

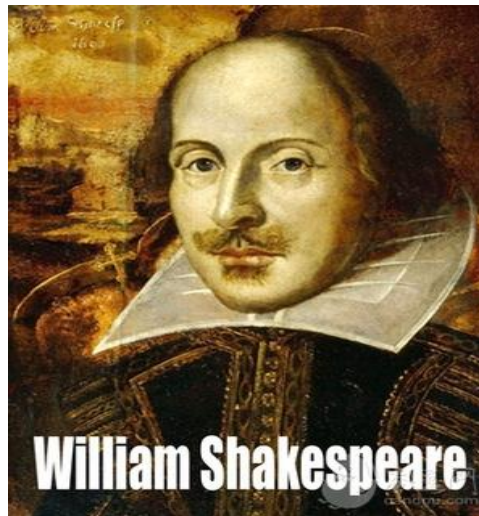


The Renaissance

(14th century -mid 17th century)

This is a greatest and most advanced revolution in the human history. This is the age the giants are needed and produced.

—F. Engles



Outline

- I. Historical background
- II. The Renaissance
- III. The English Renaissance
- IV. William Shakespeare
- V. *Sonnet 18*
- VI. *Hamlet*
- VII. *The Merchant of Venice*



I. Historical background

■ 1.1 Economic Changes

a. The Enclosure Movement (P51)

After this movement, many peasants lost their land and were compelled to work at a low wage for the landowners.

b. Commercial expansion

Commercial expansion consolidated Great Britain's power on the seas and in world trade.

1.2 Political Changes

a. Tudor Dynasty

The noble class suffered a lot from 30 years of wars (the Wars of Roses), Henry VII (1485-1509), taking the advantage of this situation, founded the Tudor Dynasty, a centralized monarchy of a totally new type, which met the needs of the rising bourgeoisie and so won its support.

b. The Religious Reformation of Henry VIII (1509-47)

King Henry VIII broke off with the Pope, dissolved all the monasteries and abbeys in the country, confiscated their lands and proclaimed himself head of the church of England.

The Influence of Religious Reformation

The Protestant Reformation was **in essence a political movement in a religious guise**, a part of the long struggle of the bourgeois class for power. But the Reformation got strongly rejected by the Counter-Reformation during the reign of Queen Mary (1553-58). Hundreds of protestants, both famous churchmen and obscure peasants, were burned as heretics(持异端者). The bloody religious persecution came to a stop after the church settlement of Queen Elizabeth (1558-1603).

✦ 1.3 Cultural changes

a. Translation works.

A great number of the works of classical authors were translated into English during the 16th century. These works set good examples for the literary creations.

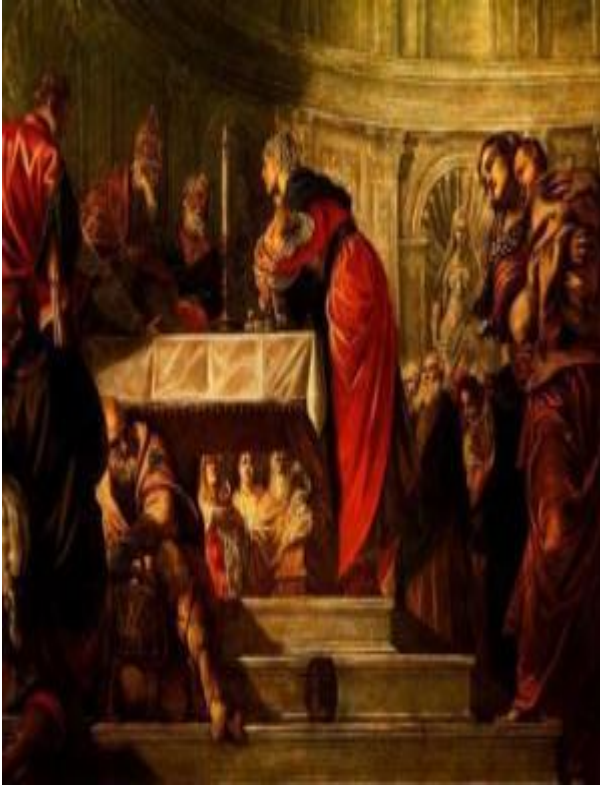
b. Oxford reformers.

In the days of Henry VIII, there were a group of scholars called Oxford Reformers, who introduced the classical literature to England and strove to reform education on a humanistic line. Thomas More is the representative person, who is renowned for his "Utopia".

c. the English Bible

English Bible is a monument of English language and English literature.

Renaissance



- Renaissance is commonly applied to the movement or period in western civilization, which marks the transition from the medieval to the modern world. Generally, it refers to the period **between the 14th and mid-17th century**. It first started in Florence and Venice of Italy, with the **flowering of painting, sculpture and architecture**. From Italy the movement went to embrace the rest of Europe.

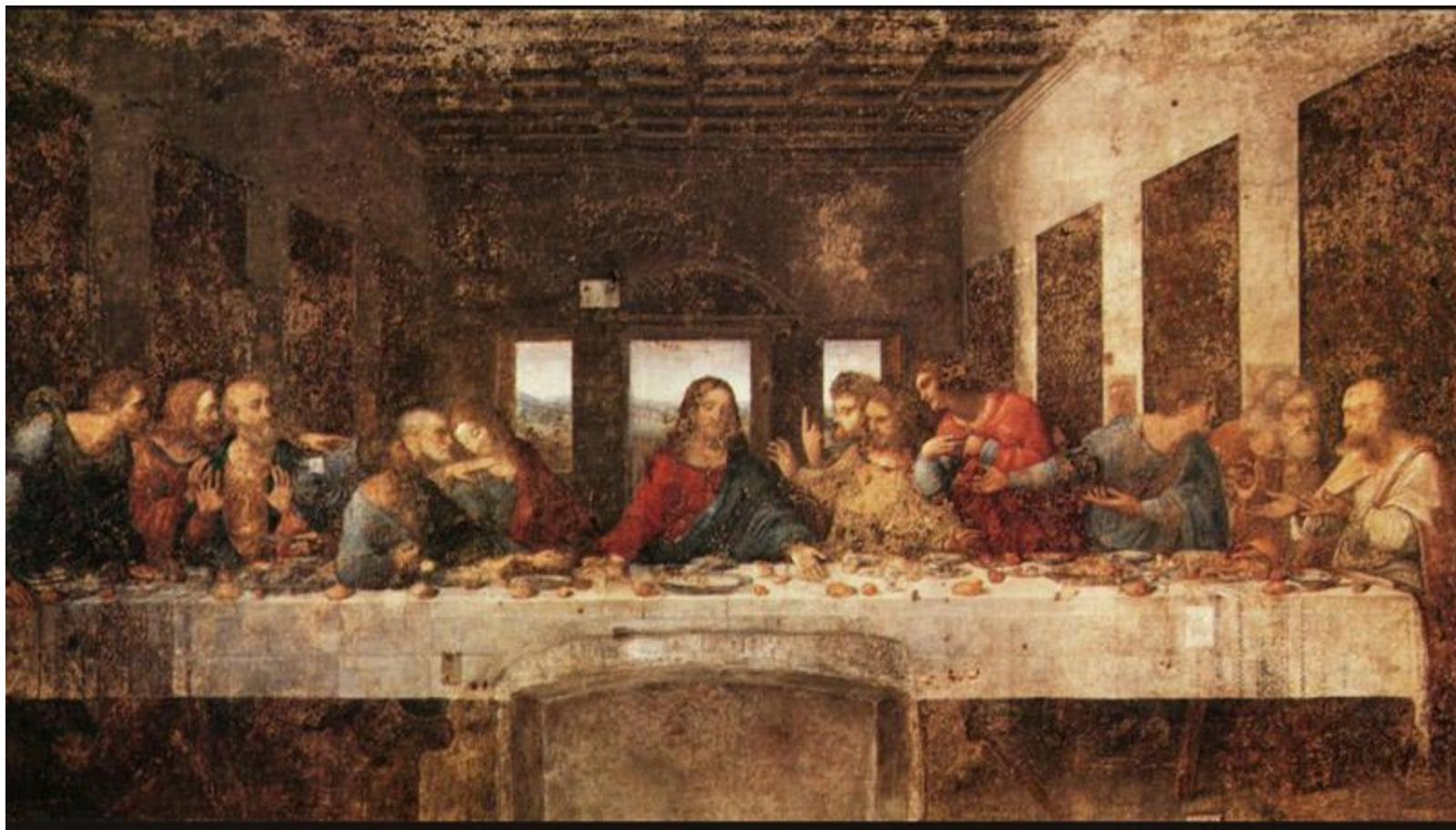


Renaissance, therefore, in essence, is a historical period in which the European humanist thinkers and scholars made attempts to get rid of those old feudalist ideas in medieval Europe and introduce new ideas that expressed the interests of the rising bourgeoisie, and to lift the restriction in all areas placed by the Roman Catholic Church authorities.

