

Shakespeare on Film: Annotated Bibliography

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Here is a list of Shakespeare films at Sawyer Library, Williams College, identified by director, year, length, format and call number.

There is a very thorough, reliable guide to Shakespeare on Screen through 1990 in the Sawyer Reference Room, non-circulating (PR 3093 R68). The editor is Kenneth Rothwell.

Another reliable guide is Jo McMurtry, Shakespeare Films in the Classroom: A Descriptive Guide (Archon Books, 1994) in Sawyer (PR 2987 M36 1994).

Note: The Williamstown Public Library has the complete BBC/PBS Shakespeare Series, on VHS.

All's Well That Ends Well (BBC/PBS, 1980, 191 min). Producer, Jonathan Miller; director, Elijah Moshinsky. VHS.

Antony and Cleopatra (BBC/PBS Shake, 1981, 180 min).

Antony and Cleopatra (Lawrence Carra, 1983; 183 min. Stars Timothy Dalton and Lynn Redgrave). VHS. PR2802.A2 C37 1983 v. 1-2

Antony and Cleopatra (Charlton Heston, 1972; 160 minutes.) "One of the most breathtaking love epics ever filmed!" so they say. VHS. PR2802.A2 C37 1985

Antony and Cleopatra (RSC production staged for TV by Trevor Nunn; Jon Scofield, dir.; 161 minutes) Stars Janet Suzman, Richard Johnson. VHS. PR2802.A2 S36 1993

As You Like It (Paul Czinner, 1936; 97 minutes.) Laurence Olivier is Orlando. VHS. PR2803.A2 C95 1984

As You Like It (Roland, 160 min). With Rosemary Dunsmore, Andrew Gillies, Roberta Maxwell, Nicholas Pennell. VHS. PR2803.A2 R65 1986

As You Like It (BBC/PBS,1978, 180 min.). Director, Basil Coleman. With Helen Mirren. VHS. PR2803.A2 B33 1987

The comedy of errors [videorecording] / a CBC Production in association with the Stratford Festival of Canada ; directed and adapted by Richard Monette. Films for the Humanities, c1996. PR2804.A2 C35 1996

Comedy of Errors (BBC/PBS,1983, 150 min). Stars Roger Daltrey (Who!). VHS

Coriolanus. Video, 42 minutes; b&w. 1951 TV adaptation. PR2805.A2 M56 1983.

Coriolanus (BBC/PBS,1984, 150 min). Alan Howard, Irene Worth. BETA. PR2805.A23 M67 2000.

Cymbeline (BBC/PBS,1982, 120 min). VHS.

Falstaff, or, Chimes at Midnight (Orson Welles, 1966; 115 minutes. The first hour is basically "Henry IV, part one." There are scenes from Henry IV, part 2," "Henry V," and "The Merry Wives of Windsor. This is a terrific film with a partial but strong conception of Falstaff and an abysmal sound track. Make sure you see the newer video with the better soundtrack. With Ralph Richardson, John Gielgud, Jeanne Moreau, Margaret Rutherford, Keith Baxter). VHS. PN1997 .C367 2002

* Hamlet (Laurence Olivier, 1948, 155 min.). The Academy Award winning film about "a man who could not make up his mind" about anything except his Mom, played by Clare Bloom. DVD PR2807 .O55 2000

Hamlet (NY Shakespeare Festival, 180 min). Kevin Kline.

Hamlet (Tony Richardson,1969; 120 min). Nicol Williamson stars, with Anthony Hopkins, Marianne Faithful, as tears go by. VHS. PR2807 A23 R53.

Hamlet (BBC/PBS, 210 min). Derek Jacobi stars. BETA and VHS. The whole enchilada; a bravura performance by Jacobi.

Hamlet, directed by Kenneth Branagh, 1996. Stars Kenneth Branagh, Julie Christie, Gerard Depardieu, Charlton Heston, Derek Jacobi, Jack Lemmon, Richard Briers, Kate Winslet. I love this version, but it does last 242 minutes. PR2807.A23 B73 1997.

