

EMILY SOON

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor of English Literature (Education), 2026 –
- Senior Lecturer of English Literature, Singapore Management University (SMU), 2025-2026
- Lecturer of English Literature,* SMU, 2020–2025
- Research Fellow, National Museum of Singapore, Aug 2019-Jan 2020
**Since July 2022; previously appointed as Lecturer of Humanities*

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy (English), King's College London (KCL), 2019
- M.Phil. (Medieval and Renaissance Literature), University of Cambridge, 2012
- Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) with Distinction, National Institute of Education (Singapore), 2007
- B.A. (English and Related Literature; First Class Honours), University of York, 2006

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph:

- *Reforming the East Indies in Early Modern English Literature: Trading Faith with Southeast Asia*. [under revision]

Peer-Reviewed Journal Article and Book Chapters:

- 'Queen Henrietta Maria, the East India trade and the 'Brachmani' of Narsinga in Davenant's *The Temple of Love* (1635)', *The East in Early Modern English Court Performances*, ed. Murat Ögütcü, Sophie Chiari and Aisha Hussain (Bloomsbury, forthcoming).
- 'Of spices and spies: *Paradise Lost*, *Os Lusíadas*, and Richard Fanshawe's *Lusiad* (1655)', *Modern Philology* 119, no. 4 (2022): 491-512.
- 'Cultural inclusivity and student Shakespeare performances in late-colonial Singapore, 1950-59', *Shakespeare Survey* 74, ed. Emma Smith (Cambridge University Press, 2021), pp. 167-179.
- 'Staging China and India in Jacobean Court Masques: Negotiating antiquity, admiration and authority in 1604,' *England's Asian Renaissance*, eds. Su Fang Ng and Carmen Nocentelli (University of Delaware Press, 2021), pp. 169-189.

Multimedia Exhibition:

- ‘Digital Tour: Shakespeare and Singapore, 1840-2000’. Digital Exhibition co-curated with Alvin Eng Hui Lim, hosted online at the 11th World Shakespeare Congress (2021).

Academic Blog Articles:

- ‘Fit for a Princess: Connecting Britain and the ‘Moluccas’ in 1621 and 2011’. Medieval and Early Modern Orients (MEMOs) Research Blog (Feb 2026)
- ‘The ‘little red dot’: Locating Singapore in Early Modern Literature’. MEMOs Research Blog (Oct 2024)
- ‘Princely Adventures in the *Sulalat al-Salatin (The Genealogy of Kings)*’. MEMOs Blog (Sept 2023)
- ‘Lessons in global commerce (from an early East India Company employee)’. *King’s English*. KCL English Department Blog (March 2018, originally published on *Currently@King’s*).

Reviews:

- Review of Gavin Hollis’s *The Absence of America: The London Stage, 1576-1642*. *Literary London Journal* 14, no. 1 (2017): 68-70.
- Review of James Shapiro’s *1606: William Shakespeare and the Year of Lear*. *Postgraduate English: A Journal and Forum for Postgraduates in English* 33 (2016): 1-6.
- Review ‘Scholar, courtier, magician: The lost library of John Dee’ [exhibition at the Royal College of Physicians Museum] *Harts and Minds: The Postgraduate Journal of Humanities and Arts* 3, no. 1 (2016): 1-3.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS (SELECTED)

Academic and/or research-related:

- National Museum of Singapore Research Fellowship, National Heritage Board
- Nominee, KCL Doctoral Studies Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Thesis, 2019
- President’s Prize, Literary London Society, 2017
- Graduate Student Travel Award, Shakespeare Association of America, 2016
- Postgraduate Scholarship (Overseas), Ministry of Education (Singapore), 2011-12
- Scholarship for Overseas Students, University of York, 2003-6

Teaching-related:

- Most Promising Teacher Award (Winner), SMU Teaching Excellence Awards 2024
- CIS Core Curriculum Teaching Excellence Award Hall of Fame 2023
- CIS Core Curriculum Teaching Excellence Award 2023
- Most Promising Teacher Award (Nominee), SMU Teaching Excellence Awards 2022
- CIS Core Curriculum Teaching Excellence Award 2022
- Office of Core Curriculum Teaching Excellence Award 2021
- Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (UK), 2017

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (RECENT)

- ‘Reforming Oberon: From *Huon of Burdeux* to *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*’ (upcoming, July 2026), *World Shakespeare Congress*, Verona, Italy.
- ‘Trading Faith: Re-shaping Malukan religion in John Fletcher’s *The Island Princess* (ca. 1621)’ (Dec 2025), *MEMOs Conference: New Encounters*, hybrid conference hosted in South Africa and online.
- ‘Cartographic (dis)connections: England, Spain and the East Indies in Harington’s *Orlando Furioso* (1591)’, (July 2025), *Society for Renaissance Studies Conference*, Bristol, UK.
- ‘From Epic Failure to Success in Asia: Re-imagining Imperial and Environmental Futures in the English *Lusiad* (1655)’, (Aug 2024). *Imperial Failures – Environment and Nature Deconstructed*, SMU-NYU, Singapore.
- ‘Masquing the Global in Caroline England: Queen Henrietta Maria and the East Indies’ (Jul 2023). *Society for Renaissance Studies 10th Biennial Conference*, Liverpool/Online
- ‘Trading Faith: Re-shaping religious passion in John Fletcher’s *The Island Princess* (ca. 1621),’ *Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies (ANZAMEMS) Conference 2022* (online)

UNIVERSITY COURSES TAUGHT

At Singapore Management University (2020-):

- Paper, Pixels and ‘Tortured Poets’: Reading, Literature and Technology Today (AY2025-6-present)
- Imagining the Self: Literature, Ethnicity and Gender in Asia (AY2021-2–present)
- Asia and World Literature: Beyond Orientalism (AY2020-1–present)
- Big Questions: Happiness and Suffering (AY2023-4); Wealth and Poverty (AY2022-3); War and Peace (AY2021-2); Global and Local (AY2020-21)

At King’s College London (2016-8):

- Early Modern Literary Culture (AY2017-18)
- Classical and Biblical Contexts of English Literature (AY2016-17)

Undergraduate Supervision at Singapore Management University:

- One Individualised Second Major student (topic: *Writing & Identity: Ethnicity & Gender in Asian Societies*), 2023–2026
- One Individualised Major student (topic: *Asian Media and Visual Design Cultures*), 2024 – present

ACADEMIC SERVICE (SELECTED)

- Literary Critic, MOE Literature Seminar (2024, 2025, 2026)
- Research Team Member, Medieval and Early Modern Orientals (MEMOs), 2023 – present
- Member, CIS Admissions and Student Affairs Committee (2022–present)
- Member, Youth Ecosperity Dialogue 2023 Organising Committee
- Member, Wee Kim Wee Centre, Alumni, and External Relations Committee (2022-3)
- Member, Local Organising Committee, 11th World Shakespeare Congress (Singapore, 2021)