- 文艺复兴（Renaissance）是指发生在14世纪到16世纪的一场反映新兴资产阶级要求的欧洲思想文化运动。
- “文艺复兴”的概念在14-17世纪时已被意大利的人文主义作家和学者所使用。当时的人们认为，文艺在希腊、罗马古典时代曾高度繁荣，但在中世纪“黑暗时代”却衰败湮没，直到14世纪后才获得“再生”与“复兴”，因此称为“文艺复兴”。
- 文艺复兴最先在意大利各城市兴起，以后扩展到西欧各国，于16世纪达到顶峰，带来一段科学与艺术革命时期，揭开了近代欧洲历史的序幕，被认为是中古时代和近代的分界。文艺复兴是西欧近代三大思想解放运动（文艺复兴、宗教改革与启蒙运动）之一。

文艺复兴美术三杰

《最后的晚餐》 (意大利) 达·芬奇画
1495 - 1497年 米兰圣玛利亚·格拉契修道院藏



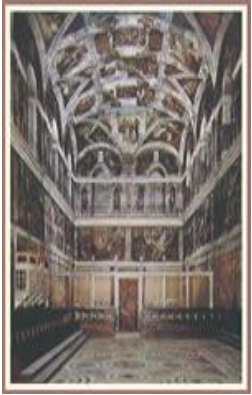


《蒙娜丽莎》意大利 达·芬奇画 木板油画
77 × 53厘米1503 - 1505年巴黎卢浮尔宫博物馆藏

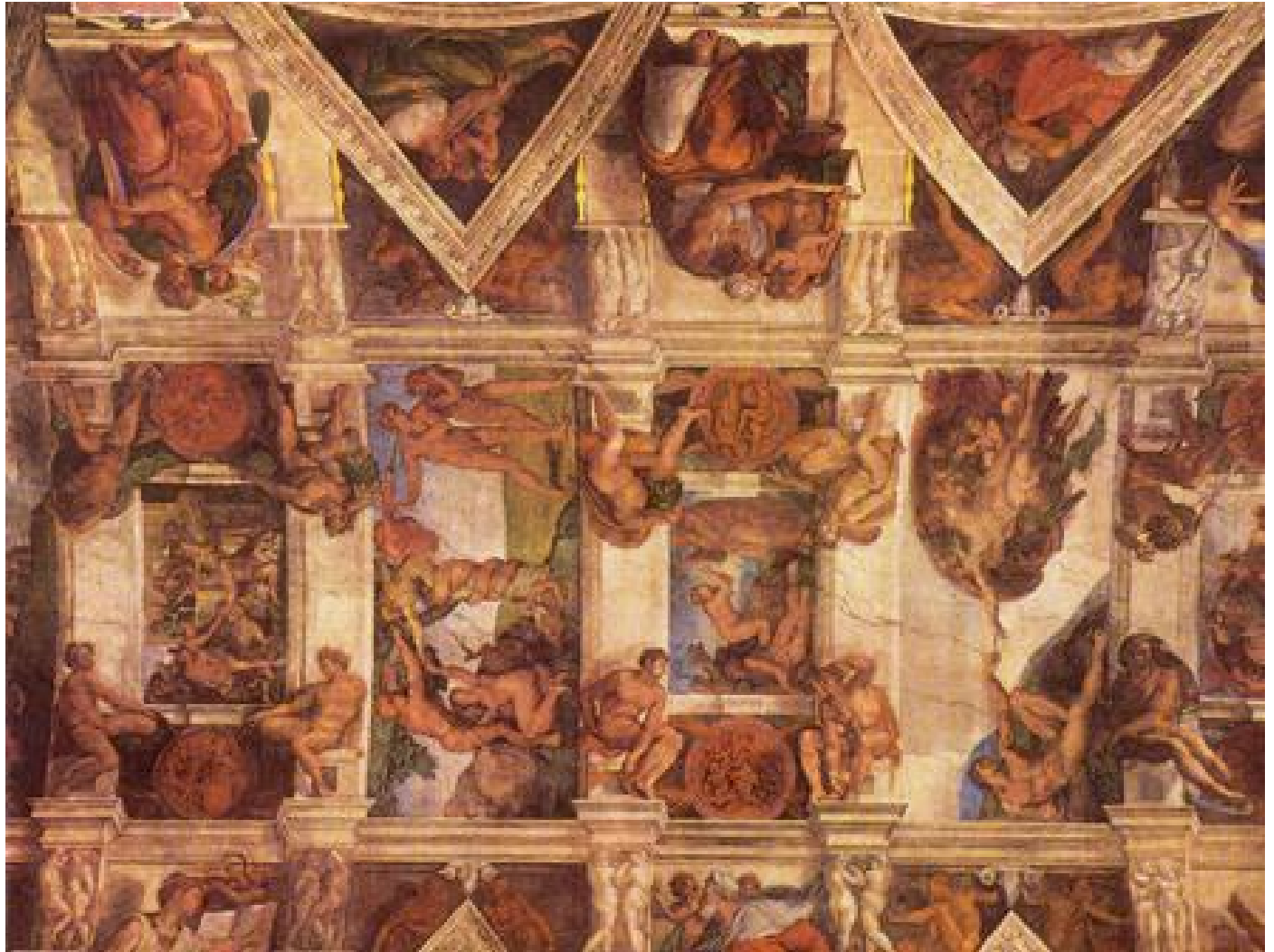


自画像

《西斯廷教堂天顶画》局部 壁画 36·54×13·14米
米开朗期罗 （意大利） 梵帝冈西斯廷教堂藏 （1475 - 1564年）



西斯庭教堂
内景



《椅中圣母》
(油画)
(意大利)
拉斐尔
(1514 - 1516年)



选自<http://www.artsea.net>

II. The Renaissance

- The term originally indicated a revival of classical (Greek and Roman) arts and sciences after the dark ages of medieval obscurantism.
- The rise of the bourgeoisie soon showed its influence in the sphere of cultural life. The result is an intellectual movement known as the Renaissance, or the rebirth of Greek and Roman culture.

