## Contents

Acknowledgements		vi
No	Note on texts and references	
Bi	Bibliographical note	
Preface to the Second Edition		x
Introduction: Myriad-minded Shakespeare and the modern reader		1
1	In search of William Shakespeare: the public and the private man	4
2	Politics, rhetoric and will-power in Julius Caesar	21
3	The politics in <i>Hamlet</i> and 'the world of the play'	43
4	Trends in the discussion of Shakespeare's characters: <i>Othello</i>	60
5	The uniqueness of <i>King Lear</i> : genre and production problems	73
6	Past, present and future in <i>Macbeth</i> and <i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>	93
7	Shakespeare suppressed: the unfortunate history of <i>Troilus and Cressida</i>	112
8	All's Well That Ends Well: a 'feminist' play?	130
9	Shakespeare's mingled yarn and Measure for Measure	147
	On not trusting Shakespeare's stage-directions	169
11	Shakespeare at work: preparing, writing, rewriting	188
12	Shakespeare on his deathbed: the last will and testament	222
No	Notes	
Index		247

,