

SHAKESPEARE IN VENICE SUMMER SCHOOL

The Shylock Project

Fondazione Giorgio Cini

Venice, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore

15.06 – 11.07.2015



The Shylock
Project

INTRODUCTION

The **Shakespeare in Venice Summer School** is an intensive four-week course of study exploring the text and the contexts of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, taking place on the beautiful Island of San Giorgio Maggiore between the 15th of June and the 11th of July.

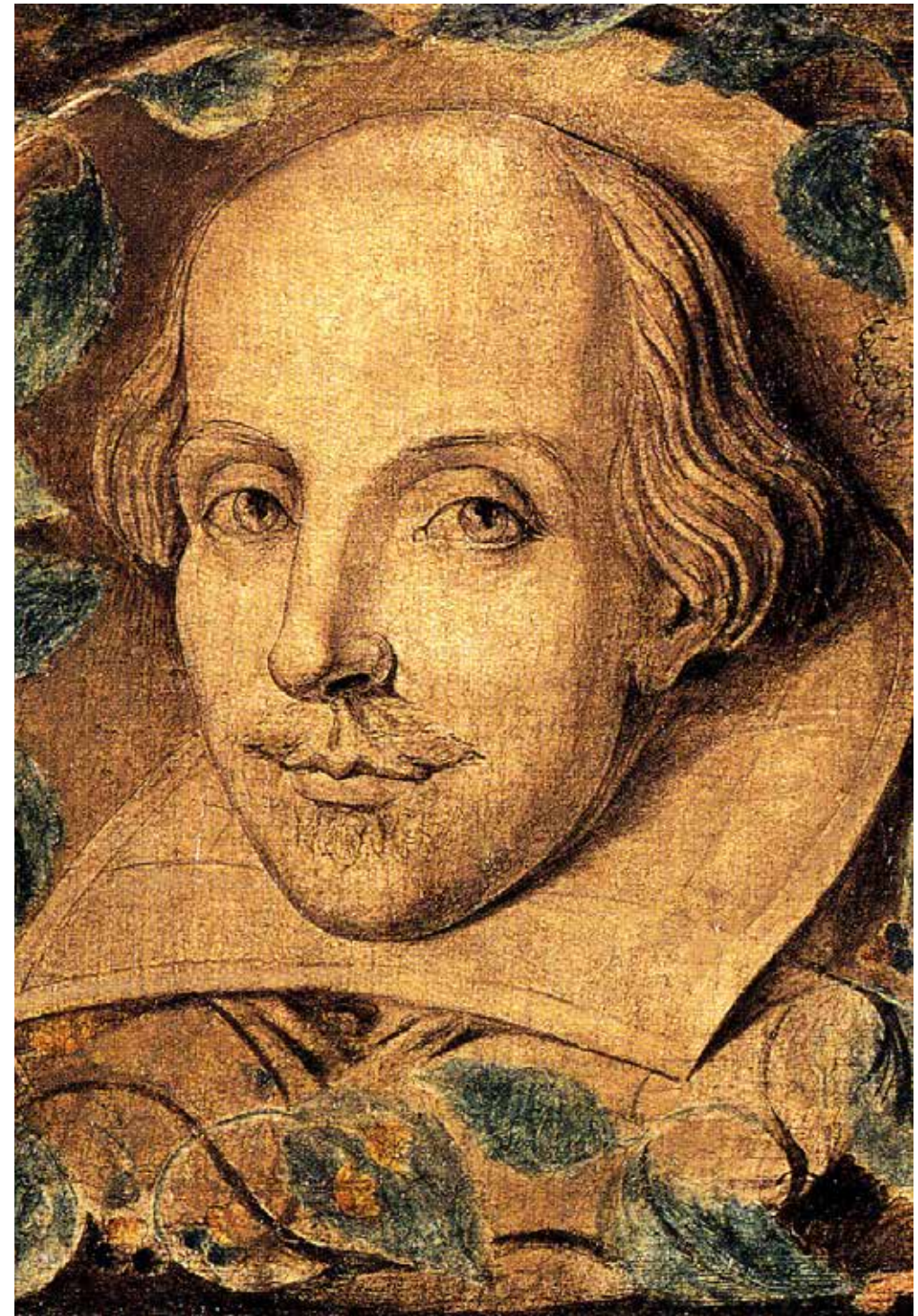
A rich program of lectures and creative workshops by leading scholars, actors and musicians, will be complemented by theatre performances and excursions to the Jewish Ghetto and other significant Venetian sites. This unique full-immersion experience aims at creating the first production of *The Merchant of Venice* ever to be staged in the Jewish Ghetto, in the year of its quincentennial (1516-2016).