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- The Renaissance: an intellectual movement sprang firstly in Italy in the 14th century and gradually spread all over Europe.
 - Two features are striking of this movement: One is a thirsting curiosity for the classical literature; The other is the keen interest in the activities of humanity.
 - Key-note: Humanism.
-

Humanism



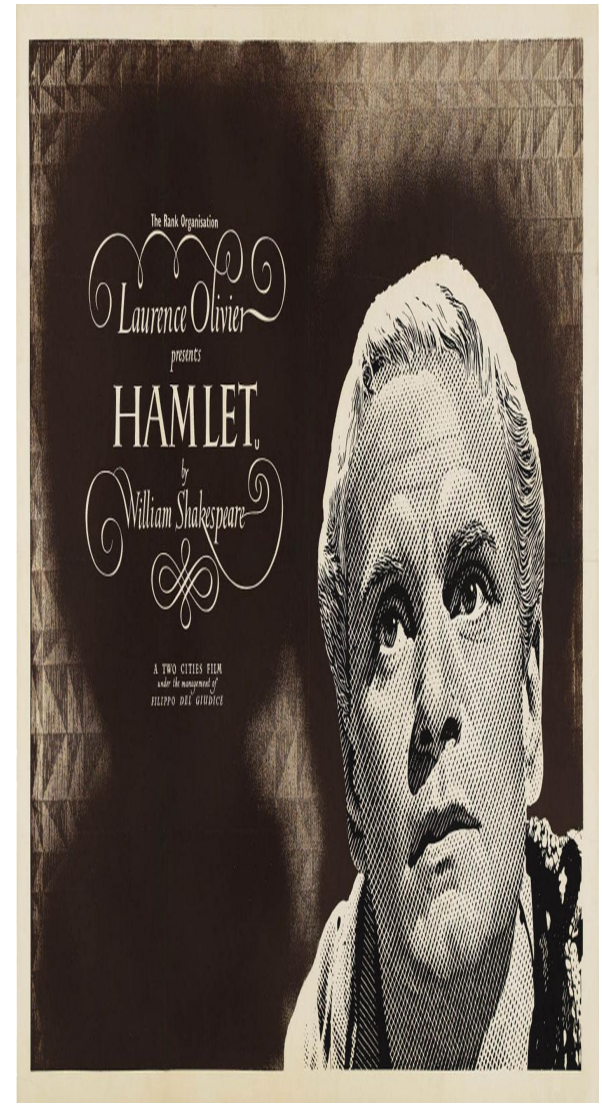
- Humanism **is the key-note of the Renaissance.**
The Humanists hold that man is the measure of all things. By emphasizing the dignity of human beings and the importance of the present life, they voiced their beliefs that man did not only have the right to enjoy the beauty of the life, but had the ability to perfect and to perform wonders.
- **Thomas More, Christopher Marlowe and William Shakespeare** are the best representatives of the English humanists.



- 人文主义精神，人文主义精神的核心是提出以人为中心而不是以神为中心，肯定人的价值和尊严。主张人生的目的是追求现实生活中的幸福，倡导个性解放，反对愚昧迷信的神学思想，认为人是现实生活的创造者和主人。

Humanism in *Hamlet*

- What a piece of work is a man,
how noble in reason, how infinite in
faculties, in form and moving, how
express and admirable, in action
how like an angel, in apprehension
how like a god! the beauty of the
world, the paragon of animals!
- 人类是一件多么了不起的杰作！多么
高贵的理性！多么伟大的力量！多么
优美的仪表！多么文雅的举动！在行
为上多么像个天使！在智慧上多么像
个天神！宇宙的精华！万物的灵长！



III. The English Renaissance

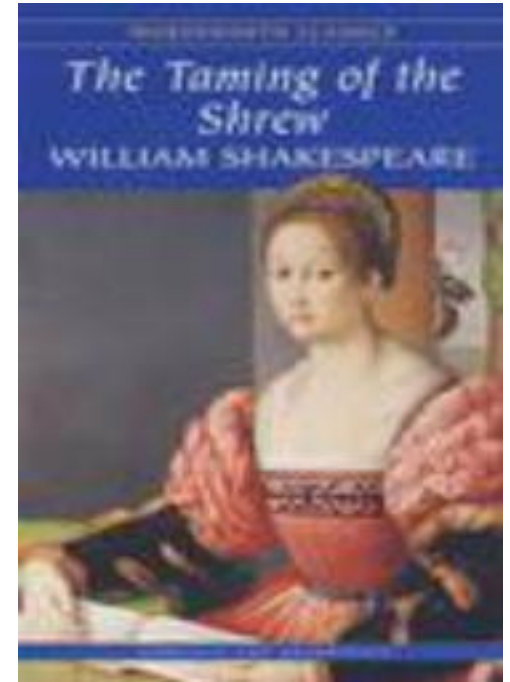
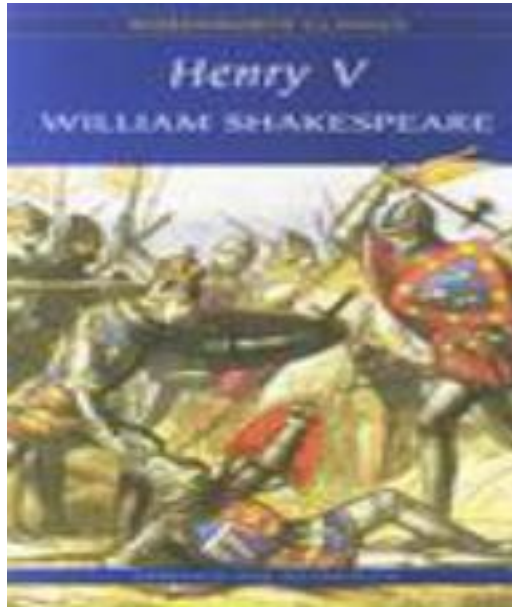
- The English Renaissance stretched from later 15th century to early 17th century.
- From the first half of the 16th century, the English Renaissance began to develop into a flowering of literature.
- The highest glory of the English Renaissance is drama.

Drama

1. The form of composition designed for performance in the theater, in which actors take the roles of the characters, perform the indicated action and utter the written dialogue. (The common alternative name for a dramatic composition is a **play**.)

Elements of Drama

- Dialogue
- Story
- Character
- Action



Some representatives and their masterpieces

- **Thomas More (1478-1535)** *Utopia*

Utopia is written in the form of a conversation between More and Hythloday, a returned voyager. The name "Utopia" comes from the two Greek words meaning "no place". In this book, More gave a profound and truthful picture of the people's sufferings and put forward his ideal of a future happy society.

- **Edmund Spencer (1552-1599)**, the poet's poet, famous for his lyrical poetry. *The Fairy Queen*

- **Christopher Marlowe** (1564-1593), the most gifted of the "university wits". He reformed the English drama and perfected the language and verse of dramatic works. *Blank verse* (无韵体诗): it is a poetic style with rhymeless iambic pentameter.

University Wits—refers to a group of scholars during the Elizabethan age who graduated from Oxford or Cambridge. They came to London with the ambition to become professional writers. Some of them later became famous poets and playwrights. They were called "University Wits". Prominent members of this group were **Christopher Marlowe**, **Robert Greene**, and Thomas Nashe from Cambridge, and **John Lyly**, Thomas Lodge, George Peele from Oxford. **Thomas Kyd** is also sometimes included in the group, though he is not believed to have studied at university.

William Shakespeare (1564-1616) was regarded as "an upstart crow".

William Shakespeare (1564-1616)



He was not of an age, but for all time.

—Ben Jonson

Aeschylus and Shakespeare are the two greatest dramatic geniuses the world has ever known.

