

Shakespeare's Late Style

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A study of the poetry spoken in Shakespeare's late plays, including *The Winter's Tale*. When Shakespeare gave up tragedy around 1607 and turned to the new form we call romance or tragicomedy, he created a distinctive poetic idiom that often bewildered audiences and readers. The plays of this period, *Pericles*, *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Tempest*, as well as Shakespeare's part in the collaborations with John Fletcher (*Henry VIII* and *The Two Noble Kinsmen*), exhibit a challenging verse style - verbally condensed, metrically and syntactically sophisticated, both conversational and highly wrought. In *Shakespeare's Late Style*, McDonald anatomizes the components of this late style, illustrating in a series of topically organized chapters the contribution of such features as ellipsis, grammatical suspension, and various forms of repetition. Resisting the sentimentality that frequently attends discussion of an artist's 'late' period, *Shakespeare's Late Style* shows how the poetry of the last plays reveals their creator's ambivalent attitude towards art, language, men and women, the theatre, and his own professional career. EAN/ISBN : 9780511242861 Publisher(s): Cambridge University Press Format: ePub/PDF Author(s): McDonald, Russ

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