Contents

Preface ix

Acknowledgements xi

Introduction
The return of the author 1

Chapter One

A mingled yarn: Shakespeare and the cloth workers 23

Chapter Two
Is this a holiday?:
Shakespeare's Roman carnival 47

Chapter Three
Like the old Robin Hood:
As You Like It and the enclosure riots 66

Chapter Four
Against the grain:
Representing the market in Coriolanus 88

Representing the market in *Coriolanus* 88

Chapter Five

The quality of mercy:
Discipline and punishment in Shakespearean comedy 126

Chapter Six

Observations on English bodies: Licensing maternity in Shakespeare's late plays 169

Chapter Seven
A constant will to publish:
Shakespeare's dead hand 197

Notes 255

Index 281