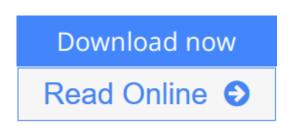


Worlds Elsewhere: Journeys Around Shakespeare's Globe

By Andrew Dickson



Worlds Elsewhere: Journeys Around Shakespeare's Globe By Andrew Dickson

A book about how Shakespeare became fascinated with the world, and how the world became fascinated with Shakespeare

Ranging ambitiously across four continents and four hundred years, *Worlds Elsewhere* is an eye-opening account of how Shakespeare went global. Seizing inspiration from the playwright's own fascination with travel, foreignness, and distant worlds—worlds Shakespeare never himself explored—Andrew Dickson takes us on an extraordinary journey: from *Hamlet* performed by English actors tramping through the Baltic states in the early sixteen hundreds to the skyscrapers of twenty-first-century Beijing and Shanghai, where "Shashibiya" survived Mao's Cultural Revolution to become a revered Chinese author.

En route, Dickson traces Nazi Germany's strange love affair with, and attempted nationalization of, the Bard, and delves deep into the history of Bollywood, where Shakespearean stories helped give birth to Indian cinema. In Johannesburg, we discover how Shakespeare was enlisted in the fight to end apartheid. In nineteenth-century California, we encounter shoestring performances of *Richard III* and *Othello* in the dusty mining camps and saloon bars of the Gold Rush.

No other writer's work has been performed, translated, adapted, and altered in such a remarkable variety of cultures and languages. Both a cultural history and a literary travelogue, *Worlds Elsewhere* is an attempt to understand how Shakespeare has become the international phenomenon he is—and why.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Dickson's journey of discovery is surely the book of the year for Shakespeareans and many others." ---Booklist Starred Review

About the Author

Andrew Dickson is the author of The Rough Guide to Shakespeare and a contributor to The New Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare. A former arts editor at the Guardian, he writes regularly for the paper and appears as a presenter for the BBC and elsewhere.

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