Two landmark anniversaries will coincide next year: the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's death and the 500th anniversary of the foundation of the Venice's Jewish Ghetto, a place that provided the world with the concept of the 'ghetto', as well as the historical backdrop to Shakespeare's controversial play. Both the Ghetto and *The Merchant of Venice* are global icons, two fundamentally ambivalent documents of Western civilization that have been used both as instruments of intolerance and catalysts for cultural exchange. *The Shylock Project* has been conceived to mark these dates with an ambitious program: the Summer School to explore the world of the text in 2015 and the artistic production of the play in 2016.

The Summer School is the platform where leading scholars and performers will convene to study *The Merchant of Venice* from a cross-cultural perspective. Forty international experts from Italy, UK, USA, Israel, Germany and Hungary will teach a selected group of graduate students and scholars, with some lectures open to a general public. Daytrips to relevant sites and performances of Shakespearean adaptations will complete the program whose intellectual energy

will stimulate the creativity of the director and the actors as inspiration as they think forward to their 2016 production. Two adaptations of the play will also be performed.

At the heart of *The Shylock Project* is the ambition to stage the first performance of *The Merchant of Venice* in the Jewish Ghetto, an open-air staging of the original text capable of speaking to contemporary concerns and of attracting thousands of visitors and international media attention. Never before has the play been brought to life in its ideal historical setting, allowing play and place to resonate with each other. This task has been entrusted to Compagnia de' Colombari, who will collaborate with local artists and residents to create a unique site-specific production. Colombari is an international collective of performing artists specialized in generating theatre in surprising places. Colombari intentionally clashes cultures, traditions and art forms to bring fresh interpretation to the written word—old and new—and commits to using any means possible to flesh it out. Colombari is founded on the twin principles that the magic of great theatre can happen anywhere and be made accessible to everyone. Based in New York City, Colombari was born in Orvieto (Italy) in 2004, where the company re-imagined the medieval mystery plays and performed them in the streets and piazzas of Orvieto. Having revitalized the tradition of theatre during Orvieto's Corpus Christi Festival each spring, the company launched a parallel theatrical tradition in New York. Their celebrated Shakespearean repertory and experience of performing in Italy uniquely qualify Colombari for this ambitious program.



THE HOST INSTITUTIONS

Fondazione Giorgio Cini is a non-profit cultural institution based in Venice, and its Study Centre for Documentary Research into European Theatre and Opera manages collections dedicated to European Theatre and Opera. The Centre also organizes and promotes research, conferences, workshops and exhibitions in the performing arts field. Since its beginning in 1951, Fondazione Giorgio Cini has been the stage of important international cultural and artistic events at the crossroads of different disciplines.

Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia carries out research as well as running interdisciplinary multicultural courses, with a vast linguistic and cultural offer of 35 foreign languages, programs in theatre, visual arts, cinema, cultural heritage and relations between literature, culture, society, political and economic spheres and tourism. Ca' Foscari organizes every year several events and cultural activities: conferences, festivals, exhibitions, music performances, film shows and theatre plays.



The Shylock Project is also supported by “I 500 anni del Ghetto di Venezia” Committee, Beit Venezia - A Home for Jewish Culture, Venice International University, Museo del Costume di Palazzo Mocenigo, Eötvös Loránd University (Budapest), Ludwig Maximilian University (Munich), University of Warwick and Queen Mary University of London through their joint program Global Shakespeare, Hausbrandt Trieste and The Merchant of Venice. The Shakespeare Institute and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, IASEMS – Italian Association of Shakespearean and Early Modern Studies have endorsed the program.

We are happy to welcome the BBC who will film parts of the proceedings for their program “Imagine” (BBC1).

