

## SHAKESPEAREAN STAR

### *Laurence Olivier and National Cinema*

Laurence Olivier was one of the best-known and most pioneering actor-directors of Shakespeare on screen. This is the first study to provide a comprehensive analysis of Olivier's Shakespearean feature films and his unique Shakespearean star image. Through an examination of Olivier's unmade film *Macbeth*, as well as his adaptations of Shakespeare's *Henry V*, *Hamlet* and *Richard III*, Jennifer Barnes offers a detailed exploration of Olivier's entire cinematic Shakespearean oeuvre in relation to his distinctive form of stardom. Considering the development of Olivier's image in relation to the industrial and cultural contexts of the wartime and post-war British film and theatre industries, the volume also analyses Olivier's life-writing and published autobiographies and is supplemented by numerous illustrations.

JENNIFER BARNES is Lecturer in English and Film Studies at the University of Dundee where she teaches early modern theatre and cinematic Shakespeare. She lectured in English and Film Studies at the University of Exeter before moving to Dundee in 2014. Prior to this she worked for the Bristol Old Vic. *Shakespearean Star: Laurence Olivier and National Cinema* is her first book.

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Please note that illustrations consisting of grouped figures are not meant to imply a direct cinematic sequence but, rather, representative instances within a sequence as identified and discussed in the text.

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## *Abbreviations*

ABPC	Associated British Picture Corporation
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BDC	Bill Douglas Cinema Museum, University of Exeter
BFI	British Film Institute
BL	British Library
CEMA	Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts
CFC	Cinematograph Films Council
ENSA	Entertainments National Service Association
GFD	General Film Distributors
LOP	Laurence Olivier Productions
NBC	National Broadcasting Company
NFFC	National Film Financing Corporation