The British Institute of Florence’s annual Shakespeare Graduate Conference is a one-day interdisciplinary and bilingual English-Italian forum open to PhD students and researchers who have obtained their doctorates within the past 5 years. This year’s conference theme is Shakespeare and His Contemporaries: Forms of Nationhood. Contributions are welcomed on the topic of national identity and representations of Elizabethan England in the literary production of William Shakespeare and his contemporaries (playwrights, poets and others) across different disciplines (not limited to): literature, comparative studies, history, art history, cinema and theatre history.

Candidates are invited to send a description of their proposed contribution according to the following guidelines:

- the candidate should provide name, institution, contact info, title and a short abstract of the proposed contribution (200-300 words for a 20-minute paper), explaining the content and intended structure of the paper, and including a short bibliography.
- abstracts are to be submitted by Wednesday 30 October 2013 by email to snovello@britishinstitute.it.
- all proposals will be blind-vetted. The list of selected papers will be available by the end of November 2013.
- each finished contribution is to last no longer than 20 minutes and is to be presented in English (an exception will be made for Italian candidates of departments other than English, who can present papers in Italian). Candidates whose first language is not English will need to have their proposals and final papers checked by a mother-tongue speaker.
- participants will be asked to present a final draft of the paper a week before the Conference.
- participants must be members of the Harold Acton Library, choosing between a 3, 6 or 12 month membership. Memberships can be paid for on the day of conference. For details on Library Membership rates and benefits please visit the website www.britishinstitute.it.
- The British Institute cannot reimburse any travel or accommodation expenses.
- papers submitted will be considered for publication in the online proceedings edition of the ‘Shakespeare and His Contemporaries’ Graduate Conference (see the website www.britishinstitute.it for previous volumes of the proceedings).

Deadline for abstracts Wednesday 30 October 2013.
For more information contact Sofia Novello at snovello@britishinstitute.it.