

Playing and Playgoing in Early Modern England

The Queen's College, Oxford, Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th June

This interdisciplinary conference will interrogate the current state of criticism on the interactions between: performance spaces; the bodily, sensory and material experiences of the playhouse; and playgoers' responses to, and engagements with, the theatre. Confirmed speakers include Natasha Korda, Tiffany Stern, Emma Smith, Laurie Maguire, Lucy Munro, Gillian Woods, Sarah Dustagheer, Jackie Watson, Will Tosh, Eoin Price, Simon Smith, and Emma Whipday.

Papers will explore playhouse behaviour; performance spaces; doubling; asides and soliloquies; approaches to theatre history; cultures of playgoing; actors' bodies; early modern fandom; and judging audiences. Join us as we reflect upon the intersections between literary scholarship, theatre history, and performance practice, in the study of playing and playgoing in early modern England.

This conference is organised by Dr Simon Smith (Birmingham) and Dr Emma Whipday (UCL), and is funded by the Leverhulme Trust. Places are free, and include lunch and a drinks reception, but must be reserved in advance. Please email Emma on emma.whipday.10@ucl.ac.uk to reserve a place; the registration deadline is 8th June.

Image: The Wits, or, Sport Upon Sport (1662), Wing W3218, Title page and frontispiece. Plate by John Chantry.





