The jew of malta a critical reader arden early modern drama guides [PDF]

Othello: A Critical Reader

2015-08-27

Othello has long been and remains one of Shakespeare’s most popular works. It is a favourite work of scholars, students, and general readers alike. Perhaps more than any other of Shakespeare’s tragedies, this one seems to speak most clearly to contemporary readers and audiences, partly because it deals with such pressing modern issues as race, gender, multiculturalism, and the ways love, jealousy, and misunderstanding can affect relations between romantic partners. The play also features Iago, one of Shakespeare’s most mesmerizing and puzzling villains. This guide offers students and scholars an introduction to the play’s critical and performance history, including notable stage productions and film versions. It includes a keynote chapter outlining major areas of current research on the play and four new critical essays. Finally, a guide to critical, web-based, and production-related resources and an annotated bibliography provide a basis for further research.

Arden of Faversham: A Critical Reader

2023-06-29

One of the earliest domestic tragedies, Arden of Faversham is a powerful Elizabethan drama based on the real-life murder of Thomas Arden. This critical reader presents the first collection of essays specifically focused upon Arden of Faversham. It highlights the way in which this important play from the early 1590s stands at several different critical intersections. Focused research chapters propose new directions for exploring the play in the light of ecocriticism, genre studies, critical race studies, and narratives of dispossession. It also looks forward to Arden of Faversham’s role and status in a less author-centred critical climate. Chapters explore how this anonymous and canonically marginal play has been approached in the past by scholars and theatre makers and the frameworks that have offered productive insight into its unique features. The volume includes chapters covering a wide range of critical discourses and resources available for its study as well as offering practical approaches to the play in the classroom.
Edward II

2018

edward ii gives students teachers and scholars alike an overview of the play's reception both in the theatre and among artists and critics from the end of the 16th century to the beginning of the 21st it also offers a series of new perspectives on the play by leading experts in the field of early modern history and culture

Coriolanus: A Critical Reader

2021-01-28

coriolanus is the last and most intriguing of shakespeare's roman tragedies critics directors and actors have long been bewitched by this gripping character study of a warrior that rome can neither tolerate nor do without caius martius coriolanus is a terrifying war machine in battle a devoted son to a wise and ambitious mother at home and an inflammatory scioner of the rights and rites of the common people this critical reader opens up the extraordinary range of interpretation the play has elicited over the centuries and offers exciting new directions for scholarship the volume commences with a timeline of key events relating to coriolanus in print and performance and an introduction by the volume editor chapters survey the scholarly reaction to the play over four centuries the history of coriolanus on stage and the current research and thinking about the play the second half of the volume comprises four new directions essays exploring the rhetoric and performance of the self the play's relevance to our contemporary world an hegelian approach to the tragedy and the insights of computer assisted stylometry a final chapter critically surveys resources for teaching the play

The Merchant of Venice: A Critical Reader

2020-10-15
Arden Early Modern Drama Guides offer students and academics practical and accessible introductions to the critical and performance contexts of key Elizabethan and Jacobean plays. Essays from leading international scholars provide invaluable insight into the text by presenting a range of critical perspectives, making the books ideal companions for study and research. Key features include essays on the play's critical and performance history, a keynote essay on current research and thinking about the play, a selection of new essays by leading scholars, and a survey of resources to direct students further reading about the play in print and online. Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice* has often been labelled a problem play and throughout the ages it has been an object of both fascination and repulsion without neglecting the socio-political and religious issues that are at the heart of the play. This collection of critical essays invites readers to rediscover the variety of approaches that this multifaceted work calls for exploring: its gender aspects, its rich mythological background, its legal matters, and the ways in which it has been adapted to the screen. Essays consider the play in relation to its sources, genre, history, and socio-political context, and its critical reception and performance history.

