



The True Face of William Shakespeare : The Poet's Death Mask and Likenesses from Three Periods of His Life.

By Hammerschmidt-Hummel, H. ; Bance, A.

Chaucer Press, London, first edition, 2006, 2006. Book Condition: New. Cloth, 4to, 30 cm, 208 pp, colour plates, ills. From the preface: "In 2006, 'The Year of the Bard', the National Portrait Gallery in London mounted an extensive exhibition dedicated to the great British national poet and playwright. A large number of images were displayed, many of them claiming to depict William Shakespeare authentically, including the Gallery's Chandos Portrait. The preparations for this major event included subjecting a number of Shakespeare portraits to laboratory investigation, and the BBC broadcast the results in a series of TV documentary programmes. The build-up to this exhibition coincided with the completion of my long-term research project on authentic images of Shakespeare, and especially with my investigations into the Davenant bust, owned by the Garrick Club in London. In the course of my wide-ranging research I have unearthed entirely new textual and visual sources, and have made existing source material newly accessible. On this basis, and in collaboration with experts from a variety of disciplines, I have put forward startling new findings with regard to Shakespeare's life and death, and placed them in the appropriate framework of their cultural history. We can now be certain that...



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