—Karl Marx

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E OF W. SHAKESPEARE
H FOLKSONGS,
MASQUE MUSIC
AUGUST

CHOICE; BBC MUSIC MAGAZINE OUTSTANDING CD
RÉABLE
ENSEMBLE (THE OXFORD TIMES)
OF THE ORDINARY ... BRAVO! (GRAMOPHONE)
PERIOD-INSTRUMENT ENSEMBLES (BBC MUSIC MAGAZINE)
ORIGINALS & CHAMBER ORGAN)
BAROQUE GUITAR)
BERG; 'A MOST SEDUCTIVE VOICE' - THE TIMES
OXFORD PLAYHOUSE, TEL: 01865-305305

LIGHT SUMMER FESTIVAL 2006
E MUSIC
DLELIGHT



love's labour's lost

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



29th July
Westminster
Abbey
Gardens
London

30th July
The
Dell
Theatre
Stratford

1st - 5th Aug
Merton
College
Garden
Oxford

12th - 13th Aug
Metropolitan
Art
Centre
Tokyo

"Ablaze with fizzy poetry and
verbal fireworks" - Daily Info



29th July
Westminster
Abbey
Gardens
London

30th July
The
Dell
Theatre
Stratford

1st - 5th Aug
Merton
College
Garden
Oxford

IN THE BEAUTIFUL
OF MERTON

TONIGHT A

8.30pm



love's
labour's

"... fooling, re-
foolish" - Daily



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our's

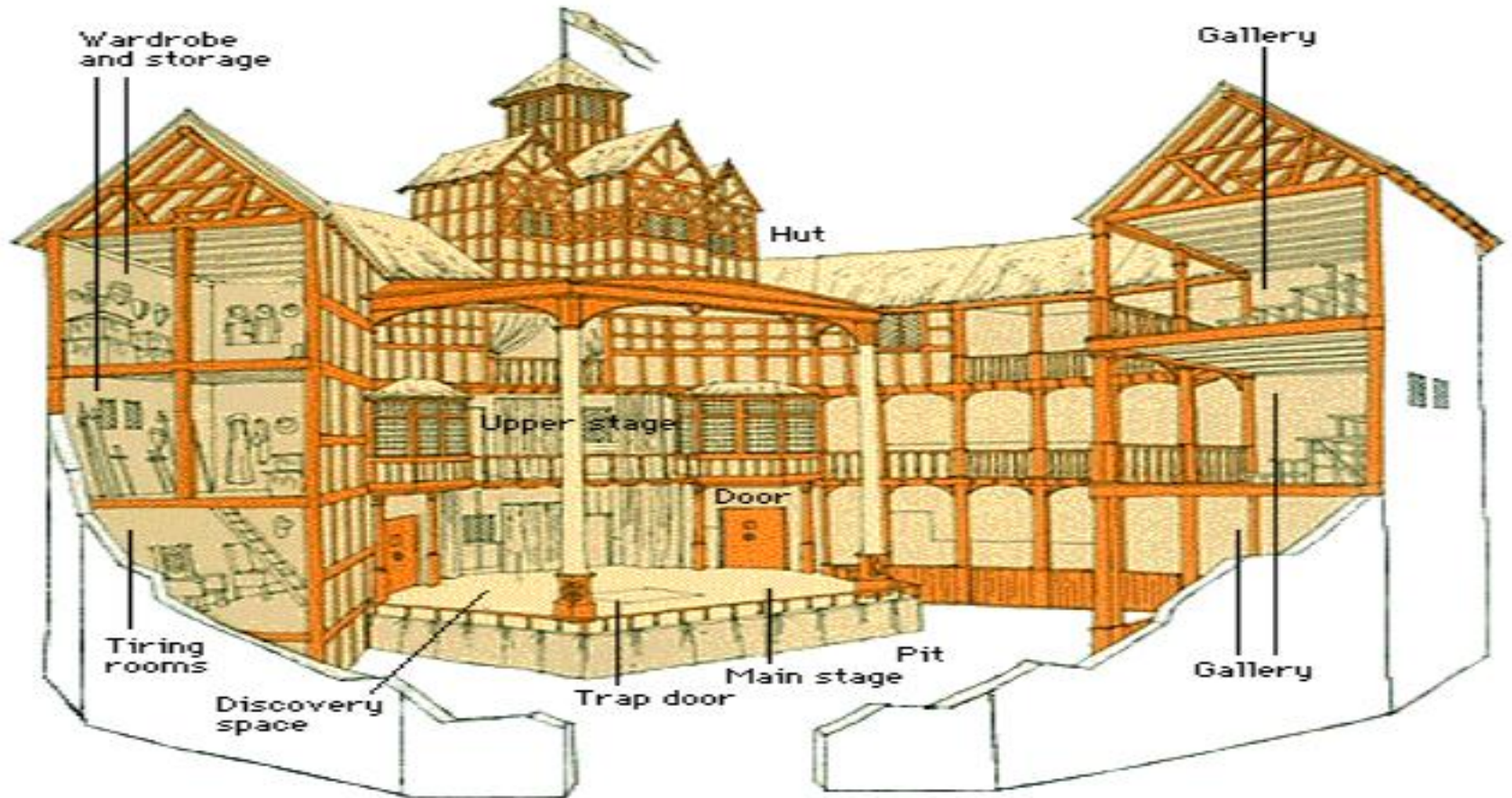
Shakespeare's Life



- Born on the 23rd of April, 1564, in Stratford-on-Avon, the 3rd one of 8 children, the son of a small farmer.
- Only 6 years of school education
- Married at the age of 18 (his wife Anne Hathaway 26), who bore him three children: Susanna, and twins Hamnet and Judith
- In 1586, he left Stratford and came to London. There he worked as an actor. His talents in writing dramas are fully developed.
- In 1612, he retired from the stage and returned to Stratford. Shakespeare died on the 23rd of April, 1616.

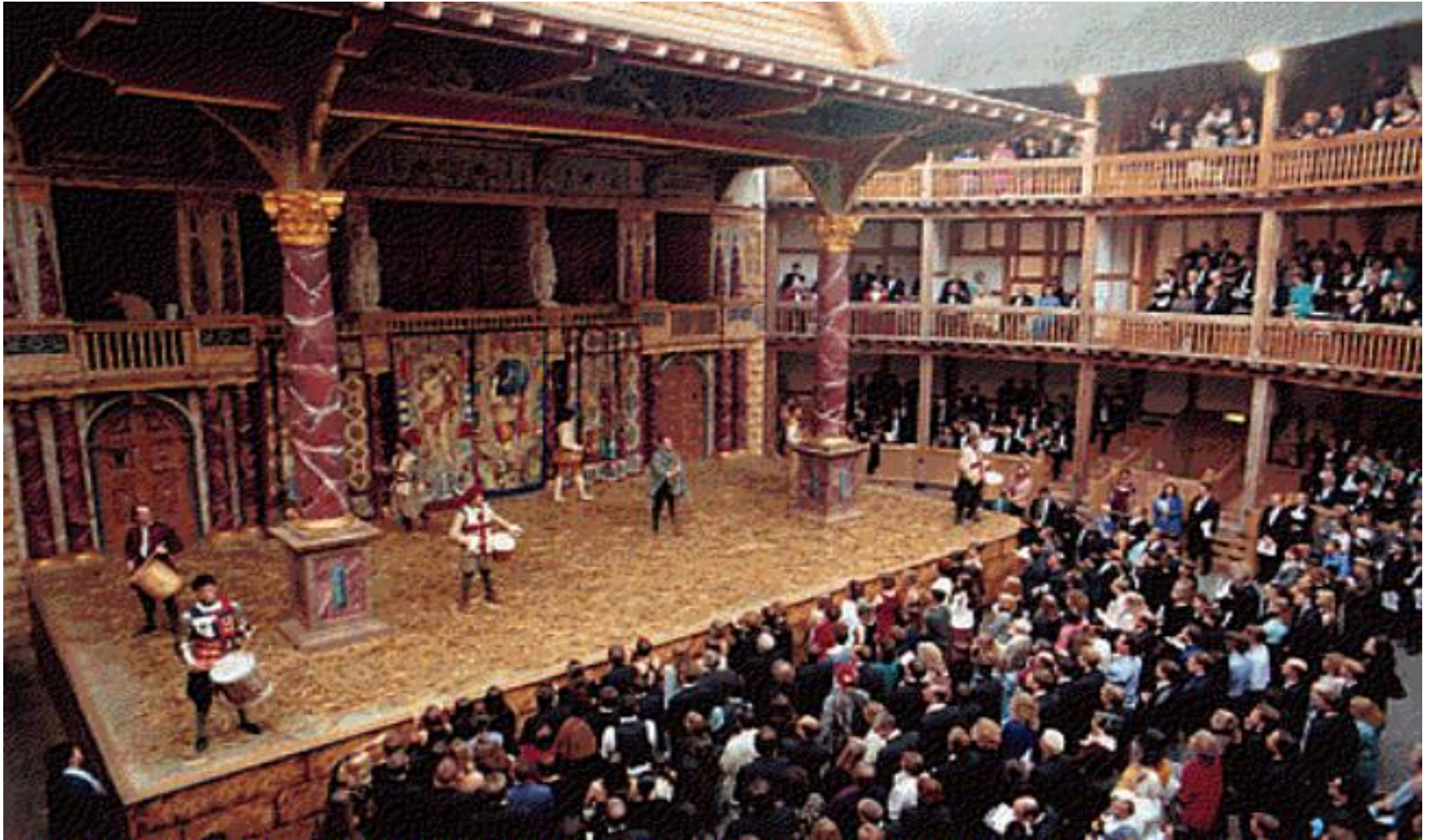


The Globe Theater 1599



Burned in 1613

The New Globe Theater 1999



Shakespeare's Burial Place (the Trinity Church)