**Edward II: A Critical Reader**

2017-02-23

Edward II: A Critical Reader gives students, teachers, and scholars alike an overview of the play's reception both in the theatre and among artists and critics from the end of the 16th century to the beginning of the 21st. The volume also offers a series of new perspectives on the play by leading experts in the field of early modern history and culture, bolstered with a timeline tracking Marlowe's life and work, an up-to-date bibliography, and an extensive index. This collection is an ideal and definitive guide to Edward II.

**Early Modern Theatre and the Figure of Disability**

2018-10-18

What work did physically disabled characters do for the early modern theatre through a consideration of a range of plays?
including doctor faustus and richard iii genevieve love argues that the figure of the physically disabled prosthetic body in early modern english theatre mediates a set of related likeness problems that structure the theatrical textual and critical lives of the plays of shakespeare and his contemporaries the figure of disability stands for the relationship between actor and character prosthetic disabled characters with names such as cripple and stump capture the simultaneous presence of the fictional and the material embodied world of the theatre when the figure of the disabled body exits the stage it also mediates a second problem of likeness between plays in their performed and textual forms while supposedly imperfect textual versions of plays have been characterized as lame the dynamic movement of prosthetic disabled characters in the theatre expands the figural role which disability performs in the relationship between plays on the stage and on the page early modern theatre and the figure of disability reveals how attention to physical disability enriches our understanding of early modern ideas about how theatre works while illuminating in turn how theatre offers a reframing of disability as metaphor

Tamburlaine: A Critical Reader

2020-06-25

arden early modern drama guides offer students and academics practical and accessible introductions to the critical and performance contexts of key elizabethan and jacobean plays essays from leading international scholars give invaluable insight into the text by presenting a range of critical perspectives making the books ideal companions for study and research key features include essays on the plays critical and performance history a keynote essay on current research and thinking about the play a selection of new essays by leading scholars a survey of resources to direct students further reading about the play in print and online the blockbuster tamburlaine plays 1587 instantly established marlowe’s reputation for experimenting with subversive outrageous and immoral material the plays follow the meteoric rise of a scythian shepherd turned warlord whose conquests of eastern emperors soon sees him established as the most powerful man in the world the visual tableaux featured in the plays are iconic he uses his enemy bajazeth as a footstool and has other emperors pull his chariot like horses he burns the qur an on stage the plays were memorable too for how they sounded they showcased the power and variability of iambic pentameter the meter that shakespeare would go on to perfect
no history of Shakespeare's theatre is complete without understanding the influence and significance of Marlowe's Tamburlaine plays. Tamburlaine: A Critical Reader offers the definitive introduction to these plays and new perspectives on these seminal works. It provides an overview of their reception on stage and by critics and offers fresh insights into the teaching of these plays in the classroom.

**The Alchemist**

2019-08-28

In this up-to-date critical guide to Ben Johnson's play The Alchemist, leading scholars explore key questions surrounding the text.

**Ovid and Adaptation in Early Modern English Theatre**

2013

Uses adaptation and appropriation studies to explore early modern textual and theatrical metamorphoses of Ovid. Applies contemporary theoretical approaches such as gender queer trans studies, feminist eco-studies, hauntology, rhizomatic adaptation, transmediality. Uses adaptation studies in analyzing early modern transformations of Ovid. Focuses on the appropriations of Ovid as an umbrella term for all things Ovidian on the early modern English stage. Includes chapters on Shakespeare and Marlowe as well as other early modern dramatists. Did you know that Ovid was a multifaceted icon of lovesickness, endless change, libertinism, emotional torment, and violence in early modern England? This is the first collection to use adaptation studies in connection with other contemporary theoretical approaches in analysing early modern transformations of Ovid. It provides innovative perspectives on the Ovids that haunted the early modern stage while exploring intersections between adaptation theory and gender queer trans studies, ecofeminism, hauntology, transmediality, rhizomatics. More this book examines the multidimensional ubiquitous role that Ovid and Ovidian adaptations played in English Renaissance drama and theatrical performance.
The Jew of Malta

2016-04-21

In this up to date critical guide to Christopher Marlowe's absorbing and controversial play The Jew of Malta, leading scholars explore key questions surrounding the text.