WEEK 1
JUNE 15–21

15.06 | MONDAY

18.00 *Opening Ceremony*
Welcome Dinner

16.06 | TUESDAY

9.30 Donatella Calabi
Which is the way to master Jew's?:
Introducing the Ghetto of Venice

11.30 Keir Elam
Fair Portia's counterfeit: Visual culture
in Shakespeare's Venice

16.00 Guided tour to the Ghetto of Venice,
Synagogues and 'Banco Rosso' Pawnshop

17.06 | WEDNESDAY

9.30 Avraham Oz
Disinheriting a Father: Shylock as Alien
on the Hebrew Stage

11.30 Michael Shapiro
A local habitation and a name: Imagining
Shylock's House

17.30 Karin Coonrod
Shakespeare in Italy, Shylock in the Ghetto:
Past and Future Projects
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[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

18.06 | THURSDAY

9.30 Natália Pikli
Love (dis)credited: The Merchant of Venice
and usury in early modern England

11.30 B. J. Sokol
The trials of Shylock

15.00 Guided tour to Fondazione Giorgio Cini

17.30 Carol Chillington Rutter
Sir Henry Wotton: Venice in the Age
of Shakespeare

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[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

19.06 | FRIDAY

9.30 Tom Cartelli
Repurposing Fiorentino's Doting
Godfather as "Tainted Wether of the Flock"
in The Merchant of Venice

11.30 Shaul Bassi
Shylock and the Native Informant

14.30 David Whittaker
Thomas Coryat's Venice: Walking the City
in 1608

WEEK 2
JUNE 22–28

22.06 | MONDAY

15.30 Loretta Innocenti
George Granville's The Jew of Venice
CA' FOSCARI, PALAZZO COSULICH

17.30 Stephen Orgel
Which Is the Merchant Here, and Which
the Jew?: Shylock Inside Out
CA' FOSCARI, AULA BARATTO
[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

23.06 | TUESDAY

9.30 Géza Kallay
The Merchant of Venice: a Philosophical
Perspective

11.30 M. Lindsay Kaplan
Canon Law on Jews and The Merchant
of Venice

24.06 | WEDNESDAY

9.30 David Bryant, Valerio de Scarpis,
Gabriele Mancuso
Round table: Renaissance Music
in England, Venice and the Ghetto

15.00 Guided tour of Doge's Palace
with Monica Chojnacka

25.06 | THURSDAY

16.00 Stephen Greenblatt
The Secret Weight of The Merchant of Venice
FONDAZIONE GIORGIO CINI
[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

18.00 Howard Jacobson in conversation with
Alan Yentob (BBC) on *Rewriting Shylock*
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[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

21.00 [PERFORMANCE](#)

Matt Chiorini
Orson Welles/Shylock,
Docu-Fantasy Radio Play
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[PUBLIC EVENT](#)

26.06 | FRIDAY

9.30 Gilberto Sacerdoti
Jessica's Cosmopolitan Dreams. Noachic
Laws vs Blood Transfusion

11.30 Ramie Targoff
Italian Women's Writing in the Age
of Shakespeare

16.00 Stephen Greenblatt, Jay Harris,
Werner Sollors
Ca' Foscari - Harvard Symposium
Eden in Venice: Reading Adam and Eve
CA' FOSCARI, CA' DOLFIN
[*OPTIONAL ACTIVITY](#)

21.00 [PERFORMANCE](#)

Karin Coonrod & Colombari Company
The Merchant of Venice: First Theatrical
Actions
FONDAZIONE GIORGIO CINI
[PUBLIC EVENT](#)

WEEK 3
JUNE 29 – JULY 5

29.06 | MONDAY

15.00 Freddie Rokem
“But the full sum of me is the sum of something”. Counting to Three in The Merchant of Venice

17.30 Bill Alexander
A Merchant of Many Faces

PALAZZO MOCENIGO

[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

CONCERT

Rosemary Forbes-Butler
& Pier Paolo Ciurlia
Where is Fancy Bred?

PALAZZO MOCENIGO

[PUBLIC EVENT](#)

30.06 | TUESDAY

9.30 László Benke
Stereotypes of Jews in early Italian Vernacular Literature and Bible translations

11.30 Galit Hasan-Rokem
“The Hebrew will turn Christian”: Shylock and the medieval Wandering Jew traditions in Italy and England

