

The Renaissance Theatre & William Shakespeare

Eng IV
MacBeth & Hamlet

Eng II
Julius Caesar

Mrs. Shirey

William Shakespeare

Biographical Information:

- Baptism April 26, 1564 -- no known birth-date
- Born in Stratford-upon-Avon
- Merchant father; rich mother - sent to grammar school
- @ 18 - married 26-year-old Anne Hathaway; 3 children
- Wrote 154 sonnets, 36 plays, and more than 150 poems
- Thought to have had many occupations from vast array of trades in his plays
- Died on April 23, 1616
- Buried in the Holy Trinity Church Cemetery
- Prosperous years: 1596-1601
- Tragic Period: 1600-1607 - ironic?!
- 1610 - retired to Stratford; still wrote
- Traits - not sure - can't tell from plays
- "A Complete Man of Theatre"

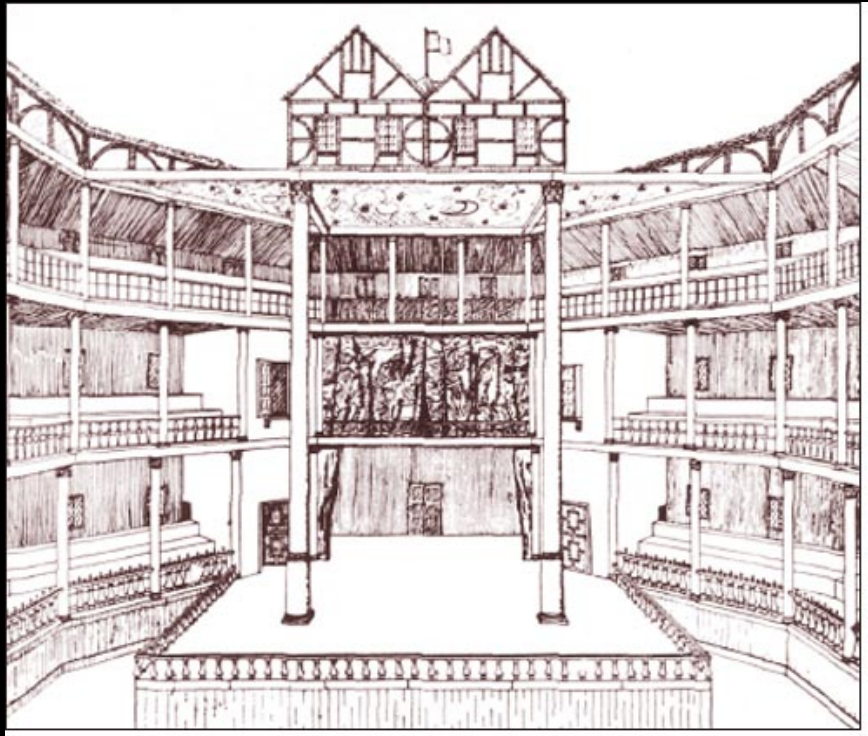


Elizabethan Stage

Called the proscenium

Audience is part of the action

All you need is "a platform and a passion or two"



