

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-54481-8 - Shakespeare and Politics
Edited by Catherine M. S. Alexander
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

SHAKESPEARE AND POLITICS

This important collection of essays from *Shakespeare Survey* shows a range of writing on Shakespeare and politics with shifts of focus as diverse as biography, text and contexts, language and film, and from perspectives that are literary, historical, religious, theoretical and cultural. A new introductory article by John J. Joughin gives an overview of the subject. The collection is a stimulating and provocative introduction to a subject that is complex but never dull.

CATHERINE M. S. ALEXANDER is Lecturer at The Shakespeare Institute, University of Birmingham. She is editor of *The Cambridge Shakespeare Library* and co-editor of *Shakespeare and Race* (2000) and *Shakespeare and Sexuality* (2001).

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-54481-8 - Shakespeare and Politics
Edited by Catherine M. S. Alexander
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

SHAKESPEARE AND POLITICS

EDITED BY

CATHERINE M. S. ALEXANDER



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-54481-8 - Shakespeare and Politics
Edited by Catherine M. S. Alexander
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge, CB2 2RU, UK
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain
Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa

<http://www.cambridge.org>

© Cambridge University Press 2004

This book is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without
the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2004

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

Typeface Adobe Garamond 11/12.5 pt. System L^AT_EX 2_E [TB]

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN 0 521 83623 9 hardback
ISBN 0 521 54481 5 paperback

Contents

<i>List of contributors</i>	<i>page</i>	vii
<i>Editor's note</i>		viii
1 Shakespeare and politics: an introduction JOHN J. JOUGHIN	1	
2 Shakespeare and politics BLAIR WORDEN	22	
3 <i>Henry VIII</i> and the deconstruction of history PETER L. RUDNYTSKY	44	
4 Livy, Machiavelli, and Shakespeare's <i>Coriolanus</i> ANNE BARTON	67	
5 <i>Richard II</i> and the realities of power S. SCHOENBAUM	91	
6 Plutarch, insurrection, and dearth in <i>Coriolanus</i> DAVID GEORGE	110	
7 Some versions of coup d'état, rebellion, and revolution PIERRE SAHEL	130	
8 Language, politics, and poverty in Shakespearian drama WILLIAM C. CARROLL	142	
9 'Demystifying the mystery of state': <i>King Lear</i> and the world upside down MARGOT HEINEMANN	155	
10 Venetian culture and the politics of <i>Othello</i> MARK MATHESON	169	

vi

Contents

11	The Bard and Ireland: Shakespeare's Protestantism as politics in disguise PAUL FRANSSEN	185
12	<i>Henry V</i> as working-house of ideology GÜNTER WALCH	198
13	'Fashion it thus': <i>Julius Caesar</i> and the politics of theatrical representation JOHN DRAKAKIS	206
14	Take me to your Leda TERENCE HAWKES	219
15	<i>Macbeth</i> on film: politics E. PEARLMAN	236
16	<i>William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet</i> : everything's nice in America? BARBARA HODGDON	247
	<i>Index</i>	263

Contributors

ANNE BARTON *University of Cambridge*

WILLIAM C. CARROLL *Boston University*

JOHN DRAKAKIS *University of Stirling*

PAUL FRANSSEN *University of Utrecht*

DAVID GEORGE *Urbana University*

TERENCE HAWKES *University College, Cardiff*

MARGOT HEINEMANN

BARBARA HODGDON *Duke University, Iowa*

JOHN J. JOUGHIN *University of Central Lancashire*

MARK MATHESON *University of Utah*

E. PEARLMAN *University of Colorado*

PETER L. RUDNYTSKY *Janus Pannonius University, Hungary*

PIERRE SAHEL *University of Aix-en-Provence*

S. SCHOENBAUM *Northwestern University, Illinois*

GUNTER WALCH *Humboldt University, Berlin*

BLAIR WORDEN *St Edmund Hall, Oxford*

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-54481-8 - Shakespeare and Politics
Edited by Catherine M. S. Alexander
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Editor's note

As an annual publication *Shakespeare Survey* has always had the capacity to reflect and respond speedily to trends in Shakespeare criticism and approaches to Shakespearian research. First published in 1948, it is a fine record of the most prolific period in Shakespeare Studies.

This important collection of essays from *Shakespeare Survey*, the first published in 1975, shows a full range of writing on Shakespeare and politics with shifts of focus as diverse as biography, text and contexts, language and film, and from perspectives that are literary, historical, religious, theoretical and cultural.

A new introductory article by John J. Joughin provides a commentary on the essays, considers their relationship to each, relates them to other work in the field and gives an over-view of the subject. The comprehensive collection is a stimulating and provocative introduction to a subject that is complex but never dull.