14.30 Sandra Pietrini and Valeria Tirabasso
Introducing ‘Arianna’: a Shakespearean Iconographic Archive

1.07 | WEDNESDAY

9.00 Daytrip to ‘Belmont’
Villa Emo & Villa Maser

2.07 | THURSDAY

11.00 Alessandro Serpieri
Shakespeare’s Bonds

14.30 Tibor Fabiny
Mercy and Justice in The Merchant and Milton

16.00 Kent Cartwright
The Merchant of Venice and the Traditions of Comedy

21.00 ‘Venice a night walk’ an itinerary with
Alberto Toso Fei

3.07 | FRIDAY

10.00 Paola Bertolone
Moni Ovadia’s Shylock

11.30 Loredana Polezzi
Translating, Adapting, Rewriting Shylock

16.00 Péter Dávidházi
Hamlet, Shylock and the Meaning of Biblical Allusions

FONDAZIONE GIORGIO CINI

[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

17.30 James Shapiro
Shakespeare and the Jews
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[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

WEEK 4
JULY 6–10

6.07 | MONDAY

9.30 Murray Baumgarten
Israel Zangwill, Philip Roth, and the Afterlife of the Venice Ghetto

11.30 Simon Levis Sullam
Shylock is (not) Dead: Italian Jews under Fascism

16.00 Guided tour to the Jewish Cemetery

7.07 | TUESDAY

9.30 Roberta Cimarosti
The Use of Postcolonial Shylocks

11.30 Laura Tosi
The Merchant for children: Prose Adaptations from the Lambs to Marcia Williams

16.00 Tobias Döring
Shylock, the German

VIU, SAN SERVOLO

[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

17.30 David Schalkwyk
Shylock and the Impossible Gift of Love

VIU, SAN SERVOLO

[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

8.07 | WEDNESDAY

9.30 Saba Burali
Introducing the Cini Iconographic Archive: an overview of the Shakespearean material

11.30 Maria Ida Biggi
Max Reinhardt’s Merchant in Venice

14.30 Suzanne Wofford
Shakespeare and Italian Novelle

9.07 | THURSDAY

9.30 Fernando Cioni
Shylock’s Afterlife

11.30 Boika Sokolova
The Bulgarian Afterlife of The Merchant of Venice

14.30 Ronan Hatfull, Richard Croughan, Bryony Rutter
The Testament of Launcelot Gobbo: a Shakespeare Re-imagining, read-through of a work in progress

10.07 | FRIDAY

10-12 *Final Discussion*

16.00 Paul Edmondson
Christianity and The Merchant
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[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

18.00 Stanley Wells
Shylocks
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[PUBLIC LECTURE](#)

Farewell Dinner

LIST OF SPEAKERS

Bill Alexander, Honorary Associate Artist of the Royal Shakespeare Company, Stratford, UK

Shaul Bassi, Associate professor of English, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy

Murray Baumgarten, Distinguished Professor of English and Comparative Literature, University of California Santa Cruz, USA

Laszlo Benke, College Professor at Szent Pál Theological Academy and Visiting Lecturer at the Department of Hebrew Studies, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary

Paola Bertolone, Lecturer in Theatre, Università degli Studi di Siena, Italy

Maria Ida Biggi, Associate Professor of Theater Studies, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Director of Study Centre for Documentary Research into European Theatre and Opera, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, Italy

David Bryant, Lecturer in Music, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy

Saba Burali, Study Centre for Documentary Research into European Theatre and Opera, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venezia, Italy

Tom Cartelli, Professor of English and Film Studies, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, USA

Donatella Calabi, Professor of History of Architecture, IUAV, Venice, Italy

Kent Cartwright, Professor of English, University of Maryland, USA

Matt Chiorini, Director of Theatre, Associate Professor, Le Moyne College, Syracuse, USA

Monica Chojnacka, University of Maryland University College Europe, USA

Roberta Cimarosti, teaches English at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy

Fernando Cioni, Associate Professor of English, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy

Karin Coonrod, Theater Director, Compagnia de' Colombari, New York, USA

Péter Dávidházi, Professor of English Literature, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary

Valerio de Scarpis, Associate Professor of English, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy

Tobias Döring, Professor of English, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany

Paul Edmondson, Head of Research for The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and Honorary Fellow of The Shakespeare Institute, University of Birmingham, UK

Keir Douglas Elam, Professor of English, Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna, Italy

Tibor Fabiny, Professor of Literary Studies, Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary, Budapest, Hungary

Stephen Greenblatt, Cogan University Professor of the Humanities, Harvard University, USA

Galit Hasan-Rokem, Max and Margarethe Grunwald Emeritus Professor of Folklore and Hebrew Literature, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Loretta Innocenti, Professor of English, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy

