

## **“Rhetorics of Unity and Division”**

### **The Sixth “Rhetoric in Society” Conference of the Rhetoric Society of Europe University of East Anglia, Norwich**

**(OUTLINE SCHEDULE – subject to change)**

#### **Monday July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*From 13.00: Conference Registration and Check-In*

*17.00-18.30: Keynote Address 1*

**“Judicial rhetoric and cultural division: the case of *The Merchant of Venice*”**

**Professor Quentin Skinner (Barber Beaumont Professor of the Humanities, School of History, Queen Mary University London)**

The trial scene in Shakespeare’s *Merchant of Venice* is organised according to the rules of forensic rhetoric as set out in a number of classical manuals, in particular Cicero’s *De inventione*, which Shakespeare knew well. But the way in which Shakespeare put these intellectual materials to work has not been properly identified, as a result of which the trial has been misunderstood. The traditional view has been that Shylock loses his case when Portia challenges him to extract a pound of flesh without spilling any blood. But the lecture argues that the rhetorical crux of the case lies elsewhere.

*18.30-19.30: Wine Reception (UEA)*

#### **Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>**

*09.00-10.30: Keynote Address 2*

**“The Politics of Fear: From Words to Deeds”**

**Ruth Wodak (Distinguished Professor and Chair in Discourse Studies, Lancaster University and Professor in Linguistics at the University of Vienna)**

In this lecture, I analyse important aspects of the ongoing rise and dynamics of right-wing populism in Europe and indeed globally. These include various, frequently predictable (rhetorical) patterns of right-wing populist 'Orbanism' in Central & Eastern Europe, the Brexit campaign and referendum in the UK, and the emergent 'Trumpism' in the USA. I particularly examine the interdependence of politics and political language/communication in the context of recent campaigns which saw - except in the election for Austrian Presidency 2016 - significant electoral gain for right-wing populists.

*11.00-12.30: Panel Sessions 1*

*12.30-13.30: Lunch*

*13.30-15:00: Panel Sessions 2*

*15.00-15.30: Break*

*15.30-17.00: Panel Sessions 3*

*18.00 Coach into the City (optional)*

*Reception: Norwich Cathedral (with optional tour) and speech from Chair of the Rhetoric Society of Europe*

## **Wednesday, July 5th**

**09.00-10.30: Keynote Lecture 3**

**Jerry Hauser (Professor emeritus of Communication and College Professor Emeritus of Distinction in Rhetoric), Department of Communication, University of Colorado Boulder, USA.**

**Publicity, Vernacular Rhetoric, and the Post-Westphalian Public Sphere**

New media have introduced the prospect of a transnational global civil society with public spheres networked through distributed spaces that no longer respect national boundaries. These new public spheres, while challenging the state's traditional models for arbitrating questions of social and material justice are also reshaping relationships between the state and citizens. What are the prospects for rhetoric as we have known it under these conditions?

*11.00-12.30: Panel Sessions 4*

*12.30-13.30: Lunch*

***13.30-15.00: Panel Sessions 5***

***15:00-15:30: Break***

***15:30-17:00: Panel Sessions 6***

***19.00: Conference Dinner (Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, UEA Campus)***