Hamlet: A Critical Reader

2013-09-12

Hamlet remains the most studied of all Shakespeare's great tragedies. This collection of newly commissioned essays gives readers an overview of past critical views of the play as well as new writing about the play from today's leading scholars. The range of perspectives offered makes the book an invaluable companion to anyone studying the play at an advanced level. The final chapter on learning and teaching resources is particularly useful as a guide for further study.

Macbeth: A Critical Reader

2017-01-26

Arden Renaissance Drama Guides offer students and academics practical and accessible introductions to the critical and performance contexts of key Elizabethan and Jacobean plays. Essays from leading international scholars provide invaluable insights into the text by presenting a range of critical perspectives, making the books ideal companions for study and research. Key features include essays on the play's critical and performance history, a keynote essay on current research and thinking about the play, a selection of new essays by leading scholars, a survey of resources to direct students further reading about the play in print and online, regularly performed and studied Macbeth is not only one of Shakespeare's most popular plays but also provides us with one of the literary canon's most compellingly conflicted tragic figures. This guide
Shakespeare and Greece

2020-09-17

This book seeks to invert Jonson's claim that Shakespeare had small Latin and less Greek and to prove that in fact there is more Greek and less Latin in a significant group of Shakespeare's texts—a group whose generic hybridity tragic, comical, historical, romance exemplifies the hybridity of Greece in the early modern imagination. To early modern England, Greece was an enigma—it was the origin and idealised pinnacle of Western philosophy, tragedy, democracy, heroic human endeavour, and at the same time an example of decadence, a fallen state currently under Ottoman control and therefore an exotic, dangerous 'other' in the most disturbing senses of the word. Indeed, while Britain was struggling to establish itself as a nation-state and an imperial authority by emulating classical Greek models, this ambition was radically unsettled by early modern Greece's subjection to the Ottoman Empire, which rendered Europe's eastern borders dramatically vulnerable. Focussing for the first time on Shakespeare's Greek texts—Venus and Adonis, The Comedy of Errors, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Love's Labour's Lost, Troilus and Cressida, Timon of Athens, King Lear, Pericles, and The Two Noble Kinsmen—the volume considers how Shakespeare's use of antiquity and Greek myth intersects with early modern perceptions of the country and its empire.

Richard II: A Critical Reader

2019

Arden Early Modern Drama Guides offer students and academics practical and accessible introductions to the critical and performance contexts of key Elizabethan and Jacobean plays. Contributions from leading international scholars give invaluable insight into the text by presenting a range of critical perspectives, making these books ideal companions for study and research. Key features include essays on the play's critical and performance histories and a keynote chapter.
reviewing current research and recent criticism of the play a selection of new essays by leading scholars a survey of learning and teaching resources for both instructors and students this volume offers a thought provoking guide to shakespeare s richard ii surveying its critical heritage and the ways in which scholars critics and historians have approached the play from the 17th to the 21st century it provides a detailed up to date account of the play s rich performance history on stage and screen looking closely at some major british productions as well as a guide to learning and teaching resources and how these might be integrated into effective pedagogic strategies in the classroom presenting four new critical essays this collection opens up fresh perspectives on this much studied drama including explorations of the play s profound preoccupation with earth ground and land shakespeare s engagement with early modern sermon culture mockery and religion a complex network of intertextual and cultural references activated by richard s famous address to the looking glass and the long overlooked importance to this profoundly philosophical drama of that most material of things money

The Changeling

2022-01-13

this volume offers an accessible and thought provoking guide to this major renaissance tragedy surveying its key themes and evolving critical responses over the course of nearly four centuries providing a uniquely detailed and up to date account of the play s rich stage history it demonstrates how useful performance studies is to our understanding of early modern drama and looks closely at major recent productions on both sides of the atlantic notably the 2014 production of the jacobean indoor space the sam wanamaker playhouse in london in a series of critical essays the guide offers fresh perspectives on the characters mechanical psychology the influence of spanish golden age literature on middelton and rowley and how the play has been treated on the modern stage and screen featuring a guide to digital resources and an annotated bibliography this collection is a definitive guide to the changeling bloomsbury publishing
The Changeling: The State of Play

