



# Performing Nostalgia: Shifting Shakespeare and the Contemporary Past

By Susan Bennett

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In this trenchant work, Susan Bennett examines the authority of the past in modern cultural experience and the parameters for the reproduction of the plays. She addresses these issues from both the viewpoints of literary theory and theatre studies, shifting Shakespeare out of straightforward performance studies in order to address questions about his plays and to consider them in the context of current theoretical debates on historiography, post-colonialism and canonicity.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

Her work accomplishes a theoretical and critical vindication of performance by boldly undermining the assumption that a dramatic presentation of a Shakespeare play must remain faithful to a source text.

– *Early Modern Literary Studies*

#### About the Author

Susan Bennett is Associate Professor of English at the University of Calgary. She is the author of *Theatre Audiences*, (Routledge, 1990).

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