

EARLY SHAKESPEARE, 1588–1594

Early Shakespeare, 1588–1594 draws together leading scholars of text, performance, and theatre history to offer a rigorous re-appraisal of Shakespeare's early career. The contributors offer rich new critical insights into the theatrical and poetic context in which Shakespeare first wrote and his emergence as an author of note, while challenging traditional readings of his beginnings in the burgeoning theatre industry. Shakespeare's earliest works are treated on their own merit and in their own time without looking forward to Shakespeare's later achievements; contributors situate Shakespeare, in his twenties, in a very specific time, place, and cultural moment. The volume features essays about Shakespeare's early style, characterization, and dramaturgy, together with analysis of his early co-authors, rivals, and influences (including Lyly, Spenser, and Marlowe). This collection provides essential entry points to, and original readings of, the poet-dramatist's earliest extant writings and shines new light on his first activities as a professional author.

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Fitting for a collection about Shakespeare’s early career, we would like to dedicate this book to those in the early stages of life who have made ours so very much better: Alice Power (*b.* 2015), Seamus Power (*b.* 2017), and Orla Loughnane (*b.* 2019).

Abbreviations

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|--|--|
| Craig and Kinney,
<i>Shakespeare, Computers</i> | Hugh Craig and Arthur F. Kinney, eds., <i>Shakespeare, Computers, and the Mystery of Authorship</i> (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009). |
| EEBO-TCP | <i>Early English Books Online. Early English Books Online–Text Creation Partnership</i> , see www.eebo.chadwyck.com . |
| Jackson, <i>Determining</i> | MacDonald P. Jackson, <i>Determining the Shakespeare Canon: Arden of Faversham and ‘A Lover’s Complaint’</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014). |
| Manley and MacLean,
<i>Lord Strange</i> | Lawrence Manley and Sally-Beth MacLean, <i>Lord Strange’s Men and Their Plays</i> (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014). |
| McMillin and MacLean,
<i>Queen’s Men</i> | Scott McMillin and Sally-Beth MacLean, <i>The Queen’s Men and the Their Plays</i> (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998). |
| LION | <i>Literature Online</i> , https://literature.proquest.com/infoCentre/contents.jsp – not available at time of print. |
| Loughnane, ‘1580s’ | Rory Loughnane, ‘Shakespeare in the 1580s’, <i>Shakespeare Studies</i> 45 (2017), 121–8. |
| Loughnane, ‘Re-editing’ | Rory Loughnane, ‘Re-editing Non-Shakespeare for the Modern Reader,’ <i>Review of English Studies</i> 68:284 (2017), 268–95. |

List of Abbreviations

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- NOS *Authorship Companion* Gary Taylor and Gabriel Egan, eds., *The New Oxford Shakespeare: Authorship Companion* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017).
- NOS *Critical Reference Edition* Gary Taylor, John Jowett, Terri Bourus, and Gabriel Egan, gen. eds., *The New Oxford Shakespeare: Critical Reference Edition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017).
- NOS *Modern Critical Edition* Gary Taylor, John Jowett, Terri Bourus, and Gabriel Egan, gen. eds., *The New Oxford Shakespeare: Modern Critical Edition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016).
- ODNB Power and Loughnane, *Late Shakespeare Shakespeare and Others* Jonathan Bate and Eric Rasmussen, with Jan Sewell, Will Sharpe, Peter Kirwan, and Sarah Stewart, eds., *William Shakespeare and Others: Collaborative Plays* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013).
- Taylor and Loughnane, 'Canon and Chronology' Gary Taylor and Rory Loughnane, 'The Canon and Chronology of Shakespeare's Works', in Gary Taylor and Gabriel Egan, eds., *The New Oxford Shakespeare: Authorship Companion* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017), 417–602.
- Wiggins, *Catalogue* Martin Wiggins, in association with Catherine Richardson, *British Drama, 1533–1642: A Catalogue*, 9 vols. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013–18).