2021-12-02

This collection of original essays on Thomas Middleton and William Rowley's unsettling revenge tragedy The Changeling represents key new directions in criticism and research. The 13 chapters fall into six groups focusing on questions of space, theology, collaboration, disability, both mental and physical, and performance, both early modern and contemporary. The Changeling's critical and theatrical history and a selected bibliography for the volume help readers easily find the most frequently cited materials in the volume as a whole. Individual essays detail the full expanse of critical sources to pursue for further analysis with contributors ranging from highly regarded critics to emerging scholars from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, France, and Switzerland. The collection equips readers to engage with a variety of critical approaches to the play moving a long way beyond the last century's tendency to treat Middleton as the early modern Ibsen to ignore Rowley and to focus almost wholly on a single aspect of the play's plot. Key themes and topics include performance, space, and affect, authorial collaboration, gender and representation, violence, and disability.

Promoting Children's Rights in European Schools

2019-08-28

Promoting Children's Rights in European Schools explores how facilitators, teachers, and educators can adopt and use a dialogic methodology to solicit children's active participation in classroom communication. The book draws on a research project funded by the European Commission Erasmus Key Action 3 Innovative Education coordinated by the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy, with the partnership of the University of Suffolk, UK, and the University of Jena, Germany. The author team brings together the analysis of activities in 48 classes involving at least 1000 children across England, Germany, and Italy. These activities have been analysed in relation to the sociocultural context of the involved schools and children. A facilitative methodology and the use of visual materials in the classroom and engaging children in active participation and the production of their own narratives, each chapter looks at reflection on practice outcomes and reaction to facilitation of the Changeling.
both teachers and children drawing out the complex comparative lessons within and between classrooms across the three countries

The Routledge Handbook of Shakespeare and Global Appropriation

2021-01-16

the routledge handbook of shakespeare and global appropriation brings together a variety of different voices to examine the ways that shakespeare has been adapted and appropriated onto stage screen page and a variety of digital formats the thirty nine chapters address topics such as trans and intermedia performances shakespearean utopias and dystopias the ethics of appropriation and shakespeare and global justice as guidance on how to approach the teaching of these topics this collection brings into dialogue three very contemporary and relevant areas the work of women and minority scholars scholarship from developing countries and innovative media renderings of shakespeare each essay is clearly and accessibly written but also draws on cutting edge research and theory it includes two alternative table of contents offering different pathways through the book one regional the other by medium which open the book up to both teaching and research offering an overview and history of shakespearean appropriations as well as discussing contemporary issues and debates in the field this book is the ultimate guide to this vibrant topic it will be of use to anyone researching or studying shakespeare adaptation and global appropriation

Ovid and Masculinity in English Renaissance Literature

2016

ovid transformed english renaissance literary ideas about love erotic desire embodiment and gender more than any other classical poet ovidian concepts of femininity have been well served by modern criticism but ovid s impact on masculinity in renaissance literature remains underexamined this volume explores how english renaissance writers shifted away from virgilian heroic figures to embrace romantic ideals of courtship civility and friendship ovid s writing about masculinity love
and desire shaped discourses of masculinity across a wide range of literary texts of the sixteenth and seventeenth
centuries including poetry prose fiction and drama the book covers all major works by ovid in addition to italian humanists
angelo poliziano and natale conti canonical writers such as william shakespeare christopher marlowe ben jonson edmund
spenser philip sidney and john milton and lesser known writers such as wynkyn de worde michael drayton thomas lodge
richard johnson robert greene john marston thomas heywood and francis beaumont individual essays examine
emasculaton abjection pacifism female masculinity boys masculinity parody hospitality and protean jewish masculinity
ovid and masculinity in english renaissance literature demonstrates how ovid s poetry gave vigour and vitality to male
voices in english literature how his works inspired english writers to reimagine the male authorial voice the male body
desire and love in fresh terms