Howard Jacobson, Novelist, UK

Geza Kallay, Professor of English, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary

M. Lindsay Kaplan, Associate Professor of English, Georgetown University, Washington D.C, USA

Simon Levis Sullam teaches Italian Contemporary History, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy

Gabriele Mancuso, Director of the Eugene Grant Programme in Jewish Studies, Medici Archive Project, Florence / Boston University Study Abroad, Padua, Italy

Stephen Orgel, The Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor in Humanities, Stanford University, USA

Avraham Oz, Professor of Theatre, University of Haifa, Israel

Sandra Pietrini, Associate Professor of Theatre Studies, Università degli Studi di Trento, Italy

Natália Pikli, Reader in Shakespeare Studies, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary

Loredana Polezzi, Reader and Academic Director, Warwick Venice Centre and Monash-Warwick Associate Professor, School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, Monash University, Australia

Freddie Rokem, Emanuel Herzikovitz Chair of 19th and 20th Century Art and Emeritus Professor of Theatre Studies, Tel Aviv University, Israel

Carol Chillington Rutter, Professor of Shakespeare and Performance Studies, University of Warwick and Director of the CAPITAL Centre (Creativity and Performance in Teaching and Learning), UK

David Schalkwyk, Academic Director of Global Shakespeare, Queen Mary, University of London and The University of Warwick, UK

Alessandro Serpieri, Emeritus Professor of English, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy

Michael Shapiro, Emeritus Professor of English, University of Illinois, USA

James Shapiro, Larry Miller Professor of English, Columbia University, USA

B.J Sokol, Emeritus Professor of English, Goldsmiths University, London, UK

Boika Sokolova teaches at the University of Notre Dame London Global Gateway and at the British American Drama Academy (BADA), UK

Ramie Targoff, Professor of English, Brandeis University, Waltham, USA

Valeria Tirabasso, PhD Student, Università degli Studi di Trento, Italy

Alberto Toso Fei, Writer and Journalist, Venice, Italy

Laura Tosi, Associate Professor of English at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy

Alan Yentob, Journalist and Presenter, BBC, UK

Stanley Wells, Honorary President of The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, UK

David Whittaker, Editor of *Most Glorious & Peerless Venice: Observations of Thomas Coryate*, UK

Susanne Wofford, Dean of The Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York University, USA

Colombari Company:

Andrea Brugnera, Reg E. Cathey, Nerina Cocchi, Francesca Sarah Toich, Walter Valeri, Sorab Wadia

The Orson Welles/Shylock Group (Le Moyne College):

Alexandra Bedore, Matt Chiorini, Andrew Gripe, Vincent Randazzo, Brandon Sisson

The Gobbo Project:

Richard Croughan, Ronan Hatfull, Bryony Rutter

Where is Fancy Bred?:

Rosemary Forbes-Butler (soprano), Pier Paolo Ciurlia (lute)

Summer School Directors

Shaul Bassi

Maria Ida Biggi

Carol Chillington Rutter



USEFUL INFORMATION

TRAVELLING

BY AIR

If you are landing in Milano Malpensa, Milano Linate, Roma Ciampino or Roma Fiumicino you will need to leave the airport by bus or train to the central railway station, then take a train to Venice from Milano Centrale railway station or Roma Termini railway station (trains for Venice leave every hour. Estimated time of journey from Milano: 2h40min, from Rome: 3h40min).

If you are landing in Canova Airport in Treviso, you can take the ATVO direct bus line to Venice purchasing the ticket from the bus driver right outside the airport main exit (estimated time of journey: 60 min, single ride €10, round trip €18). Once you arrive in Piazzale Roma, you can reach the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore by vaporetto (ACTV public transportation boat service), buying your ticket at the ACTV desk in Piazzale Roma and taking line number 2 – direction Giudecca/San Zaccaria. Get off at the San Giorgio boat stop (estimated time of journey: 40 min).

If you are arriving directly to Marco Polo, Venice Airport, exit the airport and follow the clearly marked pedestrian pathway that takes you to the piers, where you will find the ALILAGUNA DESK POINT and be able to buy a one way or a round trip ticket to Venice. The Alilaguna service connects the airport with the city through different lines; both the red and the blue lines will take you to the San Zaccaria boat stop (estimated time of journey: 1 hour and 15 minutes).

