

## Call for Papers

### *New Bownde: New Scholarship in Early Modern Binding*

Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC

15-16 August 2013

The Folger Shakespeare Library will host a two-day conference to explore new tools for the study of English and Continental bookbinding and share new scholarship in the materiality of the book. *New Bownde: New Scholarship in Early Modern Binding* marks the culmination of a two year project to build an online database of binding images from the Folger collection (<http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/BINDINGS-1-1>). To date, the database contains more than 3,500 images of primarily early modern bindings, originating from England, Italy, France, Germany, and the Low Countries.

In recent years a number of major resources of this kind have been developed, including binding databases at the British Library, University of the Arts London, Universities of Toronto and Uppsala and others, and, now, at the Folger Shakespeare Library. Over two days historians, librarians, and conservators will explore how these tools are being used and how they are transforming our understanding of early modern book history. Sessions will include new scholarship in the field, as well as discussions of the interoperability of existing resources and their combined power to support new research.

The Organizing Committee invites papers that address early modern book or manuscript binding practice, including:

- Binding structure
- Genre specific bindings
- Prize bindings, armorial bindings and other decorated bindings
- Binding evidence for ownership, readership, and distribution
- Research in these fields which has been advanced through access to online resources

Further aims of the conference will be to address the future direction of existing binding database tools. What do scholars expect from a binding database, and what specific research agenda should institutions investing in such databases be serving? What should these resources do that they do not already do? What difficulties do researchers face when using existing tools? Those involved in the development of similar research tools are particularly welcome.

#### **CONFIRMED SPEAKERS**

Mme Fabienne le Bars (Bibliothèque nationale de France, France), Professor Chris Coppens (KU Leuven, Belgium), Dr. Per Cullhed (Uppsala University Library, Sweden), Frank Mowery (Folger Shakespeare Library), and Philip Oldfield, Librarian, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, Canada).

### ABSTRACTS

Please send abstracts of 200–250 words as a Word-document by 15 March 2013 to Dr. Goran Proot at this address: [gproot@folger.edu](mailto:gproot@folger.edu). Include a short biographical note, your address and, if applicable, your institutional affiliation.

### ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Mme Fabienne le Bars (Bibliothèque nationale de France, France), Professor Chris Coppens (KU Leuven, Belgium), Dr. Per Cullhed (Uppsala University Library, Sweden), Jim Kuhn (Folger Shakespeare Library), Frank Mowery (Folger Shakespeare Library), Philip Oldfield (Librarian, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, Canada); Dr. Goran Proot (Folger Shakespeare Library).