Romeo and Juliet

2019-10-17

uniquely this guide analyses the play s critical and performance history and recent criticism as well as including five essays
offering radically new paths for contemporary interpretation the subject matter of these essays is rich and diverse ranging
across the play s philosophical identification of sexual love with self realization the hermeneutic implications of an editor s
textual choices the minor characters of the play in relation to renaissance performance traditions romeo and juliet in opera
and ballet and the play s italian sources and afterlives the guide also contains a chapter on the key resources available
including scholarly editions and easily available dvds and discusses the ways in which they can be used in the classroom to
aid understanding and provoke further debate edited by leading scholar julia reinhard lupton this is an essential guide for
both students and scholars of shakespeare

Antony and Cleopatra: A Critical Reader

2019-05-30

2024-01-13 12/26
Arden Early Modern Drama Guides offer students and academics practical and accessible introductions to the critical and performance contexts of key Elizabethan and Jacobean plays. Essays from leading international scholars provide invaluable insight into the text by presenting a range of critical perspectives, making the books ideal companions for study and research. Key features include essays on the play's critical and performance history, a keynote essay on current research and thinking about the play, a selection of new essays by leading scholars, a survey of resources to direct students further reading about the play in print and online, Antony and Cleopatra is among Shakespeare's most enduringly popular tragedies. A theatrical piece of extraordinary political power, it also features one of his most memorable couples, both intellectually and emotionally challenging. Antony and Cleopatra also tests the boundaries of theatrical representation. This volume offers a stimulating and accessible guide to the play that takes stock of the past and current situation of scholarship while simultaneously opening up fresh, thought-provoking critical perspectives.

The Changeling: A Critical Reader

2014-10-14

This volume offers an accessible and thought-provoking guide to this major Renaissance tragedy, surveying its key themes and evolving critical responses over the course of nearly four centuries. Providing a uniquely detailed and up-to-date account of the play's rich stage history, it demonstrates how useful performance studies is to our understanding of early modern drama and looks closely at major recent productions on both sides of the Atlantic. Notably, the 2014 production of the Jacobean indoor space the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse in London. In a series of critical essays, the guide offers fresh perspectives on the characters, mechanical psychology, the influence of Spanish Golden Age literature on Middleton and Rowley, and how the play has been treated on the modern stage and screen. Featuring a guide to digital resources and an annotated bibliography, this collection is a definitive guide to the Changeling.
Richard III

2016-06-22

The authoritative edition of Richard III from the Folger Shakespeare Library, the trusted and widely used Shakespeare series for students and general readers in Richard III, Shakespeare invites us on a moral holiday. The play draws us to identify with Richard and his fantasy of total control of self and domination of others. Not yet King at the start of the play, Richard presents himself as an enterprising villain as he successfully plans to dispose of his brother, Clarence. Richard achieves similar success in conquering the woman he chooses to marry. He carves a way to the throne through assassination and executions. This edition includes the exact text of the printed book for easy cross-reference. Hundreds of hypertext links for instant navigation. Freshly edited text based on the best early printed version of the play. Newly revised explanatory notes conveniently linked to the text of the play. Scene by scene plot summaries. A key to the play's famous lines and phrases. An introduction to reading Shakespeare's language. An essay by a leading Shakespeare scholar providing a modern perspective on the play. Fresh images from the Folger Shakespeare Library's vast holdings of rare books. An annotated guide to further reading. Essay by Phyllis Rackin. The Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington DC is home to the world's largest collection of Shakespeare's printed works and a magnet for Shakespeare scholars from around the globe. In addition to exhibitions open to the public throughout the year, the Folger offers a full calendar of performances and programs. For more information, visit folger.edu.

