

Contents

<i>General Editor's Preface</i>	x
<i>Introduction</i>	xi
PART 1 ANALYSING SHAKESPEARE'S SONNETS	
1 Love, or What You Will	3
<i>Sonnet 4</i> 'Unthrifty loveliness, why dost thou spend'	4
<i>Sonnet 129</i> 'Th'expense of spirit in a waste of shame'	12
<i>Sonnet 20</i> 'A woman's face with Nature's own hand painted'	18
Conclusions	28
Further Research	30
2 Time: to Posterity and Beyond	31
<i>Sonnet 5</i> 'Those hours that with gentle work did frame'	34
<i>Sonnet 12</i> 'When I do count the clock that tells the time'	42
<i>Sonnet 60</i> 'Like as the waves make towards the pebbled shore'	52
<i>Sonnet 116</i> 'Let me not to the marriage of true minds'	61
Conclusions	69
Further Research	71
3 Art: Clever, Very	72
<i>Sonnet 23</i> 'As an unperfect actor on the stage'	73
<i>Sonnet 55</i> 'Not marble nor the gilded monuments'	83
<i>Sonnet 100</i> 'Where art thou Muse that thou forget'st so long'	92

<i>Sonnet</i> 106	'When in the chronicle of wasted time'	100
Conclusions		108
Further Research		110
4	The Rival Poet(s): a Lesson in Tightropes?	111
<i>Sonnet</i> 78	'So oft have I invoked thee for my muse'	113
<i>Sonnet</i> 79	'Whilst I alone did call upon thy aid'	122
<i>Sonnet</i> 82	'I grant thou wert not married to my Muse'	129
<i>Sonnet</i> 86	'Was it the proud full sail of his great verse'	137
Conclusions		145
Further Research		147
5	Fair's Fair: the Dark Mistresses	148
<i>Sonnet</i> 127	'In the old age black was not counted fair'	149
<i>Sonnet</i> 130	'My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun'	159
<i>Sonnet</i> 144	'Two loves I have of comfort and despair'	166
<i>Sonnet</i> 152	'In loving thee thou knowst I am forsworn'	175
Conclusions		183
Further Research		184
PART 2 THE CONTEXT AND THE CRITICS		
6	Shakespeare and the Elizabethan Sonnet	189
	Shakespeare the poet	189
	The sonnet form	191
	English sonneteers	193
	The sonnet sequence	196
	The end of the century and the end of the sonnet (for now)	199
	The Court and courtly love	200
7	Humanism, Rhetoric and Poetry	205
	Realism and rhetoric	206
	Renaissance humanism and literature	209
	The craft of poetry	213

8	Some Critical Responses to the <i>Sonnets</i>	221
	G. Wilson Knight	225
	Stephen Booth	230
	A. D. Cousins	236
	Peter Hyland	241
	<i>A Glossary of Some Rhetorical and Literary Terms</i>	245
	<i>Further Reading</i>	248
	<i>Index</i>	251