The Image Bank/Chris Cole



Shakespeare's grave

*Good frend for Iesvs sake forbear,
To digg the dvst enclosed heare.
Bleste be ye man yt spares thes
stones,
And cvrst be he yt moves my bones.*

Grave

- Shakespeare was buried in the chancel of the Holy Trinity Church two days after his death. The epitaph carved into the stone slab covering his grave includes a curse against moving his bones, which was carefully avoided during restoration of the church in 2008.
- Shakespeare's grave.
- Modern spelling:
 - "Good friend, for Jesus' sake forbear,"
 - "To dig the dust enclosed here."
 - "Blessed be the man that spares these stones,"
 - "And cursed be he who moves my bones."

Shakespeare's Literary Position

- Shakespeare and the Authorized Version of the English Bible are the two greatest treasures of the English language.
 - Shakespeare has been universally acknowledged to be the summit of the English Renaissance, and one of the greatest writers in world literature.
-

His Influence

- Shakespeare's work has made a lasting impression on later theatre and literature. In particular, he expanded the dramatic potential of characterisation, plot, language, and genre.
- His work heavily influenced later poetry. The Romantic poets attempted to revive Shakespearean verse drama, though with little success.
- Shakespeare influenced novelists such as Thomas Hardy, William Faulkner, and Charles Dickens. The American novelist Herman Melville's soliloquies owe much to Shakespeare; his Captain Ahab in Moby-Dick is a classic tragic hero, inspired by *King Lear*.

-
- Scholars have identified 20,000 pieces of music linked to Shakespeare's works. These include two operas by Giuseppe Verdi, Otello and Falstaff, whose critical standing compares with that of the source plays.
 - Shakespeare has also inspired many painters, including the Romantics and the Pre-Raphaelites. The Swiss Romantic artist Henry Fuseli, a friend of William Blake, even translated *Macbeth* into German.
 - The psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud drew on Shakespearean psychology, in particular that of Hamlet, for his theories of human nature.
 - In Shakespeare's day, English grammar, spelling and pronunciation were less standardised than they are now, and his use of language helped shape modern.
-

Works of Shakespeare

- His surviving works consist of 37 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems, and several other poems.
- His works include histories, tragedies, comedies and poems.
- Historical plays and comedies were produced in his early period, while in his later period, the spirit of pessimism is permeated with his tragedies.

Comedies and Tragedies

- The Merchant of Venice
- The Twelfth Night
- A Mid-Summer Night's Dream
- As You Like it

- Hamlet
- Othello
- King Lear
- Macbeth



Hamlet



哈姆雷特

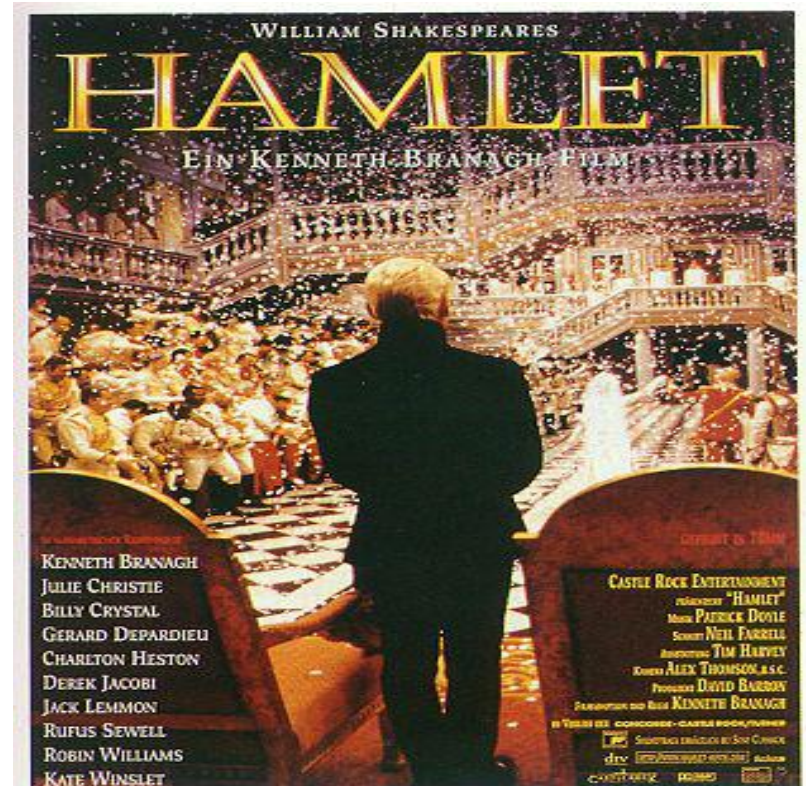
Hamlet

美国 1990

导演: 法朗克·扎弗瑞利

主演: 梅尔·吉布森

加伦·克鲁丝



哈姆雷特

Hamlet

美国 1996

导演: 肯尼思·布拉纳

主演: 肯尼思·布拉纳 朱莉·克里斯蒂

戴瑞克·雅各布 凯特·温斯莱特

Sonnet 18



- Questions:
- Is this poem musical? How is it rhymed?
- Who does "thee" refer to?
- To whom is this poem dedicated to?
- Why does this sonnet begin with a question sentence?
- What images can you find in sonnet 18? How do you evaluate the involved images?
- Are the humanist ideas revealed in this poem?
- What's the theme of this poem?

Appreciating Sonnet 18



Shall I compare thee to a **summer's day**?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling **buds of May**,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date:

Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance or nature's changing course
untrimm'd

But thy eternal summer shall not fade
Nor lose possession of that fair thou owest;
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his
shade,
When in eternal lines to time thou growest:
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
So long lives this and this gives life to thee.

能不能让我来把你比拟做夏日?
你可是更加温和, 更加可爱:
狂风会吹落五月里开的好花儿,
夏季的生命又未免结束得太快:

有时候苍天的巨眼照得太灼热,
他那金彩的脸色也会被遮暗;
每一样美呀, 总会离开美而凋落,
被时机或者自然的代谢所摧残;

但是你永久的夏天决不会凋枯,
你永远不会失去你美的仪态;
死神夸不着你在他的影子里踟蹰,
你将在不朽的诗中与时间同在

只要人类在呼吸, 眼睛看得见,
我这诗就活着, 使你的生命绵延。

The involved points to appreciate a poem

- Form (rhyme, meter and scheme)
- Structure
- Image
- Language, diction (to solve the meanings of the words and syntactic structure)
- Musical and sound effects
- Theme (subject matter) and tone

Sonnet (商籁体/十四行诗)

- Sonnet is an exact form of poetry in 14 lines, usually in iambic pentameter with considerable variations in rhyme scheme. The basic sonnet forms include the Italian sonnet or the Petrarchan sonnet (its rhyme scheme is more easily fulfilled in that language than in English. The first eight lines create an octave, with the rhyme scheme **a b b a a b b a**. The last six lines make up a sestet and may consist of following rhyme schemes: 1) **c d d c d d** 2) **c d e c d e** 3) **c d c d c d**).
- The Spenserian sonnet named after Edmund Spenser in which the rhyme scheme is, **abab, bcba, cdcd, ee**).
- **The English sonnet** (the Shakespearian sonnet), The English sonnet rhymes **abab cdcd efef gg**.
- The sonnet was born in Sicily in the first half of the thirteenth century. It was introduced into English language by Sir Thomas Wyatt and Henry Howard.