Hamlet. Directed by Sir John Gielgud ; videocassettes (3 hrs., 10 min.). Staged in rehearsal room and modern dress conditions. PR2807.A2 B8 1995

Hamlet (130 minutes; 2 part video). Richard Burton's 1964 stage performance, with Hume Cronyn as Polonius and Alfred Drake as Claudius. This is a film of a stage performance, without much variation in camera angles and uneven audio, but it is a rousing show. Directed by Sir John Gielgud. Video. PR2807.A2 B8 1995.

Hamlet (Zeffirelli, 1990, 135 min.). Mel Gibson, Glenn Close, Paul Scofield, Ian Holm, Helena Bonham-Carter. VHS. (Also on laser disc). As usual with Zeffirelli, you lose lots of language and get a visual feast. PR2807.A2 Z44 1991

Hamlet [videorecording] : tragediia / Lenfilm ; directed by G. Kozintsev ; 1 videocassette (143 minutes) : sd., b&w ; A production of Shakespeare's Hamlet, with music by D. Shostakovich. VIDEO PR2786.H3 G3 1996

Hamlet [videorecording] / Miramax Films. 2001. videodisc (113 min.) : An adaptation of the play, using Shakespeare's language, but set in New York City in 2000. Stars Ethan Hawke, Kyle MacLachlan, Diane Venora, Liev Schreiber, Julia Stiles, Bill Murray. PR2807.A23 A46 2001

The Great Hamlets. Dan Seltzer and a young actor work on Hamlet, with clips from Geilgud, Barrymore, Burton, and Olivier renditions. Interesting, sometimes insightful. VHS. PR 2807 G66 1996 pt 1-2.

Discovering Hamlet (53 minutes). A very engaging documentary about the mounting of a Birmingham Rep production of the play, with comments by many of the actors. Derek Jacobi directs the young Kenneth Branagh, both of whom comment insightfully on the play and the craft of acting. VHS. PR3092 D57 1998

Henry IV, part 1 (Bogdanov and Pennington, 1990 ;172 min) Part of the English Theatre Company's Production, "The Wars of the Roses." VHS. PR2810.A2 E74 1990.

Henry IV, part 1 (David Giles, 1979; BBC/PBS, 153 min,). Stars Jon Finch, Anthony Quayle, and David Gwillim. A world-class performance by Quayle as Falstaff. VHS. PR2810 A2 E746 1989.

Henry IV, part 2. (David Giles,1979; BBC/PBS, 180 min).

Henry V (David Giles, 1979; BBC/PBS, 180 min). Stars David Gwillim.

Henry V (Olivier, 1944;136 min.) VHS. PN 1997 H457 1988. Once more into the breach! Laser disc: PN2812 A2 O45 1995

Henry V (Kenneth Branagh, 1991; 138 min) VHS. LD: Pr 2812 A2 B73, 1991. Almost everybody agrees that this is a magnificent piece of film-making.

Julius Caesar (Joseph Mankiewicz, 1953, 122 min). Stars Marlon Brando as Brutus in a strong performance; also James Mason, John Gielgud. VHS. PN 1997 J857 1989.

Julius Caesar (Stuart Burge, 1970, 116 min.) Stars Richard Chamberlain, Robert Vaughn, Diana Rigg, Jason Robards, John Gielgud. VHS. PN 1997 J856 1970. This production has its moments but it's leaden; Robards is particularly dull.

Julius Caesar CD recording. PR2808 A2 R5 1996.

King John (1984;BBC/PBS, 160 min). VHS.

King Lear (1982;BBC/PBS, 185 min).

King Lear (McCullough, Welles; 77 minutes) VHS PN1992.66. O46 1989.

King Lear (Olivier, 1984; 158 min). VHS. Laser. Olivier as Lear, of course; Colin Blakely as Kent, John Hurt as the Fool, Diana Rigg as Regan. Directed by Michael Elliott. PR 2819 A23 E 44 1990.

King Lear (Grigori Kozintsev, 1970; 150 minutes). A magnificent film in the epic tradition. VHS. PR2786. K53 L47.

King Lear. Directed by Richard Eyre, produced by BBC and WGBH/Boston. c1998. PR2819.A23 E974 1998.

