



The Authorship Controversy: Who Wrote Shakespeare's Plays?

Presented by Jinny Webber, Ph.D.

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

9:30-12:30

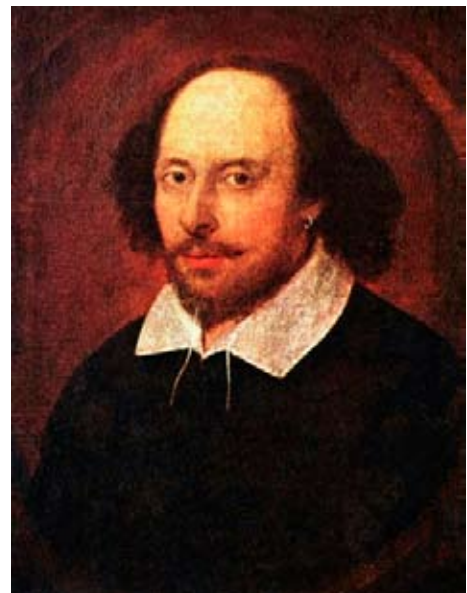
Maravilla Theater

5486 Calle Real, Goleta

Why does anyone question whether William Shakespeare wrote the plays attributed to him?

This class offers an opportunity to debate the issue, with a view towards its history. When was Shakespeare's authorship first questioned? Who are the alternative candidates who have been proposed over the years and why? The current favorite, as depicted in the recent movie *Anonymous*, is Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford (12 April 1550 – 24 June 1604.) As we see from his introduction to that film, the eminent actor Derek Jacobi agrees. Others who have questioned Shakespeare's authorship include Mark Rylance, the previous artistic director of the Globe theatre in London, Sigmund Freud, and Mark Twain.

Any discussion of the authorship of Shakespeare's plays leads to other aspects of Elizabethan theatre history and practice. Why were theatres located in the suburbs; why did boys play female parts; what was Queen Elizabeth's role in connection with the public theatre; what kind of censorship was in place, how were playwrights regarded; what was the effect of the plague on theatres and players, and similar questions will be woven into our discussion.



The Chandos Portrait

Cont.

ENROLLMENT FORM: **Shakespeare Debate**

VISTAS Members \$15, Non-members \$22.50

Amount Enclosed \$_____

Name(s): _____

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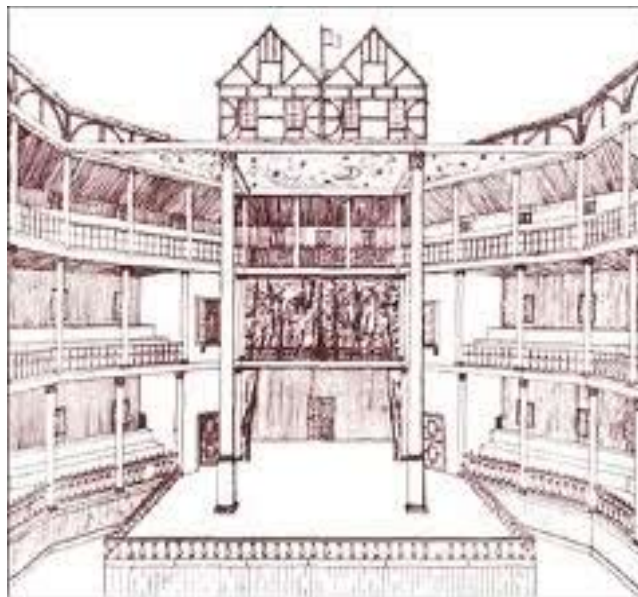
Email: _____

Mail check to: VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc. P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara, CA 93121-3228

Please enroll by January 8, 2013
Carpool if you can--parking is limited

BIOGRAPHY

The instructor, Jinny Webber, PhD, Professor Emerata in English from Santa Barbara City College, is the author of a recently published novel, *The Secret Player*, set in Shakespeare’s England. She taught English at SBCC for 32 years and earned her Ph.D. from UCSB in Religious Studies, focusing on mythology and religion and literature. Besides teaching literature courses in the OLLI program, Cal State Channel Islands, she leads a weekly creative journaling group, the Mesa Writers.



VISTAS Winter 2013 Calendar

Seminar/Event	Inclusive Dates	Time	Venue
Documentary Club	Thurs, Dec 20	2:00pm	Maravilla Theater
Theater in the Making (5)	Tues, Jan 8	6:30pm	UCSB
World’s Great Religions (5)	Mon, Jan 14 thru Feb 13	9:30am-12:30pm	Maravilla Clubhouse
The Shakespeare Debate	Tues, Jan 22	9:30-12:30pm	Maravilla Theater
Winter Social	Sun, Jan 27	2:00pm	Music Acad of West
Imperial Presidency (4)	Mon, Jan 28 thru Feb 18	9:30am-12:30pm	Maravilla Clubhouse
Health Care Ethics-From Paternalism to Autonomy	Tues, Feb 5	1:30-4:30pm	Maravilla Theater
Short Stories (3)	Wed, Feb 20 thru Mar 6	1:30-4:30pm	TBA
The Lady in Gold (5)	Fri, Mar 1 thru 29	9:30-12:30pm	TBA
Citizens of London (3)	Mon, Mar 11, 18 & 25	1:30-4:30pm	Goleta Library



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Thank you.*