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Edited by Richard Preiss, Deanne Williams
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CHILDHOOD, EDUCATION AND THE STAGE IN EARLY MODERN ENGLAND

What did childhood mean in early modern England? To answer this question, this book examines two key contemporary institutions: the school and the stage. The rise of grammar schools and universities, and of the professional stage featuring boy actors, reflects the culture's massive investment in children. In this collection, an international group of well-respected scholars examines how the representation of children by major playwrights and poets reflected the period's educational and cultural values. This book contains chapters that range from Shakespeare and Ben Jonson to the contemporary plays of Tom Stoppard, and that explore childhood in relation to classical humanism, medicine, art, and psychology, revealing how early modern performance and educational practices produced attitudes to childhood that still resonate to this day.

RICHARD PREISS is the author of *Clowning and Authorship in Early Modern Theatre* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) and editor of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* (2008).

DEANNE WILLIAMS is the author of *Shakespeare and the Performance of Girlhood* (2014). Her first book, *The French Fetish from Chaucer to Shakespeare* (Cambridge University Press, 2004), won the Roland Bainton Prize from the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference.

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MODERN ENGLAND

EDITED BY

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