Shakespeare's Fame

Gresham Professor of Rhetoric, Jonathan Bate



To the Reader.

This Figure, that thou here feeft put,
It was for gentle Shakespeare cut;
Wherein the Grauer had a strife
with Nature, to out-doo the life:
O, could he but have drawne his wit
As well in brasse, as he hath hit
Hisface; the Print would then surpasse
All, that was ever writin brasse.
But, since he cannot, Reader, looke
Not on his Picture, but his Booke.

B. I.

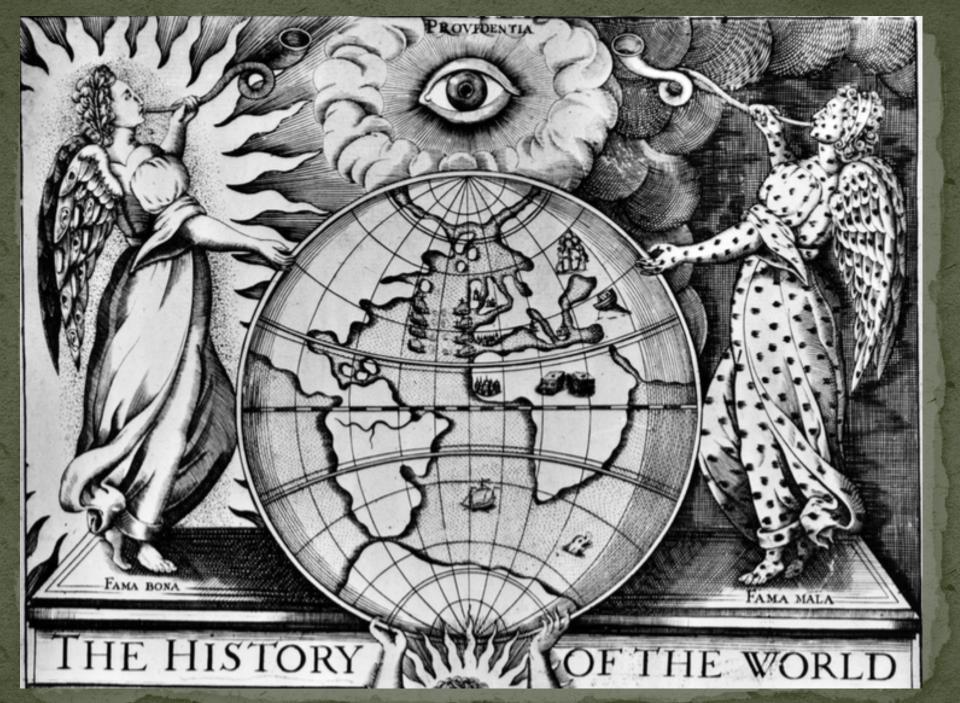
SHAKESPEARES

COMEDIES, HISTORIES, & TRAGEDIES.

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LONDON
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Domus Farnce.



Let fame, that all hunt after in their lives,
Live registered upon our brazen tombs
And then grace us in the disgrace of death;
When, spite of cormorant devouring Time,
The endeavor of this present breath may buy
That honour which shall bate his scythe's keen edge
And make us heirs of all eternity.

Love's Labour's Lost, 1. 1. 1-7.

Iamque opus exegi, quod nec Iovis ira nec ignis nec poterit ferrum nec edax abolere vetustas ... ore legar populi, perque omnia saecula fama, siquid habent veri vatum praesagia, vivam.

Now have I brought a woork to end which neither Joves feerce wrath, Nor swoord, nor fyre, nor freating age with all the force it hath Are able too abolish quyght ...

... And tyme without all end (If Poets as by prophesie about the truth may ame)
My lyfe shall everlastingly been lengthened still by fame.

Metamorphoses, 15. 871-2, 878-9; Golding, 15. 984-6, 993-5.



SHAKE-SPEARES

SONNETS.

Neuer before Imprinted.

By G. Eld for T. T. and are to be solde by William Apley.

1609.

TO.THE.ONLIE.BEGETTER.OF.
THESE.INSVING.SONNETS.
M'.W. H. ALL.HAPPINESSE.
AND.THAT.ETERNITIE.
PROMISED.

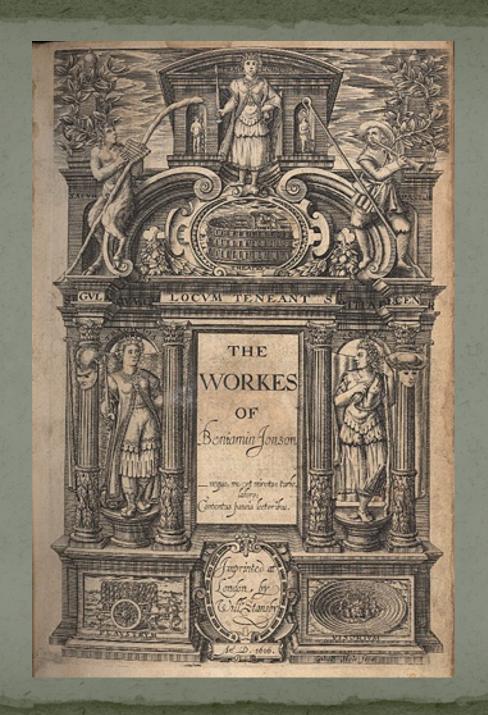
BY.

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WISHETH.

THE. WELL-WISHING.
ADVENTVRER.IN.
SETTING.
FORTH.

T. T.





VENUS AND ADONIS

Vilia miretu-vulgus : mihi flauus Apollo Pocula Castalia plena ministret aqua.



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1593.

Leave thee alone for the comparison
Of all that insolent Greece or haughty Rome
Sent forth, or since did from their ashes come. ...
The merry Greek, tart Aristophanes,
Neat Terence, witty Plautus, now not please,
But antiquated and deserted lie
As they were not of nature's family.

Ben Jonson, poem in memory of Shakespeare in the First Folio

Nor fire, nor cank'ring age, as Naso said Of his, thy wit-fraught book shall once invade. ... Be sure, our Shakespeare, thou canst never die, But crowned with laurel, live eternally.

Leonard Digges, poem in memory of Shakespeare in the First Folio



Milton



Dryden

Cavendish





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----- Oculos, paulum tellure moratos, Suffulit ad proceres; expectatoque refolvit Ora fono; nec abelt facundis grasia dictis.

vip.

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MPCCLXXIV.



Interior of Garrick's Temple with a replica of Roubiliac's statue of Shakespeare, for which Garrick himself was the model