Partial Histories

1995

This book explores the multiple portrayals of the actor and theatre manager Colley Cibber, King of the Dunces, professional fop, defacer of Shakespeare, and the cruel and unforgiving father of Charlotte Charke. But these portraits of Cibber are doubly partial, exposing even as they paper over gaps and biases in the archive while reflecting back modern desires and methodologies. The Colley Cibber everybody knows has been variously constructed through the rise of English literature as...
both a cultural enterprise and an academic discipline a process which made shakespeare the nation’s poet and canonised cibber’s enemies pope and fielding theatre history’s narrative of the birth of naturalism and the reclamation and celebration of charlotte charke by women’s literary history each of these stories requires a colley cibber to be its butt antithesis and or bête noir this monograph challenges these partial histories and returns the theatre manager playwright poet laureate and bon viveur to the centre of eighteenth century culture and cultural studies

**Much Ado About Nothing**

2024-04-04

folger shakespeare library the world’s leading center for shakespeare studies each edition includes freshly edited text based on the best early printed version of the play full explanatory notes conveniently placed on pages facing the text of the play scene by scene plot summaries a key to famous lines and phrases an introduction to reading shakespeare’s language an essay by an outstanding scholar providing a modern perspective on the play illustrations from the folger shakespeare library’s vast holdings of rare books essay by gail kern paster the folger shakespeare library in washington d c is home to the world’s largest collection of shakespeare’s printed works and a magnet for shakespeare scholars from around the globe in addition to exhibitions open to the public throughout the year the folger offers a full calendar of performances and programs

**Antony and Cleopatra**

2020

this new volume in the shakespeare the critical tradition series increases our knowledge of how antony and cleopatra has been received and understood by critics editors and general readers the volume provides in separate sections both critical opinions about the play across the centuries and an evaluation of their positions within and their impact on the reception of the play the chronological arrangement of the text excerpts engages the readers in a direct and unbiased dialogue and the
introduction offers a critical evaluation from a current stance including modern theories and methods this volume makes a major contribution to our understanding of the play and of the traditions of shakespearean criticism surrounding it as they have developed from century to century

Richard II

2014-09-19

arden early modern drama guides offer students and academics practical and accessible introductions to the critical and performance contexts of key elizabethan and jacobean plays contributions from leading international scholars give invaluable insight into the text by presenting a range of critical perspectives making these books ideal companions for study and research key features include essays on the play s critical and performance histories a keynote chapter reviewing current research and recent criticism of the play a selection of new essays by leading scholars a survey of learning and teaching resources for both instructors and students this volume offers a thought provoking guide to shakespeare s richard ii surveying its critical heritage and the ways in which scholars critics and historians have approached the play from the 17th to the 21st century it provides a detailed up to date account of the play s rich performance history on stage and screen looking closely at some major british productions as well as a guide to learning and teaching resources and how these might be integrated into effective pedagogic strategies in the classroom presenting four new critical essays this collection opens up fresh perspectives on this much studied drama including explorations of the play s profound preoccupation with earth ground and land shakespeare s engagement with early modern sermon culture mockery and religion a complex network of intertextual and cultural references activated by richard s famous address to the looking glass and the long overlooked importance to this profoundly philosophical drama of that most material of things money
The Merry Wives of Windsor

2016-11-17

the merry wives of windsor has recently experienced a resurgence of critical interest at times considered one of shakespeare s weaker plays it is often dismissed or marginalized however developments in feminist ecocritical and new historicist criticism have opened up new perspectives and this collection of 18 essays by top shakespeare scholars sheds fresh light on the play the detailed introduction by phyllis rackin and evelyn gajowski provides a historical survey of the play and ties into an evolving critical and cultural context the book s sections look in turn at female community female agency theatrical alternatives social and theatrical contexts desire sexuality nature and performance to provide a contemporary critical analysis of the play

