

LATE SHAKESPEARE, 1608-1613

In fourteen specially commissioned chapters by leading Shakespeare scholars from around the globe, *Late Shakespeare*, *1608–1613* provides an essential re-appraisal of the final phase of Shakespeare's writing life. Arranged for the first time in the best-established chronological sequence, Shakespeare's last seven extant plays are discussed in detail in dedicated chapters, from *Pericles* to the other late co-authored works, *King Henry VIII* and *The Two Noble Kinsmen*. The plays are situated in the context of Shakespeare's financial investments, his focus on the practice of reading, the changing nature of his acting company and the pressing issues of contemporary politics and urban life. The book also goes on to explore the relationship between Shakespeare and his audience and considers the dominant themes in his final works. Analysing and responding to the latest criticism in the field, this volume brings to light a vital re-examination of what it means to discuss 'Late Shakespeare'.

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