Introduction to Shakespeare's 154 Sonnets

- Shakespeare's sonnets comprise a collection of 154 poems in sonnet form that deal with such themes as love, beauty, politics, and mortality.
- The sonnets comprise four stanzas of three quatrains and a final couplet composed in iambic pentameter with the rhyme scheme abab cdcd efef gg.
- Most of the sonnets deal with a beautiful "Young Man" (the Fair Lord), a rival poet, and a Dark Lady whose identities have been the subject of much debate.

154 Sonnets

- ❑ 1-126 addressed to a young man, beloved of the poet, of superior beauty and rank but of somewhat questionable morals and constancy;
- ❑ 127-152 to a mysterious "Dark Lady", who is sensual, promiscuous, and irresistible;
- ❑ 153-154 translation or adaptations of some Greek epigram.

Answers to the questions

- It is written in **iambic pentameter** rhymed **abab, cdcd, efef, gg**. (3 quatrains, 1 couplet)
Shall I /compare/ thee to/ a summ/er's day?/
Thou art/ more love/ly and/ more tem/perate/
- In poetic structure, it can be divided into introduction, elucidation, transition, and conclusion. (起、承、转、合).
- Image: a summer's day, rough winds, buds, sun.
- Lease: duration; the eye of heaven: the sun; complexion: appearance;
- Fair (the first): beautiful appearance; fair (second): beauty

-
- Shakespeare deals with the traditional themes of **time, beauty** and **poetry** and expresses his feelings towards the addressee. The poem is a comparison between the man's eternal beauty with summer's temporal beauty, between the inconstancy of nature and the timelessness of poetry. Shakespeare poses the idea that **through poetry, beauty gains immortality**. This image of transience and eternity is used throughout the poem.
 - **Theme:** Lines endows beauty with immortality.
-

- 十四行诗第18首是莎士比亚的名篇之一。对于诗的对象“你”，到底是谁，还是情人，历来众说纷纭。据说，他的十四行诗是献给两个人的。前126首献给一个贵族青年，后面的十四行诗是献给一个黑肤女郎。也有人认为，他的十四行诗是专业的文学创作。当然，这些无关宗旨。诗歌本身是伟大的。诗的开头，诗人问：“你”比作英格兰的夏天，但立即自问：“你”的美好的原因；夏天时有大风（不够温和），夏天时阳光被乌云遮掩（不能常见），夏天时太短（不能延续），阳光时时被乌云遮掩（不能常见），等等。随后，诗人笔锋一转，认为“你”之所以胜过夏天，是因为你年轻，不朽，恰好来自“我”美丽的诗篇。因此，从一定意义上，诗中“你”可以是女性（爱情使美丽永存），也可以是男性（友情使美好长存），甚至可以是抽象意义上的“爱”或“美”，在诗人的诗章中得以永存。
- 他的诗总体上表现了一个思想：爱征服一切，他的诗充分肯定了人的价值，赞颂了一个人的尊严、一个人的理性的作用。诗人将抽象的概念转化成具体的形象，用可感可见的物质世界，形象生动地阐释了人文主义的命题。

Self-study of Sonnet 29



- Identify the poetic form
- What situations did the speaker fall in?
- Are the tones changed from the beginning to the end?
- What is this poem about? What is the focus of the poem?

莎士比亚经典台词赏析

Do not , for one repulse , give up the purpose that you resolved to effect .

不要只因一次失败，就放弃你原来决心想达到的目的。

Because of she is raw, beauty , reason why are run after by the man; Because of she is a woman , reason why be captured by the man

因为她生的美丽，所以被男人追求；因为她是女人，所以被男人俘获。

To be or not to be, that's the question.

是生还是死，那是值得考虑的问题。

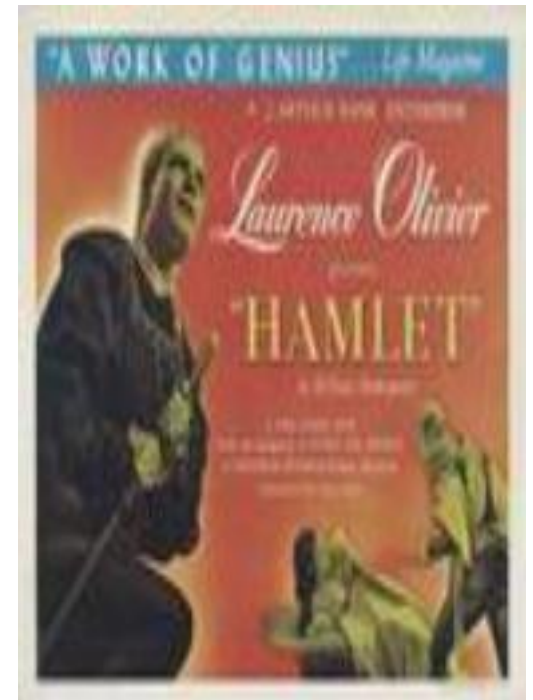
The time of life is short ; to spend that shortness basely, it would be too long .

人生苦短，若虚度年华，则短暂的人生就太长了。

-
- Better a witty fool than a foolish wit.
 - 宁为聪明的愚夫，不作愚蠢的才子
 - Love is a woman with the ears, and if the men will love, but love is to use your eyes.
 - 女人是用耳朵恋爱的，而男人如果会产生爱情的话，却是用眼睛来恋爱
 - Frailty, thy name is woman!
 - 脆弱啊，你的名字是女人
 - The whole world is a gigantic stage , all human society men and women is only actor without exception. Come on the stage exiting when every has the person.
 - 整个世界是一个巨大的舞台，所有红尘男女均只是演员罢了。上场下场各有其时。
-

Hamlet

- "Hamlet" is considered the summit of Shakespeare's art. The story comes from an old Danish legend.



Hamlet

- **Time:** Written during the first part of the 17th century (probably in 1600 or 1601), Hamlet was probably first performed in July 1602.
- **Place:** the story took place in Denmark
- **Resources:** Hamlet is the story of a Danish prince whose uncle murders the prince's father, marries his mother, and claims the throne. The prince pretends to be feeble-minded to throw his uncle off guard, then manages to kill his uncle in revenge. Shakespeare changed the emphasis of this story entirely, making his Hamlet a philosophically-minded prince who delays taking action because his knowledge of his uncle's crime is so uncertain.

Major Characters

- **Hamlet** - The Prince of Denmark, the title character, and the protagonist. About thirty years old at the start of the play, Hamlet is the son of Queen Gertrude and the late King Hamlet, and the nephew of the present king, Claudius.
- **Claudius** - The King of Denmark, Hamlet's uncle, and the play's antagonist. Murdered his brother, the King Hamlet and married his sister-in-law Gertrude
- **Gertrude** - The Queen of Denmark, Hamlet's mother, recently married to Claudius. Gertrude loves Hamlet deeply
- **Ophelia** - Polonius's daughter, a beautiful young woman with whom Hamlet has been in love.

The causes of Hamlet's revenge

- The Old King was murdered by Hamlet's uncle—Claudius;
- Claudius got the throne and married his sister-in-law, Hamlet's beloved mother;
- The Ghost appeared three times in Elsinore Castle at night
- On the fourth night, accompanied by his closest friend Horatio, Hamlet intended to find out the truth and revenge for his father.