Globe Theatre

2000-3000 Spectators

Shakespeare's Theatre

1 cent entrance fee

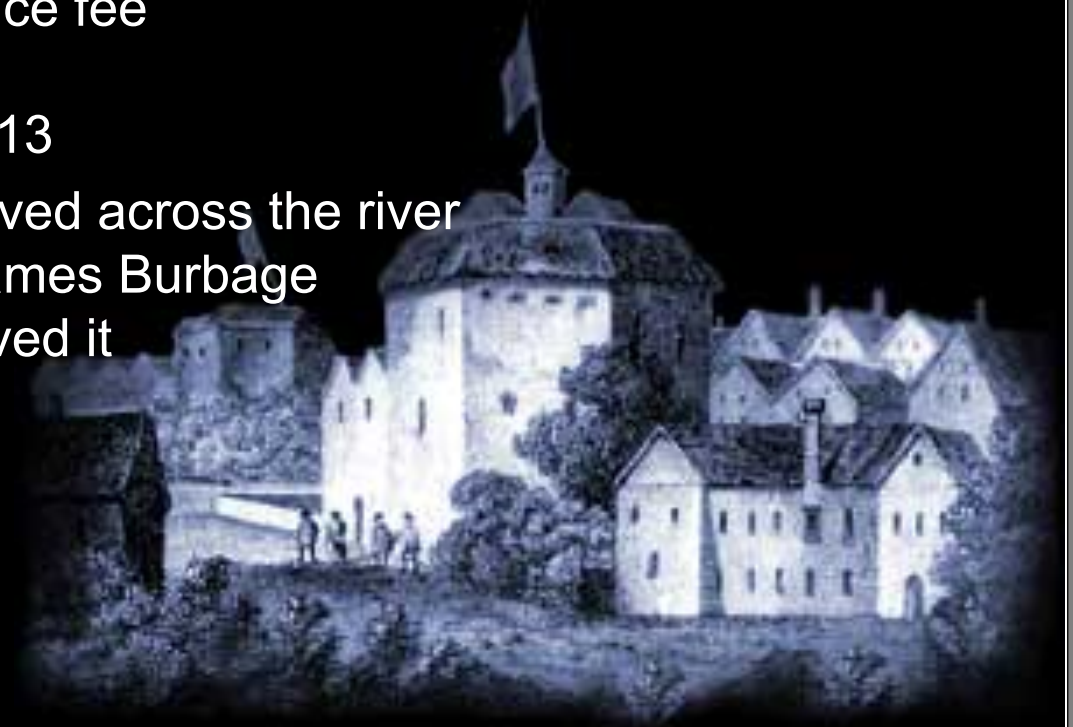
Built in 1599

Burned in 1613

Rebuilt & moved across the river

Owned by James Burbage

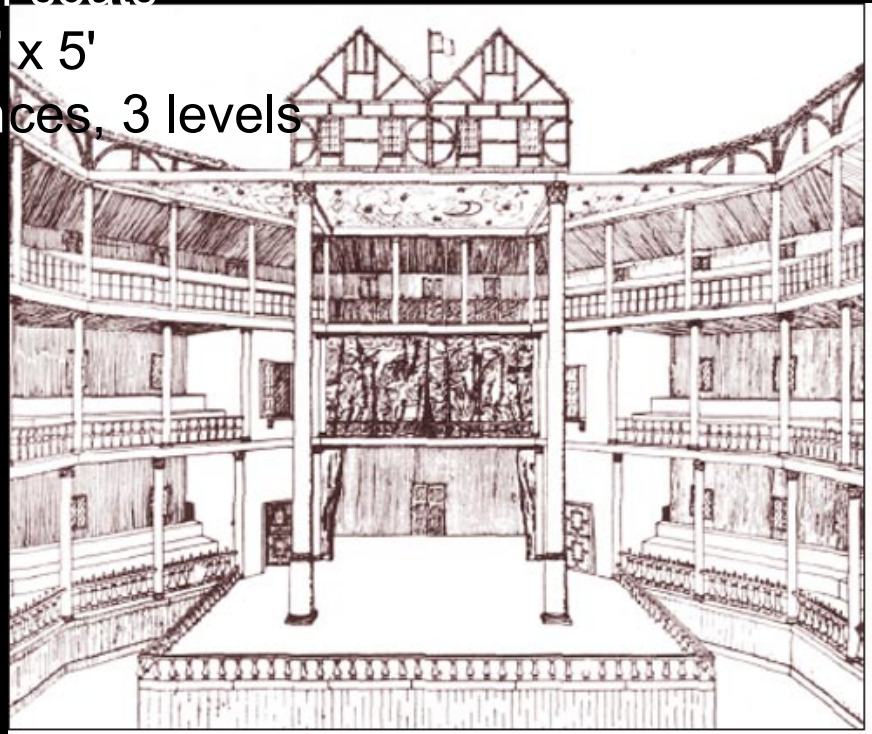
Cuthbert moved it



Elizabethan Stage

Make-up:

