

FORUM

King Lear and the Heart of Politics

Saturday, March 9, 2024 from 2:00 – 4:30 pm (PT) In-person only at Concord House, 1407 Chapala Street, Santa Barbara, CA

Presenter: Marlin Roehl



Often one reads that Shakespeare did more than just write for his own time; rather, he sowed seeds germane to the socio-political and individual visions, values, and characteristics of our time. We cannot overlook that a study of Shakespeare's plays reveals that he was a student of the historical Axial Age. Consequently, Shakespeare serves an arch bridging ancient to modern times.

Shakespeare boldly presented his poignant plays to Royalty, to nobles, and to commoners — all within a shared globe of time, place, and experience. His attention to parapolitical moral and ethical causality called for heroic truthfulness, pathos, and at times heart-rending, at other times humorous compassion. His artistic techniques and astute

insight into character evoke individual and societal transformation by means of self-conscious exploration, philosophical dialectic, and empathy.

The Parliament of the World's Religions has warned that without a fundamental consensus on a global ethic, "sooner or later every community will be threatened by chaos or dictatorship, and individuals will despair." Such is the nature of our times. Our exploration of Shakespeare's King Lear is intended to be a study of a humanist, parapolitical reality, with an effort to form a more perfect global union.

For more information: http://www.worldculture.org