Questions

- How do you understand "To be, or not to be, that is the question"?
- What kind of a person is Hamlet?
- Why Hamlet uses "we" and "us" instead of "I" or "me" in his soliloquy (monologue)?
- How do you understand "To die, To Sleep"?
- What is the theme and what is the tone?

To be or not to be, that is the question

- to live or to end one's life by self-destruction, that is a question to be discussed and answered. But this way of expression is quite witty and ambiguous, for Hamlet never says "I" or "me" in the entire speech. He is not trying to "express" himself at all; instead, he poses as a matter of philosophical debate. **It is a philosophical debate on the subject of whether life is worth living.** A reconsidering of the significance of living.



Question 2 & 3

- Hamlet: melancholy, meditative, philosophical but indecisive. A man of thought not of action.
- Because he is engaging in an open argument with the audience. This is not an introspective solitary soliloquy, but as was the nature of Shakespeare's theatre (roofless), the character stepping out of the action and discussing with the audience. Besides, the use of "we" or "us" is less subjective than "I", which is the general concern rather than a mere individual puzzle.

- To die only means to sleep, which can end the heartache mentally and shock physically. This is a completion of one's life to be strongly expected. It's attractive. What's more, Renaissance man accepted that the ancient Romans believed it was noble to commit suicide when they could no longer live with honor.
- But to sleep, perhaps to dream. We do not know what happens after death. It may be a peaceful sleep, but it may be a nightmare.

Theme and tone

- **Theme:**
- Meditation over the significance of life and death;
- The contradiction between the humanist ideals and reality.
- **Tone:** gloomy and meditative



- 生存还是毁灭，这是一个值得考虑的问题；
默然忍受命运的暴虐的毒箭，
或是挺身反抗人世的无涯的苦难，
通过斗争把它们扫清，这两种行为，哪一种更高贵？



死了；睡着了；什么都完了；
要是在这一种睡眠之中，我们心头的创痛，
以及其他无数血肉之躯所不能避免的打击，都可以从此消失，那
正是我们求之不得的结局。

死了；睡着了；睡着了也许还会做梦；
嗯，阻碍就在这儿：
因为当我们摆脱了这一具朽腐的皮囊以后，
在那死的睡眠里，究竟将要做些什么梦，那不能不使我们
踌躇顾虑。人们甘心久困于患难之中，也就是为了这个缘故；

谁愿意忍受人世的鞭挞和讥嘲、压迫者的凌辱、傲慢者的冷眼、被轻蔑的爱情的惨痛、法律的拖延、官吏的横暴和费尽辛勤所换来的小人的鄙视，要是他只要用一柄小小的刀子，就可以清算他自己的一生？

谁愿意负着这样的重担，在烦劳的生命的压迫下呻吟流汗，倘不是因为惧怕不可知的死后，惧怕那从来不曾有一个旅人回来过的神秘之国，是它迷惑我们的意志，使我们宁愿忍受目前的磨折，不敢为我们所不知道的痛苦飞去？

这样，重重的顾虑使我们全变成了懦夫，决心的赤热的光彩，被审慎的思维盖上了一层灰色，伟大的事业在这一种考虑之下，也会逆流而退，失去了行动的意义。

且慢！美丽的奥菲利娅！——女神，在你的祈祷之中，不要忘记替我忏悔我的罪孽



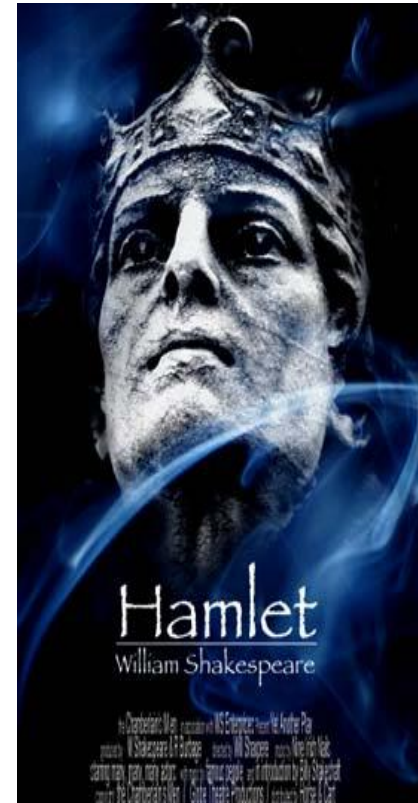
Hamlet as a Character of Humanist

- His praise of man and human nature is a manifestation against the supernatural power/divinity (scene ii, act 2);
- He is against the old religious doctrines: ghost; man was born evil and must suffer in the world;
- He is well aware of the evil of the time and enlists all kinds of social injustice and evils in the society.

"Time is out of joint".

"Denmark is a prison."

"Tis an unweeded garden/ That grows to seed;
things rank and gross in nature/ Possess it
merely."



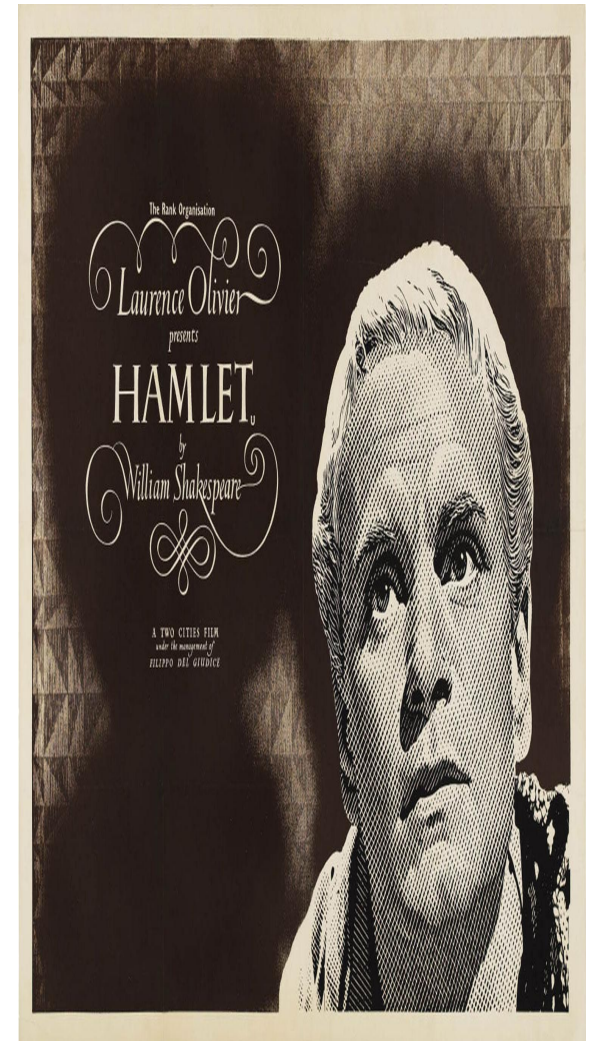
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- He feels it upon him to right the world: pretends madness, is sent on a deadly mission; kills by mistake Polonius, Lord Chamberlain, father of his sweetheart; Ophelia gets mad and drowns herself; her brother Laertes takes revenge, and finally they all die and Hamlet calmly faces his death, confident that a better man is resuming the throne;
 - **The weakness in his character:**
 - ❑ his love and hatred for the mother (Oedipus Complex)
 - ❑ melancholy: not brightened up even with love, lack passion
 - ❑ hesitation: a habit of too much thought, delayed action, idealism
-

The Melancholy of Hamlet

- The key-note of Hamlet's character is melancholy. But his melancholy is not the negative kind.
- Reasons :
- 1) His mental world has gone through the shock of a personal wrong to an awakening of his great responsibility in reforming the world as a whole. But to realize his ideal in his time was beyond him. This is the cause of Hamlet's profound melancholy.
- 2) He has the opportunity of killing the king, yet he refuses to do so. Because when the king is praying, if he kills him, he will send him to the heaven. More importantly, the villain has become the king, if he is killed abruptly, it will cause panic to the people and danger to the state.

