's plays have been reinterpreted countless times since the Frick children were studying his works in the late 19th-century, and we hope this exhibition will inspire visitors to explore the rich and diverse ways in which his works continue to be celebrated and adapted."

**Inventing Shakespeare: Text, Technology, and the Four Folios**, the companion exhibition to **From Stage to Page**, is located at the Hunt Library Gallery on Carnegie Mellon University's campus. The exhibition explores the technologies and computational tools used to study the four folios since 1950. Aptly called "the most thoroughly studied early modern book," the First Folio has given rise to a range of scholarly tools, techniques, and technologies. The focus on the technology of literary research speaks to CMU's culture of innovation, collaboration, and technological inventiveness.

## HOURS AND ADMISSION

**From Stage to Page: 400 Years of Shakespeare in Print**

April 1, 2023 – October 1, 2023

Frick Art Museum  
Tuesday - Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Free and open to all

### **Inventing Shakespeare: Text, Technology, and the Four Folios**

March 6, 2023 – December 1, 2023

Hunt Library Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University

Monday - Friday, 8am – 12am; Saturday, 9am – 5pm; Sunday, 12pm – 8pm

Hours may vary. For most up to date info visit <https://www.library.cmu.edu/visit/hunt/hours>

Free and open to all

## **PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **Let's Talk About Shakespeare**

Fridays April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, 2023

2:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Meet in The Frick Art Museum Rotunda

Why are we still talking about Shakespeare? Every third Friday of the month, pop into The Frick Art Museum for a discussion about Shakespeare's enduring appeal and how it relates to our lives and culture today.

Free; No advance reservation required.

### **Shakespeare's Symbols: The Frick's Collection through the Bard's Eyes**

April 28 and September 22, 2023

5:30 – 6:45 p.m.

The Frick Art Museum

Power and corruption, love and betrayal, revenge, and loyalty all mark some of the enduring themes that characterize William Shakespeare's plays. Join the Frick staff for a light reception followed by an exploration of the intersections of the collection of The Frick Art Museum and Shakespeare's folios. Advance registration required; \$15 for non-members and guests, \$10 for members, \$5 for students.

### **Shakespeare on Screen, 1990s style**

Thursdays May 25, June 22, July 27, August 24, September 28, October 26, 2023

7:00 p.m.

The Frick Art Museum auditorium

The 1990s/early 2000s movies that brought adaptations of Shakespeare into mainstream culture are a genre all their own – and many of them are just plain fun. Join us for an exploration of some of the best in our monthly series – we'll bring the popcorn!

\$15 non-members and guests; \$10 for members; \$5 for students.

### **Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks at The Frick presents Antony and Cleopatra**

Saturday, September 23 and Sunday, September 24

2:00 p.m.

North Lawn

The rarely-performed tale of Antony and Cleopatra comes alive in a fierce all-female production with music, dance, and soul-lifting fun. Celebrating Cleopatra, one of Shakespeare's most complex female characters, and her tragic grandeur.

Free and open to all.

## **ABOUT CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY**

Carnegie Mellon University, [cmu.edu](http://cmu.edu), is a private, internationally ranked research university with acclaimed programs spanning the sciences, engineering, technology, business, public policy, humanities and the arts. Our diverse community of scholars, researchers, creators and innovators is driven to make real-world impacts that benefit people across the globe. With a bold, interdisciplinary and entrepreneurial approach, we do the work that matters.

## **ABOUT THE FRICK PITTSBURGH**

The Frick Pittsburgh offers authentic experiences with art, history and nature that inspire and delight. Visitors of all ages and backgrounds are warmly welcomed to explore collections of fine and decorative arts, vehicles, historic objects, and buildings – including Clayton, the Frick family home and only intact Gilded Age mansion remaining from Pittsburgh's Millionaire's Row – left as a legacy to the people of Pittsburgh by Helen Clay Frick, daughter of noted industrialist and art collector Henry Clay Frick. Alongside these treasures, the Frick offers an active schedule of temporary exhibitions and programs on our 10-acre garden campus in the heart of Pittsburgh's East End. Information about The Frick Pittsburgh is available online at [TheFrickPittsburgh.org](http://TheFrickPittsburgh.org).

**For additional information or images, please contact Kaitlyn Clem, Marketing and Communications Manager, at [KClem@TheFrickPittsburgh.org](mailto:KClem@TheFrickPittsburgh.org) or 412-342-4025.**

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