

(Digital) Text and Event in Early Modern Europe

Comparative Explorations of Renaissance Theatrical Cultures in the Digital Age

With the growing ascendance of new technologies and instruments in the humanities, the study of literary and theatrical cultures across early modern Europe is undergoing a significant if not completely uncontested reappraisal. That said, there is often a surprising lack of communication between those who develop and those who use the new Digital Humanities tools to study the literary traditions of the Renaissance. This paper juxtaposes a variety of technologically-inspired theories and findings regarding two of early modern Europe's most important theatrical cultures, England and Spain. It illustrates how establishing a dialogue between the digital scholars of different but related academic fields may benefit both, and may even lead to the resolution of some long-standing queries and mysteries, such as the identity of the author of Shakespeare's stage directions or the generic subdivisions within Lope de Vega's boundless *comedia nueva* corpus.