At San Zaccaria boat stop get off and purchase a ticket for the Vaporetto at the ACTV DESK POINT; then take the boat line number 2 - direction Giudecca/Tronchetto, which in one stop only (3 min.) will take you to San Giorgio. Otherwise, you could take the bus line connecting

the airport with Piazzale Roma and then, from there, you can reach the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore with the ACTV public transportation service buying a ticket at the ACTV desk in Piazzale Roma and taking the boat line number 2 – direction Giudecca/San Zaccaria, getting off at the San Giorgio boat stop (estimated time of journey: 40 min).

BY TRAIN

If you are arriving in Venice by train, you should exit the Santa Lucia Station, take the boat line number 2 - direction Giudecca/San Zaccaria, and get off at the San Giorgio boat stop (estimated time of journey: 40 min).

BY CAR

If you are driving to Venice, you should take the A4 Motorway and take the Venezia-Mestre exit. Then follow the signs to Venice parking areas of Tronchetto and/or Piazzale Roma where you can find a variety of parking lots (average price is €28/day). From there you can reach the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore with the ACTV public transportation service buying a ticket at the ACTV desk in Piazzale Roma and taking the boat line number 2 – direction Giudecca/San Zaccaria, getting off at the San Giorgio boat stop (estimated time of journey: 40 min).

BY WATER TAXI

Water taxis are fairly expensive in Venice; a ride from the airport to Venice will cost €100, while from the train station or Piazzale Roma it costs €80. Nevertheless it could be a good and not expensive solution if you share the ride (a water taxi can transport up to 10 people).

VAPORETTO PASS

The Summer School will provide you with a Vaporetto pass for the duration of the program, so you are only expected to buy tickets to reach the Island of San Giorgio and to move around the city on Sunday the 14th of June.

We suggest you a day ticket (20 Euros) if you arrive quite early and you are planning to explore the city.

For further information regarding the ATVO service www.atvo.it

For further information regarding the ALILAGUNA service www.alilaguna.it/en

For further information regarding the ACTV service www.actv.it/en

VITTORE BRANCA CENTER

During the time of the Summer School you will be staying in Venice, on the Island of San Giorgio Maggiore, at the Vittore Branca Center.

This is a new residential resource for humanities studies.

Being a resident is an essential requisite for attending the Vittore Branca Center: only through the physical and emotional involvement of prolonged immersion in the context of San Giorgio Maggiore it is possible to take full advantage of the countless opportunities offered. Moreover, only in this way will young researchers and expert scholars be able to enjoy the mutual benefits of working side by side.

Situated in the grounds of the Island, the Residence can accommodate up to 90 scholars in single and double rooms with private toilets/bathrooms, featuring telephone and Internet cable connection (*guests should bring their own ethernet cable*). Self-catering facilities enable residents to economize on food expenses. The Residence is also equipped with reception, surveillance and cleaning services plus a Laundromat and food dispensers.

To encourage social life and intellectual exchange, there are a number of shared spaces for use by all guests, such as the living room, the music room, the fitness room and the terrace.

www.cini.it/en/vittore-branca-center/the-residence



USEFUL NUMBERS & CONTACTS

Centro Studi per la Ricerca Documentale sul Teatro e il Melodramma Europeo

Open Mon – Fri from 9.30 to 17.00

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MARCO POLO
AIRPORT

SAN MICHELE

SESTIERE
DI CANNAREGIO

SANTA LUCIA
RAILWAY STATION

CANAL GRANDE

PALAZZO
MOCENIGO

PONTE DI RIALTO

TRONCHETTO

SESTIERE
DI SANTA CROCE

SESTIERE
DI SAN POLO

SESTIERE
DI CASTELLO

TRONCHETTO
PARKING

CA' FOSCARI
(AULA BARATTO)

CA' FOSCARI
CA' DOLFIN

SESTIERE
DI SAN MARCO

SAN ZACCARIA
BOAT STOP

PIAZZA S. MARCO

SESTIERE
DI DORSODURO

CA' FOSCARI
PALAZZO COSULICH

FONDAZIONE
GIORGIO CINI

CANALE DELLA GIUDECCA

SAN GIORGIO

GIUDECCA

VIU
SAN SERVOLO



CENTRO STUDI PER LA RICERCA
DOCUMENTALE SUL TEATRO
E IL MELODRAMMA EUROPEO
fondazione *in* memoria
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