

# Special Collections

## University of Manchester Library

[slides prepared by Stella Halkyard]

## About us

The University of Manchester Library is one of only five National Research Libraries. With more than 4 million printed books, over 41,000 electronic journals and 500,000 electronic books, as well as several hundred databases, the library is one of the best-resourced academic libraries in the country.

Our primary aim is to support students and staff of The University of Manchester in all areas of their study. But we are also fully committed to widening participation, and providing access to many of our services to a wide range of public audiences.



# What's so 'special' about Special Collections?



- The Special Collections of the University of Manchester Library contain some of the rarest books ever produced alongside archive collections and objects of significant artistic, cultural, literary, historical and religious significance.
- Together these resources form a research library of global significance and are housed in the neo-gothic splendour of The John Rylands Library, one of Manchester's finest public buildings.
- It is an important part of the strategy of the Library to make these unique collections as accessible as possible – both to the students, academics and the wider public.



## Manuscripts & Archives

These collections date from the ancient world to the present, and their scope is international. They are especially rich for the following subject areas:

- English Literature & World Literatures
- History of the book, publishing, writing and printing
- Visual & Performing Arts
- Social, Political, Economic History
- Military & Colonial History
- World Religions, Theology & Non conformist Christianity
- History of Science & Technology
- History of Medicine
- History of the University of Manchester

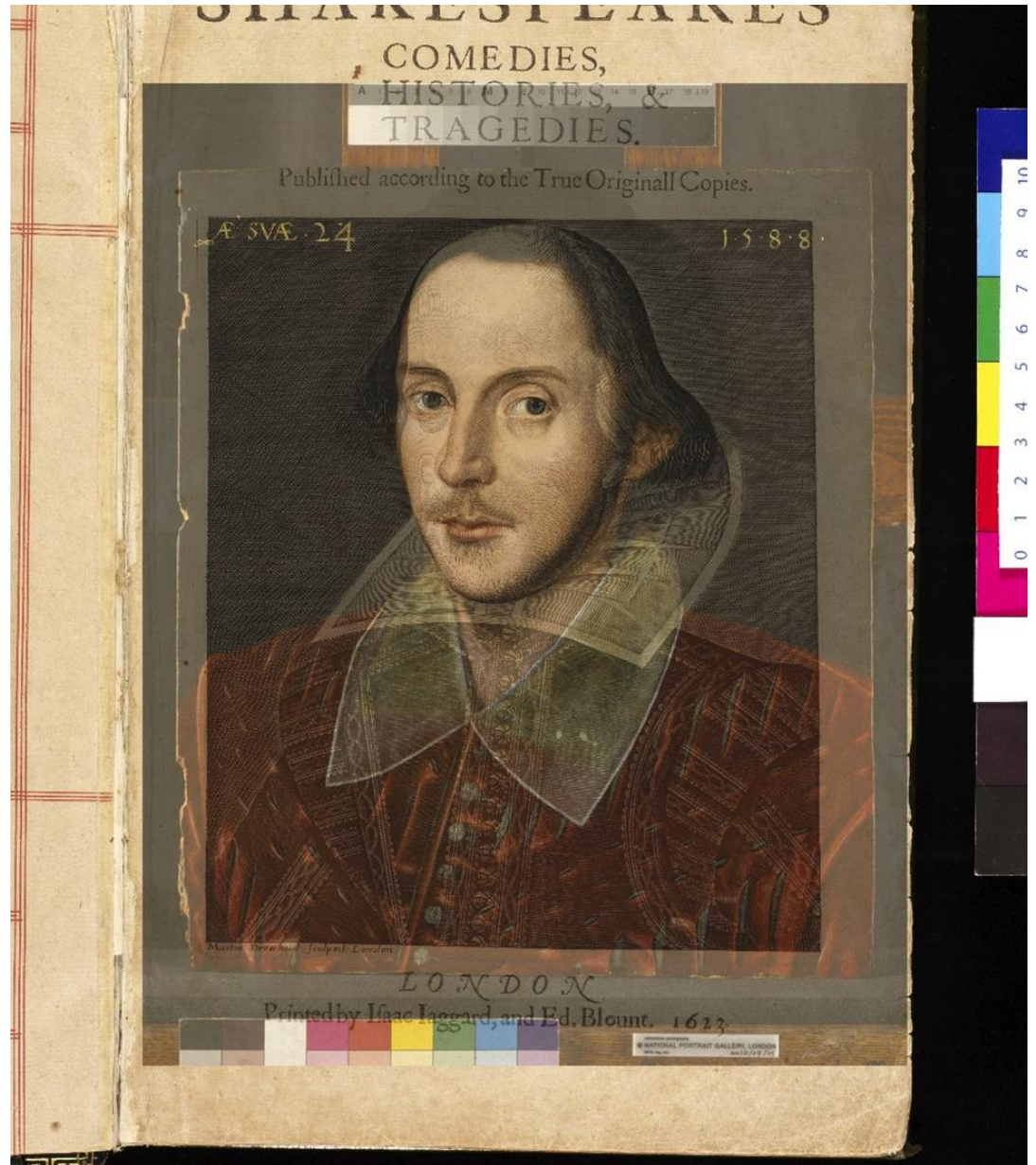




## Rare Books & Maps

These collections date from the 14<sup>th</sup> century to the present, and their scope is international. They are rich in a spectrum of subjects especially:

- Theology
- Economic, Social & Political History
- Military & Colonial History
- Travel & Exploration
- Art & Architecture
- Drama
- English Literature
- World Literature
- History of Science & Medicine



## Visual Collections

These collections date from the ancient world to the present, and their scope is international. They include:

**Works of Fine Art:** paintings, drawings, prints & sculptures

**Works of Decorative Art:** metalwork, textiles & ceramics

**Photography:** full repertoire of analogue formats & a good range of photographic equipment

**Evocative objects with** associational value

**Illuminated, painted and printed** images in books, manuscripts and archives



## So, what can Special Collections offer you?

- Access to unique materials from the collections for your course work and dissertations
- Advice from our team of expert curators
- Learning from – and with - world experts – visiting professors & fellows of the John Rylands Research Institute
- Collections-based seminars embedded in your courses
- Opportunities to get involved in curatorial activities







**Want to know more? Get in touch ...**



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# The John Rylands Research Institute



- Scholarships for Post doctoral fellows & PhD students
- Opportunities to participate in a vibrant research community and to participate in conferences, seminar series, impact projects