The White Devil: A Critical Reader

2019-01-10

the white devil is one of the most violent and most fascinating plays in english theatrical history it is also a notoriously challenging work this volume offers a practical accessible and thought provoking guide to the play surveying its major themes and critical reception it also provides a detailed and up to date history of the play s performance beginning with its first staging in 1611 staging and ending with the rsc s 2014 revival moving through to four new critical essays it opens up cutting edge perspectives on the work and finishes with a practical guide to pedagogical approaches and resources detailing web based and production related resources and including an annotated bibliography of critical works the guide will equip teachers and facilitate students understanding of this complex play
**Troilus and Cressida: A Critical Reader**

2019-07-15

troilus and cressida a critical reader offers an accessible and thought provoking guide to this complex problem play surveying its key themes and evolving critical preoccupations considering its generic ambiguity and experimentalism it also provides a uniquely detailed and up to date history of the play s stage performance from dryden s rewriting up to mark ravenhill and elizabeth lecompte s controversial 2012 production for the royal shakespeare company and the wooster group moving through to four new critical essays the guide opens up fresh perspectives on the play s iconoclastic nature and its key themes ranging from issues of gender and sexuality to elizabethan politics from the uses of antiquity to questions of cultural translation with particular attention paid on troilus greekness the volume finishes with a helpful guide to critical and web based resources discussing the ways in which this challenging and acerbic play can be brought to life in the classroom it suggests performance based strategies designed to engage with the dramaturgical and theatrical dimensions of the text close reading exercises with an emphasis on rhetoric metaphor and the practice of troping and a series of tools designed to situate the play in a range of contexts including its classical and critical frameworks

**Shakespeare Scholars in Conversation**

2017-05-11

twenty four of today s most prominent shakespeare scholars discuss the best known works in shakespeare studies along with some nearly forgotten classics that deserve fresh appraisal an extensive bibliography provides a reading list of the most important works in the field a filmography then lists the most important shakespeare films along with the films that influenced shakespeare filmmakers interviewees include sir stanley wells sir jonathan bate sir brian vickers ann thompson virginia mason vaughan george t wright lukas erne macdonald p jackson peter holland james shapiro katherine duncan jones and barbara hodgdon
War on the Human

2014-09-25

the essays in this collection explore the question of the human both as a contested concept and as it relates to and functions within the wider global conjuncture the authors explore the theoretical underpinnings of the term human inviting the reader to reflect upon the contemporary human condition to identify opportunities and threats in the changes ahead and to determine what aspects of our species we should abandon or strive to maintain the volume approaches these ideas from a myriad of perspectives but the authors are united in their abstention from rejecting humanism outright or indeed fully endorsing posthumanism s teleological narrative of accelerated progress and perfectability instead the authors argue that the term human itself is better understood as a concept perpetually undergoing revision and is necessarily subject to scrutiny the contributors here are thus concerned with investigating the following questions what does it mean to be human or to have a self what is the current place or status of the human in the contemporary world as technology is increasingly used to modify our bodies and minds to what extent should we alter and how can we improve our very understanding of human nature the authors contend that literature is the art form best placed to answer these questions in its dynamism and discursiveness literature has the capacity to both reflect dominant discourses and ideologies as well as to generate and even anticipate social change to critique and refine conventional ideas and existing cultural modes and to envision new possibilities for the future the human and its literary representation in other words are inherently intertwined

The Tempest: A Critical Reader

2013-10-24

the tempest contains sublime poetry and catchy songs magic and low comedy while it tackles important contemporary concerns education power politics the effects of colonization and technology in this guide alden t vaughan and virginia mason vaughan open up new ways into one of shakespeare s most popular malleable and controversial plays
Richard III: A Critical Reader

2018-10-18

Charting the ruthless rise and fall of the villainous king Richard III remains one of Shakespeare's most enduringly discussed and oft-performed plays. Assembled by leading scholars, this guide provides a comprehensive survey of major issues in the contemporary study of the play. Throughout the book, survey chapters explore such issues as the play's critical reception from Dr. Johnson to postmodern readings in the 21st century. The performance history of the play from Shakespeare's day to more recent stagings by Laurence Olivier and Ian McKellen. Key themes in current scholarship from disability to gender and nationalism are also covered. Richard III on film, including Al Pacino's Looking for Richard. Richard III: A Critical Guide also includes a complete guide to resources available on the play, including critical editions, online resources, and an annotated bibliography, and how they might be used to aid both the teaching and study of Shakespeare's play.

