

Bardolators Events 2017 - 2018

Annual Drama Competition, SSI 2018

The Society began its rehearsals on 15 January 2018 for the Annual Drama Competition conducted by the Shakespeare Society of India. This year the Society performed “Gaming Macbeth” which is a reworking of Prachi Gambhir’s script, a part of the play *Spectres of Shakespeare*, directed by Sanjay Kumar and performed at Studio 81. In the play, Shakespeare’s Macbeth is placed within the 21st century world of gaming heroes, matrices, networking sites and so on. The three witches emerge from the virtual world to entice Macbeth into a game of power and brutal acquisition. The competition was held on 3rd February 2018 in Indraprastha College for Women. The play was received very well and garnered a lot of praise for its unique concept.



Performance of “Gaming Macbeth” at the Annual Drama Competition conducted by SSI on 15 January 2018

Bardoratory: Symphony 2018

On 11 January 2018, Bardolators held its event Bardoratory: Slam Poetry on the second day of the college festival, Symphony. The judges for the event were Ms. Indu Jain, Assistant Professor, Janki Devi Memorial College, and Mr. Ambikesh Sharma, an eminent slam poet. The event saw wide participation from students from various colleges and universities. Mani Dixit from Janki Devi Memorial College won the first prize, Aalakshaya Hira from Motilal Nehru College won the second prize and Anubhav Tekwni from PGDAV College received the third prize. A special recognition award was given to Shreyasi from AUD.



A Participant in action during Bardoratory: Slam Poetry held on 11 January 2018



Ambikesh Sharma, Judge, at Bardolatory: Slam Poetry held on 11 January 2018

National Conference: “Shakespeare Now!”

The Shakespeare Society of India in collaboration with the English Department of Janki Devi Memorial College and Bardolators hosted a National Conference, “Shakespeare Now!” on 27

October 2017. The conference saw wide participation by renowned scholars from various parts of the country, such as, Supriya Chaudhuri, Harriet Raghunathan, Jonathan Gil Harris, Anannya Dasgupta, Madhavi Menon, to name a few.

The Keynote Lecture, titled “Masala Shakespeare”, by Jonathan Gil Harris discussed various cinematic adaptations of Shakespeare in Bollywood. Coursing from *Shakespearewallah* to more recent film adaptations of the Bard’s plays, he drew attention to the lost experience of watching these films in theatres such as Chanakya. Compared to a more inclusive experience in the erst-while theatres of a pre-globalized period, present day multiplex theatres cater only to a select audience. Drawing parallels with London’s Globe theatre, Gil Harris focussed on a similar phenomenon—In the sixteenth century, the Globe theatre with its space for groundlings and an experience amenable to that of a commoner now charged an exorbitant fee, keeping it out of reach of the day-to-day lived reality.

There were multiple panel discussions which focused on varied aspects of Shakespeare within the contemporary context, such as teaching and performing Shakespeare now, and the relevance of Shakespeare’s politics and texts in current times. The Principal, Dr. Swati Pal and faculty, Dr. Payal Nagpal presented papers in this conference. The students of Ashoka University also performed *Cardenio*, Shakespeare’s lost play. The performance was introduced by Madhavi Menon.



Jonathan Gil Harris giving the Keynote Lecture for the National Conference, “Shakespeare Now!” held on 27 October 2017



Supriya Chaudhuri addressing the audience during the National Conference, “Shakespeare Now!” held on 27 October 2017



Dr. Swati Pal, Principal, JDMC, presenting a paper during the National Conference, “Shakespeare Now!” held on 27 October 2017



Dr. Payal Nagpal, Faculty, JDMC, presenting a paper during the National Conference, “Shakespeare Now!” held on 27 October 2017

Lecture Demonstration and Script Writing Workshop

Bardolators held a lecture demonstration on “Shakespeare in Performance” and a Script Writing workshop on 14 October 2017. Both the lecture demonstration and workshop were conducted by Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of English, Hansraj College.

The lecture was attended by students from various departments and societies of the college. The lecture focused on a critical analysis of play texts and theatre, the power that theatre holds and specific attention was paid to the political nature of theatre. The students were shown a few clips of modern adaptations of Shakespeare’s plays. The lecture concluded with an interaction between Dr. Kumar and the students.



Dr. Sanjay Kumar addressing the audience during the the Lecture Demonstration and Script Writing Workshop held on 14 October 2017



Dr. Sanjay Kumar addressing the audience during the the Lecture Demonstration and Script Writing Workshop held on 14 October 2017

Theatre Lecture

Bardolators, in collaboration with Anubhuti, the Street Play Society of JDMC, organised "A Theatre Lecture" by Mr. Sudhanva Deshpande, actor and director with Jan Natya Manch and Mr. Benil Biswas, Asst. Professor, School of Culture and Creative Expressions, Ambedkar University on 26 September 2017.

In his lecture, Mr. Deshpande briefed the audience about the origin and evolution of street theatre in India. Mr Biswas' lecture focused on Gender and Theatre; wherein he began by giving a brief introduction of the basics of theatre before entering a detailed engagement with the representation of the issues of gender in theatre. The Principal, Dr. Swati Pal, also shared her experience in theatre with the audience. The lecture concluded with a question and answer session between the speakers and the students and teacher conveners.



Mr. Benil Biswas addressing the audience during the Theatre Lecture held on 26 September 2017



Mr. Benil Biswas addressing the audience during the Theatre Lecture held on 26 September 2017

Acting Workshop

The Society then held a three day acting workshop from 25 September 2017 – 27 September 2017 conducted by Mr. Amit Tiwari. The workshop covered multiple significant aspects related to theatrical acting such as various physical exercises to enhance body movements and the usage of various body parts, vocal exercises, voice projection and modulation, mime, team spirit building, to name a few. There was also a detailed discussion on Navrasa so as to help students understand the nuances of portraying various emotions on stage. The students were also encouraged to think innovatively via a creativity enhancement activity. The workshop was a huge success and was extremely beneficial for the students.



Glimpses from the Acting Workshop conducted by Mr. Amit Tiwari from 25 September 2017 - 27 September 2017



Glimpses from the Acting Workshop conducted by Mr. Amit Tiwari from 25 September 2017 - 27 September 2017

Screening of *Throne of Blood*

The Society started its work for this academic session with a screening of Akira Kurosawa's *Throne of Blood* (1957), an adaptation of Shakespeare's play *Macbeth*, on 15 September 2017.

The screening provided an opportunity to students to engage with the larger debates related to the theories of adaptation.

Auditions

The audition for the 2017 - 2018 academic session was held on 17 August 2017 and saw a wide participation of students across departments of the college.