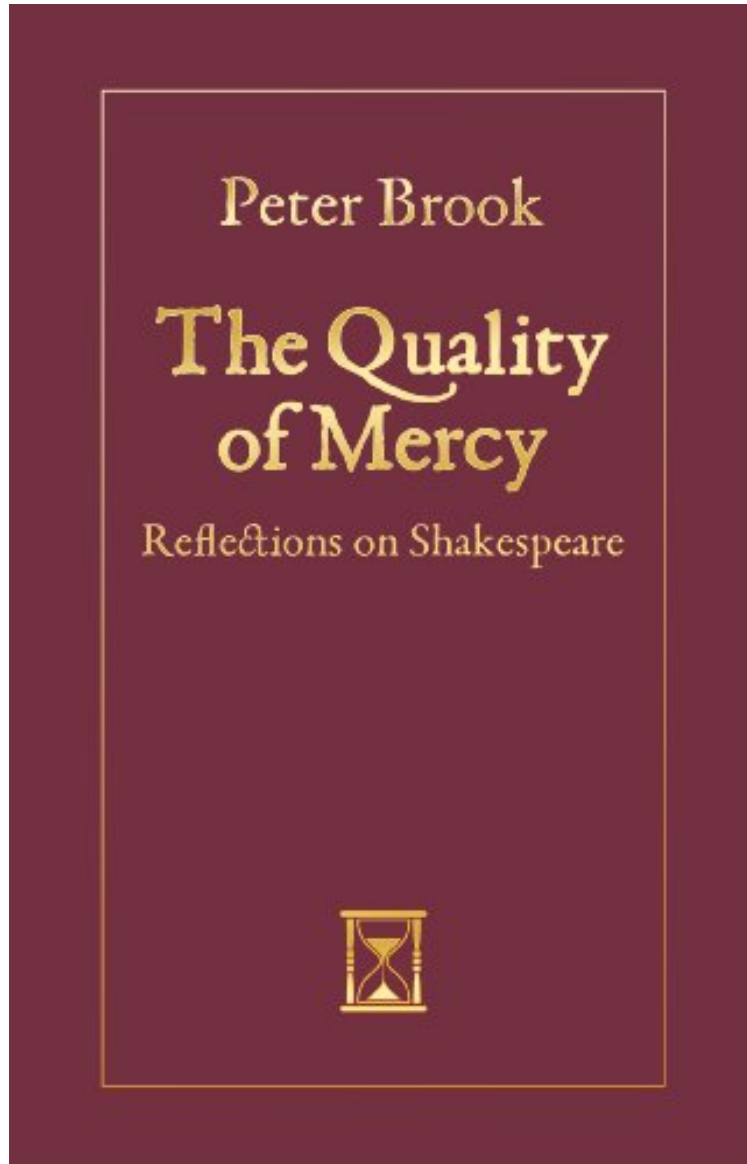


The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare

Peter Brook

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Peter Brook : The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Quality of Mercy: Reflections on Shakespeare:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Essays, insights, and a little gossipBy eclecticistThis is a delicious little collection of essays, insights, and reminiscences by a leading Shakespearean director. You may not agree with everything he says, but you will enjoy his thinking as well as his writing about Shakespeare's plays and their production. Read it and then pass it on. It's too good to sit on your shelf.5 of 6 people found the following review

helpful. The Magic of Peter Brook By Janette Miller As an actor of the 1970's and a director of opera in the 1980's I awaited the book with great anticipation. Brook has been perhaps the greatest influence on my work. I never met him, worked for him or even went to a live performance. I could never get in but I knew and read all about his method and talked with actors who had the luck to be in his productions. The book is a gem. Full of insights. Brook comes across as being totally human and approachable which to me he did not seem in real life. The only criticism, I am being ironic, is that it is too short. I wanted more. Brook's work is still relevant today. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A lesson in understanding the theatre By ronaldkihn Could only have been written by someone who understands theatre. Superb insight by a master director. He improved my insight into many plays I had seen.

In *The Quality of Mercy*, one of the world's most revered theatre directors reflects on a fascinating variety of Shakespearean topics. In this sequence of essays - all but one published here for the first time - Peter Brook debates such questions as who was the man who wrote Shakespeare's plays, why Shakespeare is never out of date, and how actors should approach Shakespeare's verse. He also revisits some of the plays which he has directed with notable brilliance, such as *King Lear*, *Titus Andronicus* and, of course, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Taken as a whole, this short but immensely wise book offers an illuminating and provocative insight into a great director's relationship with our greatest playwright. 'This book is an invaluable gift from the greatest Shakespeare director of our time... Brook's genius, modesty and brilliance shine through on every page.' James Shapiro, author of *1599: A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare* 'Exquisite... enthralling... This short, modest and brilliant book does more than many more grandiose tomes to renew the reader's fascination with the plays, and the theatre-goer's wonder at the extraordinary and diverse situations locked up inside the First Folio. It should be required reading at all universities and drama clubs' *Guardian* 'This volume positively seethes and sparkles with ideas... provides not only acute insights into the texts, but intriguing details of performance history, and a few morsels of grand theatrical gossip' - *Scotsman* 'Should be required reading for any aspiring young directors and actors but also all serious theatregoers... the writing is a model of clarity, the ideas challenging but sensible... it should be on every reader's bookshelf' - *British Theatre Guide*

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