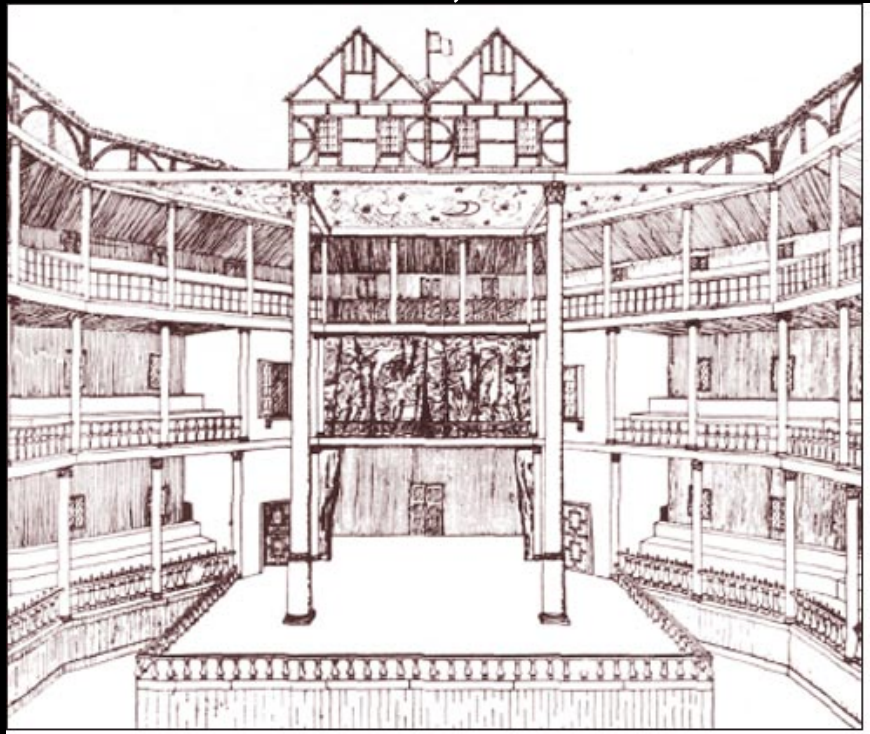
1. open space
2. 30 -foot Circular Building
3. 3 tiers of seats
4. 40' x 30' x 5'
5. 2 entrances, 3 levels



Elizabethan Stage

Sets:

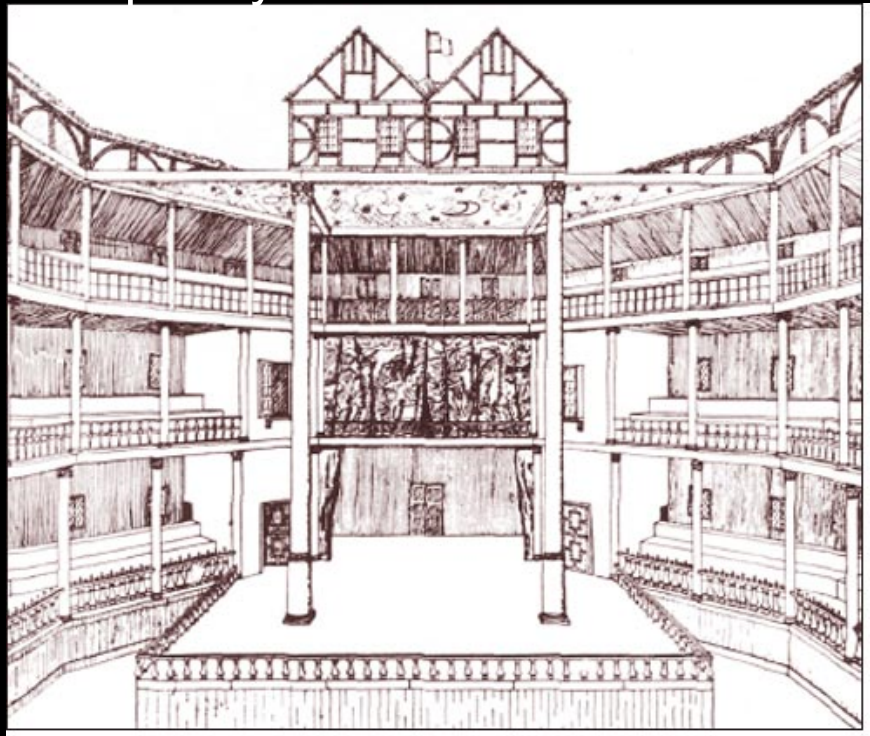
1. Not elaborate
2. Audience imagination
3. Elaborate costumes/masks, not sets.



Elizabethan Stage

Actors:

