SEP 08-SEP 24 TWELFTH NIGHT

play by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE directed by JAYCE T. TROMSNESS

sponsored by Debra & Tom Strange Ellen & Alan Weinberg

Woodlands

THE WAREHOUSE THEATRE

warehousetheatre.com

Recommended Reading & Resource List

Twelfth Night: Critical Essays Edited by Stanley Wells

Book Jacket:

Originally published in 1986. Among the most frequently performed and admired of Shakespeare's plays, *Twelfth Night* is examined here in this collection of writings from well-known essayists and scholars. The chapters present to the modern reader discussions of the play to enhance understanding and study of both the text and performances. Opening essays address individual characters; then some accounts of its potential and theatrical reviews are included; finally followed by critical studies looking at various parts and themes. The editor's introduction explains the usefulness of each chapter and gives an overview of the selection.

Shakespeare in a Divided America By James Shapiro

Book Jacket:

The plays of William Shakespeare are rare common ground in the United States. For well over two centuries, Americans of all stripes—presidents and activists, soldiers and writers, conservatives and liberals alike—have turned to Shakespeare's works to explore the nation's fault lines. In a narrative arching from Revolutionary times to the present day, leading scholar James Shapiro traces the unparalleled role of Shakespeare's four-hundred-year-old tragedies and comedies in illuminating the many concerns on which American identity has turned.

From Abraham Lincoln's and his assassin, John Wilkes Booth's,

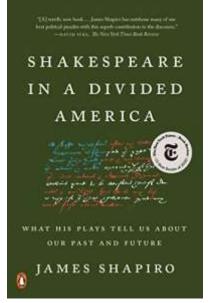
competing Shakespeare obsessions to the 2017 controversy over the staging of Julius Caesar in Central Park, in which a Trump-like leader is assassinated, *Shakespeare in a Divided America* reveals how no writer has been more embraced, more weaponized, or has shed more light on the hot-button issues in our history.

See Also:

National Endowment for the Humanities: Shakespeare in a Divided America: A Q&A with NEH Public Scholar James Shapiro

https://www.neh.gov/blog/shakespeare-divided-america-qa-neh-public-scholar-james-shapiro



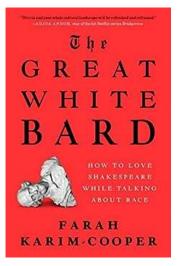


The Great White Bard By Farah Karim-Cooper

Book Jacket:

As we witness monuments of white Western history fall, many are asking how is Shakespeare still relevant?

Professor Farah Karim-Cooper has dedicated her career to the Bard, which is why she wants to take the playwright down from his pedestal to unveil a Shakespeare for the twenty-first century. If we persist in reading Shakespeare as representative of only one group, as the very pinnacle of the white Western canon, then he will truly be in peril.



Combining piercing analysis of race, gender and otherness in famous plays from *Antony and Cleopatra* to *The Tempest* with a radical reappraisal of Elizabethan London, *The Great White Bard* asks us neither to idealize nor bury Shakespeare but instead to look him in the eye and reckon with the discomforts of his plays, playhouses and society. In inviting new perspectives and interpretations, we may yet prolong and enrich his extraordinary legacy.

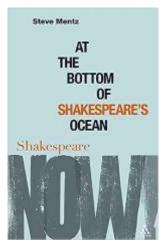
See Also:

American Theatre: Reading Race Through Shakespeare, and Vice Versa <u>https://www.americantheatre.org/2023/08/16/reading-race-through-shakespeare-and-vice-versa/</u>

At the Bottom of Shakespeare's Ocean By Steve Mentz

Book Jacket

We need a poetic history of the ocean, and Shakespeare can help us find one. There's more real salt in the plays than we might expect. Shakespeare's dramatic ocean spans the God-sea of the ancient world and the immense blue vistas that early modern mariners navigated. Throughout his career, from the opening shipwrecks of *The Comedy of Errors* through *The Tempest*, Shakespeare's plays figure the ocean as shocking physical reality and mind-twisting symbol of change and instability. To fathom Shakespeare's ocean - to go down to its bottom - this book's



chapters focus on different things that humans do with and in and near the sea: fathoming, keeping watch, swimming, beachcombing, fishing, and drowning. Mentz also sets Shakespeare's sea-poetry against modern literary sea-scapes, including the vast Pacific of *Moby-Dick*, the rocky coast of Charles Olson's Maximus Poems, and the lyrical waters of the

postcolonial Caribbean. Uncovering the depths of Shakespeare's maritime world, this book draws out the centrality of the sea in our literary culture.

See Also:

Folger's Shakespeare Unlimited Podcast: Shakespeare and the Ocean, with Steve Mentz <u>https://www.folger.edu/podcasts/shakespeare-unlimited/shakespeare-ocean-mentz/</u>

