

SHAKESPEARE AND EMOTION

Shakespeare and Emotion devotes sustained attention to the emotions as a novel way of exploring Shakespeare's works in their original contexts. A variety of disciplinary approaches drawn from literary, theatrical, historical, cultural and film studies brings the recent upsurge of interest in affect into conversation with some of the most urgent debates in Shakespeare studies. The volume provides both a comprehensive account of the current state of scholarship and a speculative forum for new research. Its chapters outline some important contexts for understanding Shakespeare's creativity through an emotional lens – from religion, rhetoric and medicine, to language, acting and Bollywood – and offer a range of case studies, which reveal particular emotions at work. Considering emotional and passionate experience as an animating and sometimes alienating force within the plays and poems, the volume highlights the continuing importance of Shakespeare today: for our sense of who we are and who we might become.

KATHARINE A. CRAIK is Research Lead and Reader in Early Modern Literature at Oxford Brookes University. She is the author of *Reading Sensations in Early Modern England* (2007), co-editor of *Shakespearean Sensations: Experiencing Literature in Early Modern England* (2013), and has recently published essays in *Shakespeare Studies*, *Shakespeare Survey* and *Renaissance Studies*. She led the Wellcome Trust-funded arts project *Watching* on early modern sleep, and her new play *Marina* (with Ewan Fernie) is in development with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

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Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	page viii
<i>List of Contributors</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xv
<i>Note on Text</i>	xvi

Introduction	I
<i>Katharine A. Craik</i>	

PART I CONTEXTS

1 Rhetoric: <i>Titus Andronicus, Julius Caesar</i> <i>Neil Rhodes</i>	19
2 Medicine: <i>King Lear, Macbeth, The Tempest</i> <i>Elizabeth D. Harvey</i>	34
3 Religion: <i>Henry VI, Henry IV, Henry V</i> <i>Elizabeth Williamson</i>	49
4 Character: <i>As You Like It, Hamlet</i> <i>Robert White</i>	64
5 Inheritance and Innovation: <i>Richard III, 3 Henry VI,</i> <i>Richard II, The Merchant of Venice, Timon of Athens</i> <i>Christopher Tilmouth</i>	79
6 Communities: <i>Julius Caesar</i> <i>Gail Kern Paster</i>	94
7 Audiences: <i>Much Ado about Nothing, Measure for Measure</i> <i>Tanya Pollard</i>	109

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
8	Acting: <i>The Taming of the Shrew, Coriolanus</i> <i>Bridget Escolme</i>	122
9	Bollywood: <i>Macbeth, Othello</i> <i>Melissa Croteau</i>	136
10	Language: <i>Macbeth, King Lear</i> <i>Philip Davis</i>	151
11	Emotional Labour: <i>Hamlet</i> <i>Ross Knecht</i>	167
12	Passionate Shakespeare <i>Peter Holbrook</i>	181
PART II EMOTIONS		
13	Fear: <i>Macbeth, Othello</i> <i>Toria Johnson</i>	199
14	Grief: <i>Hamlet</i> <i>Erin Sullivan</i>	211
15	Sympathy: <i>Titus Andronicus, The Comedy of Errors,</i> <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> <i>Richard Meek</i>	224
16	Shame: <i>A Lover's Complaint, Coriolanus,</i> <i>The Rape of Lucrece</i> <i>Lesel Dawson</i>	238
17	Anger: <i>Titus Andronicus, Timon of Athens</i> <i>Gwynne Kennedy</i>	253
18	Pride: <i>Coriolanus</i> <i>Indira Ghose</i>	264
19	Happiness: <i>Othello, I Henry IV, Antony and Cleopatra</i> <i>Richard Strier</i>	275
20	Love: <i>Sonnets, A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> <i>David Schalkwyk</i>	288

	<i>Contents</i>	vii
21	Nostalgia: <i>Richard II, Henry V, Henry VI</i> <i>Hester Lees-Jeffries</i>	302
22	Wonder: <i>Pericles, The Tempest, 'The Phoenix</i> <i>and the Turtle'</i> <i>Tom Bishop</i>	317
23	Confusion: <i>Cymbeline, The Merchant of Venice,</i> <i>The Winter's Tale</i> <i>Timothy M. Harrison</i>	330
	<i>Bibliography</i>	344
	<i>Index</i>	371

Figures

- | | | |
|---|--|----------|
| 1 | Bollywood actors Ajay Devgn (Omkaara) and Kareena Kapoor (Dolly) on the set of Vishal Bhardwaj's <i>Omkaara</i> (2006) in Mumbai, India. Photo by Vijayanand Gupta / Hindustan Times via Getty Images. | page 147 |
| 2 | Detail of a miniature depicting Nature forging a baby, from an illuminated manuscript of <i>Roman de la Rose</i> (c. 1490–1500), Harley 4425.f.140. © British Library Board. All rights reserved. Bridgeman Images; reproduced by kind permission. | 168 |
| 3 | 'Falstaff with a Tankard of Wine and Tin Cup' (1910) by Eduard von Grützner. Photo by Fine Art Images / Heritage Images / Getty Images. | 283 |
| 4 | Poster image for the Royal Shakespeare Company's 2013 production of <i>Richard II</i> , starring David Tennant. © RSC, reproduced by kind permission. | 307 |

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List of Contributors

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xi

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xiii

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