King Lear (USA, 1953). TV, b/w. A CBS/Omnibus Production. Producer, Fred Rickey. Director, Andrew McCullough/Peter Brook. Designer, Georges Wakhevitch. King Lear, Orson Welles. Cordelia, Natasha Parry. Albany, Arnold Moss. Gobneril, Beatrice Straight. A video originally made for TV. PN 1992.66.046 1989. {This is *not* Peter Brook's 1970 film starring Paul Scofield, Irene Worth, Jack MacGowran. That film is available only on 35 mm.}

King Lear (Thames TV 1988; 121 minutes). Patrick Magee as Lear. PR 2819.A23 D38 1990 (Laser Disc)

King Lear (BBC Radio Production by the Renaissance Theatre Company, directed by Glyn Dearman). This is a CD recording, starring John Geilgud and featuring Kenneth Branagh and Emma Thompson. PR 2819 A23 D43 1994.

King Lear CD recording. John Geilgud. PR 2819 A23 D43.

King Lear, or "Fear and Loathing" (Jean-Luc Godard, 1987; 91 min.). With Peter Sellars as "William Shakespeare, Junior, the Fifth." PR2819 A23 G63 1992.

Love's Labour Lost (1985;BBC/PBS, 120 min).

Macbeth (1983;BBC/PBS). VHS. PR2823 A2 R69 1988.

Macbeth (Welles, 1948, 150 min). VHS. PR2823 A2 W45.

Macbeth (George Schaefer, 1954; 103 min). NBC Production, starring Maurice Evans, Dame Judith Anderson. PR2823 A2 E83 1987

Macbeth (Welles, 1948, 89 min). VHS. PN 1997 M132 1984.

Macbeth (Polanski, 1971; 139 min). Stars Jon Finch, Francesca Annis. VHS. PN 1997 M131 1986. Even in voice-overs, the language is obscured. Some of the scenes are wonderfully realized, others overly literal or graphic; don't let your kid watch the murder of Duncan.

Macbeth (Trevor Nunn, 1979, 150 min). Stars Ian McKellen, Judi Dench. VHS. PR2823 A2 R69 1988. The Thames Television Production. A brilliant production, perhaps the best TV Shakespeare ever. Its ritual quality vividly contrasts the realism of Polanski's version.

Macbeth CD recording. PR2823 A2 Q3 1996.

Measure for Measure (1979;BBC/PBS, 145 min).

Merchant of Venice (1980; BBC/PBS, 157 min).

The Merchant of Venice (John Sichel, 131 min). VHS. Jonathan Miller's production, starring Laurence Olivier, Joan Plowright, Jeremy Brett. PR2825 A2 M55 1993.

Merry Wives of Windsor (1982;BBC/PBS, 180 min). VHS.

A Midsummer Night's Dream (1981;BBC/PBS, 118 min).

A Midsummer Night's Dream (Max Reinhardt,1935; 117 min.). An odd but effective potpourri, with Mickey Rooney as a feral Puck, James Cagney a gritty Bottom, Joe E. Brown as Flute, Dick Powell a howl as Lysander, Olivia de Havilland as Hermia. Mixes the romantic/operatic with strong elements of the "dark dream." Anita Louise as Titania doesn't speak English but is gorgeous enough to upset the balance of nature. VHS. PN1997 M547 1984. Also LD: PR2827 A2 R45 1992.

A Midsummer Night's Dream (Peter Hall, 1968). Diana Rigg, Helen Mirren, David Warner Judi Dench. VHS. PR2827 A2 H35 1993. The "Mod" summer night's TV version, with tricky effects and some fine performances. Students, for reasons I don't yet understand, sometimes dislike this production vehemently.

A Midsummer Night's Dream (Joan Kemp-Welch, 1984; 111 min.). Benny Hill. PR2827 A2 R95 1984.

A Midsummer Night's Dream (165 min) The NY Shakespeare Festival production, with William Hurt as Oberon. VHS. PR2827 A2 P361 1988.

Much Ado About Nothing (Branagh, 1991 110 min). Emma Thompson, Branagh, Keanu Reeves. One of the best Shakespeare films ever. VHS. PR2828 A2 B73 1993. Also LD at Sawyer.

Much Ado About Nothing (Stuart Burge 1984; BBC/PBS, 148 min.) VHS. PR2828 A2 B87 1992.

