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978-0-521-03436-4 - Shakespeare's Victorian Stage: Performing History in the Theatre of Charles Kean

Richard W. Schoch

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This is the first book to explore the revivals of Shakespeare's history plays during the Victorian period as staged by the famous actor-manager Charles Kean. Between 1852 and 1859, Kean produced *Henry V*, *Henry VIII*, *King John*, *Macbeth*, and *Richard II* in celebrated productions renowned for their unprecedented attention to antiquarian detail in sets, costumes, and properties (many of which are shown in the book's illustrations). These productions provided audiences with an unparalleled opportunity to participate in the Victorian obsession with history, especially of the medieval period. Using valuable primary sources, including promptbooks, scenic designs, costume sketches, and contemporary reviews, Richard Schoch also places mid-Victorian attitudes towards the theatre in the context of major intellectual and political movements of the age.

Many of the illustrations are previously unpublished and the book will be of interest to scholars and students of theatre history, Shakespeare studies and Victorian culture.

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SHAKESPEARE'S VICTORIAN STAGE

Performing history in the theatre of Charles Kean

RICHARD W. SCHOCH

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To my mother and father

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