GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES INSTITUTE INAUGURAL DIGITAL HUMANITIES INSTITUTE LECTURE & THE 2013 DEAN'S SCHOLARS IN SHAKESPEARE LECTURE



MICHAEL WITMORE

REFLECTIONS ON SHAKESPEARE, DIGITAL ACCESS AND LIBRARIES

The talk will explore the ways in which large scale digitization projects have created new access problems while solving old ones; it will also show some underlying similarities between the physical codex and the digital surrogates that we are now creating for printed books: both are "massively addressable objects," simply at a different scale. The plays of Shakespeare are only one place where this convergence can be explored; they will serve as a point of departure in this talk.

Dr. Michael Witmore is Director of the Folger Shakespeare Library and author, most recently, of *Shakespearean Metaphysics* and *Landscapes of the Passing Strange: Reflections from Shakespeare* (with Rosamond Purcell). He is part of the Mellon funded digital research initiative *Visualizing English Print, 1470-1800* and maintains a blog on digital approaches to literary studies at www.winedarksea.org

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