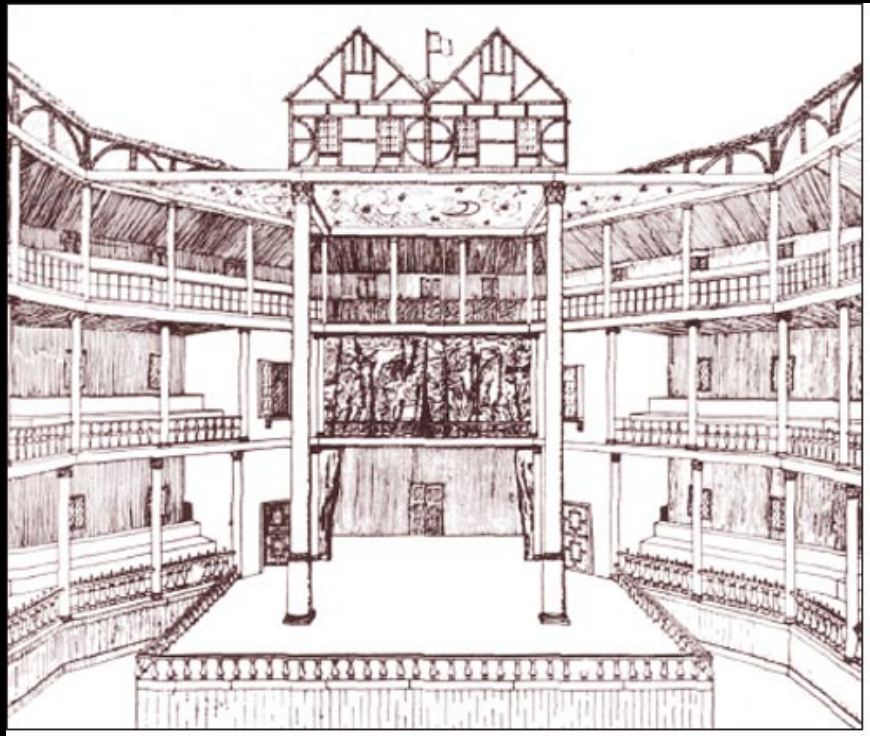
1. All men
2. Women roles played by boys with squeaky voices.
3. Wore contemporary Elizabethan costumes



Elizabethan Stage

Audience:

1. Move around/socialize
2. Playwright - create captivating scenes



Tragedy

Defn: a literary work depicting serious events in which the main character, who is often high-ranking and dignified, comes to an unhappy end.

How does *Romeo & Juliet* fit the definition above?

Comedy

Defn: a literary work in which the main character goes through humorous stages and has a happy ending

How does *Romeo & Juliet* fit the definition above?

Romance

Defn: a play deeply rooted in the humanities involving a relationship or love or both

How does *Romeo & Juliet* fit the definition above?

History

Defn: a play based on past events of a famous person with some creative spin

How does *Romeo & Juliet* fit the definition above?

William Shakespeare

Examples of Plays

Tragedies

Histories

Comedies

Romances

Reading Shakespeare

Follow these tips to understand the genius behind his writing.

Also, know these terms as we discuss the play.

Protagonist - main character (hero/ine)

Antagonist - character causing problems (villain)

Mood - the feeling/atmosphere

Tone - the attitude

Theme - the main idea, moral, lesson, or key concept

Symbolism - the representation of something physical/concrete for something abstract

Conflict - the problem or struggle

External - problem outside of character

Internal - problem within character

Reading Shakespeare

Follow these tips to understand the genius behind his writing.

Also, know these terms as we discuss the play.

Dialogue - a conversation between two or more characters

Flashback - events from past that are presented in the present

Allusion - a reference to previous or common knowledge

Suspense - the building up of a story, leaving reading wanting more

Foreshadowing - information present that leads to predictions of future outcomes

Language - the use of words in a text

Imagery - the authors descriptive language that gives the reader a mental image of events

Reading Shakespeare

Follow these tips to understand the genius behind his writing.

Also, know these terms as we discuss the play.

Poetic Form: the physical form of a poem

Structure - how it is set up (stanzas/lines)

Rhyme - how the words on each line match

Rhythm - the beat or flow of the poem

Syllable - one sound-part of a word

Foot - a group of syllables

Meter - the number of feet in a line

Scanning - determining the number and type of feet in a line (meter and feet together)

Sonnet - a 14-lined poem written in iambic pentameter following a specific rhyme scheme

Blank Verse - unrhymed iambic pentameter

Prose - a paragraph of non-rhyming, non-rhythmic language in a written work

Reading Shakespeare

Follow these tips to understand the genius behind his writing.

Also, know these terms as we discuss the play.

Figures of Speech (F.o.S.) - comparative language used in colorful ways

Metaphor - a comparison of two unlike things

Simile - a comparison using *like* or *as*

Idiom - a comparison in a catch or iconic phrase

Personification - giving humanlike qualities to non-human things

Hyperbole - an exaggerated comparison

Onomatopoeia - a sound word on paper

Reading Shakespeare

Follow these tips to understand the genius behind his writing.

21. Pronouns

Verbs

Apostrophes

Lines