How Can the Humanities Save the Planet?

Sir Jonathan Bate

Biographer, Broadcaster, Critic, Shakespearean Scholar, and Playwright

Renowned Shakespearean and Eco-Critic, Sir Jonathan Bate, has been a Fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge; King Alfred Professor of English Literature, University of Liverpool; and Professor of Shakespeare and Renaissance Literature, University of Warwick. He has held visiting posts at Yale and the University of California-Los Angeles and is now Provost of Worcester College and Professor of English Literature, Oxford. He is a Fellow and former Vice-President of the British Academy, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, and a Governor of the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC).

His many books include: The Genius of Shakespeare, described by RSC founder Sir Peter Hall as “the best modern book on Shakespeare;” a biography of the poet John Clare, which won Britain’s two oldest literary awards; Soul of the Age, an intellectual life of Shakespeare; and The Song of the Earth, a pioneering book on poetry and the environment. He co-curated Shakespeare Staging the World, for the British Museum. He is also author of a novel, The Cure for Love and the hit one-man play for Simon Callow, Being Shakespeare. In 2015, Sir Jonathan was knighted for his services to literary scholarship and higher education.

Coffee, tea, and pastries will be served. This event is co-sponsored by the Department of English with support from the Office of the Provost.