A Shakespearean treat

Rare First Folio of plays on display at Emory University.

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To see or not to see...

With apologies to “Hamlet,” that is the question that’s long haunted many Shakespeare aficionados. From scholars and rare book lovers to actors who’ve done it all from “All’s Well That Ends Well” to “The Winter’s Tale,” they’ve likely despised of ever getting to lay eyes on an elusive First Folio of Shakespeare.

But now, to quote a certain 16th-century sonnet writer, “Joy delights in joy!”

On Saturday, one of the exceedingly rare First Folios goes on

Andi McKenzie (from left), Associate Curator of Works on Paper at the Michael C. Carlos Museum, Emory University; Rosemary Magee, director of Emory University’s Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library; and Sheila Cavanagh, Emory English professor and director of the World Shakespeare Project, smile.
myAJC

Read more about what Emory's Michael C. Carlos Museum had to do to set the mood for hosting the First Folio.

—these later editions were published between 1632 and 1685.

"There's the whole buzz factor, but that wasn't what really motivated us to do this," said Rosemary Magee, director of Emory's Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, which orchestrated the effort to bring the tour here and which owns the Fourth Folio featured in the exhibit. The Second and Third Folios are on loan from the private collection of Stuart Rose, the Dayton, Ohio-based Emory alum who has made significant literary and financial contributions to the library.

"This connects directly to our mission as a university and helps raise awareness about the range of incredible resources that exist here," Magee said.

The First Folio arrived at the Carlos Museum on Tuesday, escorted by a courier in a special climate-controlled FedEx truck and wrapped in a bit of mystery. Because of the way they were produced, no two First Folios are exactly alike, said Emory English professor Sheila Cavanagh, director of the World Shakespeare Project. Only after the national tour has concluded and all of the First Folios are safely tucked away back in the Folger vault will Emory and all the other hosts learn which one they had.

Security and uniformity is one reason all the folios are opened to the same part of "Hamlet" at every exhibition site.

Another? "To be or not to be," Cavanagh said with a smile about the soliloquy that, in the folio at the Carlos, starts seven lines from the bottom of the left-hand column on the opened page to the right. "That's obviously the most famous line in Shakespeare."

It's also on pretty much every high school reading list in America.

Folio continued on D5

ELECTION 2016

Celebrate end of election season with watch party on Tuesday

By Rose Kennedy
For the AJC

Manuel's Tavern is proudly Democrat and has been since its founder, Manuel Maloof, opened the doors in 1956. Brian Maloof, the youngest son who took over when Manuel died in 2004, remembers watching Reagan defeat Carter from the tavern in 1980, when he was 13. "That was a big deal," he said. "Carter was a friend of my father's and that hurt. The loss was heartfelt."

Come Nov. 8, Maloof and hundreds of politicos and neighbor folks will pack Manuel's— and a host of other Atlanta locales — to watch the presidential election results trickle in.

At Manuel's, Maloof said he imagines the emotions will be running high from the outset of the evening at his bar Tuesday night. He jokes that they "won't be screening" for registered Democrats, but the audience will be primarily blue.

"It's the largest clash of differences of opinions that I've ever experienced," he said. "I remem-

Election continued on D7
Drought may have significant impact on wildlife

A prolonged drought can have immense effects on wildlife. Even small changes in the environment may not become apparent for several months. Reports are coming in for instance of shrubs and trees dying in central Georgia due to lack of water. But it might be the next spring before we know the full impact of the drought on local wildlife.

For one thing, it could mean that food and cover will be harder to find. Less food could result in fewer offspring; even those that are born may not get sufficient nourishment. Loss of cover would be a serious problem for birds and animals that normally hide from predators in brushy plants and thickets. As trees and lakes approach record low levels and ponds dry up, many creatures may be forced to leave their home ranges and travel to other areas to find water. Semiaquatic turtles, water snakes, frogs and salamanders may have to travel more than a mile to find wetlands still holding water. Aquatic animals such as beavers and otters may also have to travel far to find dry ground.

More movement among small creatures makes them more vulnerable to predation or accidents, as well as indirect mortality from reduced food reserves needed for hibernation. Some insects, amphibians and reptiles may "emigrate" or go into a deep state of inactivity and low metabolism to survive times of drought.

Some freshwater turtles, such as chicken turtles, may burrow into the soil to escape the drought. Alligators may be of some help. During severe drought, alligators dig deep holes to hold water. The "jutar hole" is a survival technique not only for the alligators but for many other plants and animals as well.

The chicken turtle, which inhabits Georgia's Coastal Plain region, burrows into the soil during times of drought.

Finally, birds need water, too, and so it becomes even more important that you keep your lake, bird bath or pool full this fall and winter. In the sky: From David Durden, Tellus Science Museum

EXHIBITION PREVIEW

"First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare"
Saturday, Dec. 17, The Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University, 560d Oxford Street, Atlanta, Ga. 30322, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, noon-5 p.m. Admission is free to the public. Admission is free to the First Folio gallery only. Admission to the Carlos Museum galleries: $4 adults, $2 students, seniors and children (ages 6-17), 571 S. Hope Circle, Atlanta. 404-727-4298, www.carlos.emory.edu.

For additional information about ongoing exhibitions and upcoming events that are part of "Shakespeare: The Library and Folio Book Literacy," please visit the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library website at www.carlos.emory.edu.

The record sales price for a First Folio is $6.1 million, but arguably its value is priceless. With its direct connection to Shakespeare's contemporaries (the portrait on the title page is "generally considered an authentic image because it was approved by those who knew him," the Folger Library says), the First Folio now seems the closest we'll ever come to the genius playwright himself.