Othello (1981; BBC/PBS, 208 min). Stars Anthony Hopkins

Othello (Burge, 1965). Olivier, Maggie Smith, Frank Finlay, Derek Jacobi. A controversial, Leavisite or Iago-esque interpretation, and an over-the-top performance by Olivier.

Othello, The Tragedy of: Moor of Venice (Franklin Melton, 1981; 195 min). Stars William Marshall, Ron Moody, Jenny Agutter. PR2829 A23 M45 1981

Othello (Welles, 1951, 93 min) VHS. PR 2829 A2 W45 1993. Also LD. A gorgeous, flawed, but brilliant film.

Othello (Janet Suzman, dir. 187 minutes) VHS. PR 2829 A2 S84 1988.

Othello (Silent Film, dir. Dimitri Buchowetzki; 98 min). Stars Emil Jannings. PR 2829 A2 B83 1985.

Pericles (1984; BBC/PBS, 177 min). VHS

Playing Shakespeare. The Royal Shakespeare Company's multi-volume series on aspects of Shakespearean theatre ("Speaking Shakespearean Verse," etc). VHS. PR 3072 S64 1979, et al.

Ran (Kurosawa, 160 min). VHS. PN1997 R26 1986.

Richard II (David Giles, BBC/PBS, 157 min). Stars Derek Jacobi, John Gielgud, Jon Finch, Wendy Hiller.

Richard II (Woodman, 170 min). Sawyer Reserve. PR2820 A2 I73, 1982.

The Tragedy of King Richard the Second William Woodman, 1982, 172 min). With David Birney and Paul Shenar. VHS. PR2820.A2I73 1982.

Richard III (1983;BBC/PBS, 228 min).

Richard III (Olivier, 1955, 138 min). With Cedric Hardwicke, Ralph Richardson, John Gielgud, Claire Bloom. VHS. PN 1997 R523 1985

Romeo and Juliet (George Cukor, 1936). Leslie Howard, Norma Shearer, John Barrymore. VHS. PR2831 A23 C85 1993.

Romeo and Juliet (Zeffirelli,1968; 138 min). Leonard Whiting, Olivia Hussey. VHS. PR2831.A23 Z44 1982; LD: PR2831 A23 Z44 1982. Merrily discards 2/3 of the text and cast teen-age actors; a huge popular success and a fine teaching and learning opportunity.

Romeo and Juliet (1980; BBC/PBS, 167 min). John Geilgud, Rebecca Saine, Patrick Ryecart. 3/4", VHS,

Romeo and Juliet. William Woodman, director. Bard Productions. Sawyer. Reserve: PR 2831 A23 W66 1992.

Romeo and Juliet CD recording. PR2831 A23 B73 1993.

The Taming of the Shrew (1980;BBC/PBS, 127 min).

The Taming of the Shrew (Zeffirelli, 1967; 122 min). Richard Burton, Elizabeth Taylor, Cyril Cusak, Michael Hordern. PN 1997 T254 1985.

The Taming of the Shrew. VHS. PR2832 A2 D49 1996

The Tempest (1980;BBC/PBS, 124 min).

The Tempest (Schaefer, 150 min).

The Tempest (William Woodman, 1984, 127 min). .Stars Efrem Zimbalist, Jr. VHS. PR2833.A2 W66 1983 v. 1-2

The Tempest (76 min), produced and directed by George Schaefer. Stars Richard Burton, Maurice Evans, Tom Poston, and Lee Remick. PR2833.A23 F55 1983

The Tempest CD recording. Michael Redgrave. PR2833 A2 R43 1996.

Throne of Blood (Akira Kurosawa,1957; 105 min). VHS. PN 1997 K856 1985. Kurosawa is a genius; this is one of his masterpieces.

Timon of Athens (1981; BBC/PBS, 128 min).

Troilus and Cressida (1981;BBC/PBS, 120 min).

Twelfth Night (directed by Tevor Nunn, 165 min). Helena Bonham-Carter as Viola. VHS. PR2837 A2 R47 1991. Not as good as you hope, but quite charming.

Twelfth Night (1980; BBC/PBS, 124 min).

Twelfth Night (Barton, 60 minutes). VHS. PR2995 P52 Pt.9.

Two Gentlemen of Verona (1983; BBC/PBS, 137 min).

The Winter's Tale (1981; BBC/PBS, 173 min.). VHS.

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