King Henry V: A Critical Reader

2020

Arden Early Modern Drama Guides offer students and academics practical and accessible introductions to the critical and performance contexts of key Elizabethan and Jacobean plays. Essays from leading international scholars give invaluable insight into the text by presenting a range of critical perspectives. The books serve as ideal companions for study and research. Key features include essays on the play's critical and performance history, a keynote essay on current research and thinking about the play, a selection of new essays by leading scholars, a survey of resources to direct students further reading about the play in print and online. This volume offers a thought-provoking guide to King Henry V, surveying the play's rich critical and performance history with a particular emphasis on its reputation in France as well as Britain and the US. A chapter on non-anglophone reactions to the play alongside new essays on British identity, religion, medieval warfare, and the questioning of Henry V's heroism open up ground-breaking perspectives on the play. The volume also includes discussions of King Henry V's rich theatrical and filmic heritage and a guide to learning and teaching resources and how these might be used.
Tamburlaine

2016-10-14

Tamburlaine plays 1587 instantly established Marlowe’s reputation for experimenting with subversive outrageous and immoral material. The plays follow the meteoric rise of a scythian shepherd turned warlord whose conquests of Eastern emperors soon see him established as the most powerful man in the world. The visual tableaux featured in the plays are iconic: he uses his enemy Bajazeth as a footstool and has other emperors pull his chariot like horses; he burns the Quran on stage. The plays were memorable too for how they sounded; they showcased the power and variability of iambic pentameter, the meter that Shakespeare would go on to perfect. No history of Shakespeare’s theatre is complete without understanding the influence and significance of Marlowe’s Tamburlaine plays. Tamburlaine: A Critical Reader offers the definitive introduction to these plays and new perspectives on these seminal works. It provides an overview of their reception on stage and by critics and offers fresh insights into the teaching of these plays in the classroom.

Community-Making in Early Stuart Theatres

2020-05-01

Twenty two leading experts on early modern drama collaborate in this volume to explore three closely interconnected...
research questions to what extent did playwrights represent dramatis personae in their entertainments as forming or failing to form communal groupings how far were theatrical productions likely to weld or separate different communal groupings within their target audiences and how might such bondings or oppositions among spectators have tallied with the community making or breaking on stage chapters in part one respond to one or more of these questions by reassessing general period trends in censorship theatre attendance forms of patronage playwrights professional and linguistic networks their use of music and their handling of ethical controversies in part two responses arise from detailed reexaminations of particular plays by shakespeare chapman jonson beaumont and fletcher cary webster middleton massinger ford and shirley both parts cover a full range of early stuart theatre settings from the public and popular to the more private circumstances of hall playhouses court masques women s drama country house theatricals and school plays and one overall finding is that although playwrights frequently staged or alluded to communal conflict they seldom exacerbated such divisiveness within their audience rather they tended toward more tactful modes of address sometimes even acknowledging their own ideological uncertainties so that at least for the duration of a play their audiences could be a community within which internal rifts were openly brought into dialogue

Shakespeare and Money

2017-01-03

though better known for his literary merits shakespeare made money wrote about money and enabled money making by countless others in his name with chapters by leading scholars on the economic financial and commercial ramifications of his work this multifaceted volume connects the bard to both early modern and contemporary economic conditions revealing shakespeare to have been a serious economist in his own right

Family Politics in Early Modern Literature

this book considers the ways that family relationships parental marital sibling or other mimic and stand in for political ones
the jew of malta a critical reader arden early modern drama guides

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