Humanism in *Hamlet*

- What a piece of work is a man, how noble in reason, how infinite in faculties, in form and moving, how express and admirable, in action how like an angel, in apprehension how like a god! the beauty of the world, the paragon of animals!
- 人类是一件多么了不起的杰作！多么高贵的理性！多么伟大的力量！多么优美的仪表！多么文雅的举动！在行为上多么像个天使！在智慧上多么像个天神！宇宙的精华！万物的灵长！



Hamlet's Love toward Ophelia

- *Doubt thou the stars are fire.*
- *Doubt that the sun doth move.*
- *Doubt truth to be a liar.*
- *But never doubt I love*
- *O' my dear Ophelia, I am ill at all these numbers*

These words fully exhibit that people should fully enjoy earthly love in their life.



Hamlet & Mother (Queen Gertrude)

- Before the father died, Hamlet felt a deep love for the mother.
- Mother's hasty marriage has become a turning point of their relationship even though the mother still loved the son, which was scorned by Hamlet now.



- Heaven and earth!
Must I remember? Why, she would hang on him
As if increase of appetite had grown
By what it fed on: and yet, within a month,—
Let me not think on't,—**Frailty, thy name is woman!**—
A little month; or ere those shoes were old
With which she followed my poor father's body
Like Niobe, all tears;—why she, even she,—
O God! a beast that wants discourse of reason,
Would have mourn'd longer,—married with mine uncle,
My father's brother; but no more like my father
Than I to Hercules: **within a month**;
Ere yet the salt of most unrighteous tears
Had left the flushing in her galled eyes,
She married:— O, most wicked speed, to post
With such dexterity to incestuous sheets!
It is not, nor it cannot come to good;
But break my heart,—for I must hold my tongue.

Movie



哈姆雷特

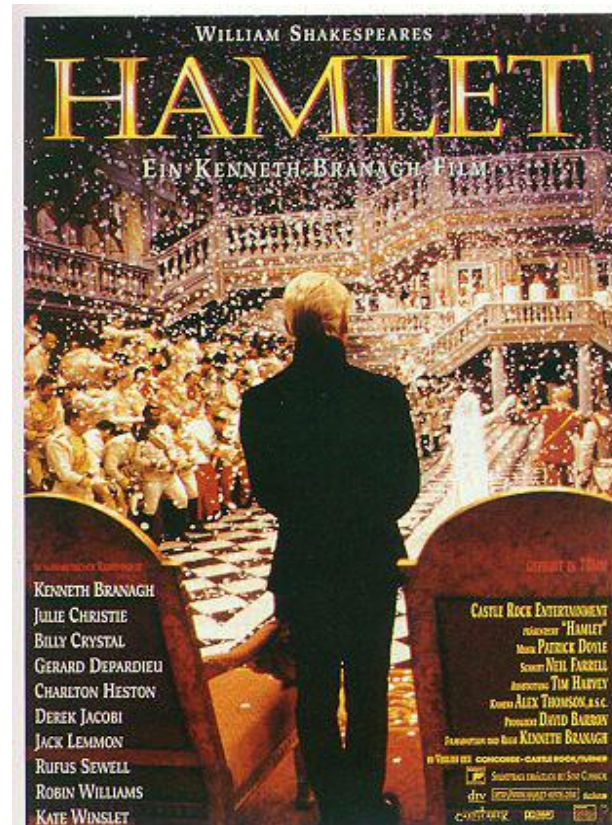
Hamlet

美国 1990

导演: 法兰克·扎弗瑞利

主演: 梅尔·吉布森

加伦·克鲁丝



哈姆雷特

Hamlet

美国 1996

导演: 肯尼思·布拉纳

主演: 肯尼思·布拉纳 朱莉·克里斯蒂

戴瑞克·雅各布 凯特·温斯莱特

Speculation about Shakespeare? ?

- Authorship (imitate, plagiarize??)
- Religion (Roman Catholic Church, Anglican Church)
- Sexuality (homosexual, narcissism)
- Over the centuries some readers have posited that Shakespeare's sonnets are autobiographical, and point to them as evidence of his love for a young man. Others read the same passages as the expression of intense friendship rather than sexual love. The 26 so-called "Dark Lady" sonnets, addressed to a married woman, are taken as evidence of heterosexual liaisons(异性交往) .

- Portraiture (No written contemporary description of Shakespeare 's physical appearance survives, and no evidence suggests that he ever commissioned a portrait, so the Droeshout engraving, which Ben Jonson approved of as a good likeness, [186] and his Stratford monument provide the best evidence of his appearance. From the 18th century, the desire for authentic Shakespeare portraits fuelled claims that various surviving pictures depicted Shakespeare. That demand also led to the production of several fake portraits, as well as mis-attributions, repaintings and relabelling of portraits of other people)
- Shakespeare:<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shakespeare>>2014-9-1

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

The Merchant of Venice

Main Characters



- Antonio (the Christian merchant)
- Shylock (Jewish usurer)
- Bassanio (Antonio's best friend)
- Portia (Bassanio's wife)

The Merchant of Venice: The Story

- ♣ Bassanio asks Antonio for a loan of 3000 ducats in order to court Portia, a rich heiress of Belmont.
- ♣ Antonio has no ready cash at that moment, so he turns to Shylock, the Jewish usurer for a loan.
- ♣ Shylock agrees to lend the money on condition that Antonio signs a bond agreeing to the forfeit of a pound of flesh if the money is not returned on the appointed day.

-
- ♣ Bassanio successfully wins Portia's love.
 - ♣ Bad news comes that Antonio's ships on which he invests all his money has been wrecked at sea.
 - ♣ Shylock insists on his pound of flesh from Antonio's body.
 - ♣ On the court, all the efforts to persuade Shylock to have mercy on Antonio are in vain. Antonio is in danger.
-

♣ A young lawyer comes and saves Antonio with her wisdom. He asks Shylock to fulfill the very letter of his bond—to cut down exactly one pound of flesh and shed no blood.

♣ Shylock is cornered and begs for forgiveness.

♣ Part of Shylock's property is confiscated. He is punished for his cruelty. The play ends in a moonlit scene. The young lawyer reveals her identity. She is no other than Portia in disguise.

Discussion

- Please analyze the characters of Shylock and Portia.



Analysis of Shylock



- ♣ He's greedy, miserly, fierce and malicious.
- ♣ He's adept at scheming and sets a trap artfully.
- ♣ He pockets insults and watches for a chance to take revenge.
- ♣ He is eloquent and unyielding.
- ♣ He defends his rights and interests and national dignity.
- ♣ He is discriminated by Christians.



核

心 价值观

SHE HUI ZHU YI HE XIN JIA ZHI GUAN



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Analysis of Portia

- She finds a legal flaw by her wisdom, attends the trial as a lawyer.
- She is kind, wise, friendly, beautiful with justice, calm, merciful, experienced, gracious and so on.



Recommendations

<http://www.willshakespeare.com> 提供莎士比亚作品全文，生平年表，引语及根据其剧作改编或模仿其作品的电影和电视产品等

<http://www.jetlink.net/~massij/shakes/> (Shakespeare Classroom)，专供高等院校教师和学生使用，提供莎士比亚剧作简介、简短评论、参考资料、以及阅读莎剧时经常提出的问题等

Homework

- Summarize the historical backgrounds of the 17th century and preview Francis Bacon's *Of Studies*:
- What studies serve for?
- According to Bacon, what are the good ways of reading books?
- How can studies exert influence over human character?
- What are the features of Bacon's essays?
- What can you benefit from Bacon's *of Studies*?
- What are your study habits? Do you think you should improve them?
- We are living in the age of "information explosion", what lessons can we learn from Bacon's *of Studies* in our access to information?