

SHAKESPEARE AND  
EARLY MODERN  
POLITICAL THOUGHT

EDITED BY

DAVID ARMITAGE,  
CONAL CONDREN

AND

ANDREW FITZMAURICE

## Contents

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <i>List of contributors</i>   | page vii |
| <i>Acknowledgements</i>   | x        |
| <i>List of citations and abbreviations</i>  | xii      |
| Introduction<br><i>David Armitage, Conal Condren and Andrew Fitzmaurice</i>                   | I        |
| PART I CONTEXTS   |          |
| 1 Shakespeare's properties<br><i>David Armitage</i>   | 25       |
| 2 The active and contemplative lives in Shakespeare's plays<br><i>Cathy Curtis</i>            | 44       |
| 3 Shakespeare and the ethics of authority<br><i>Stephen Greenblatt</i>                        | 64       |
| 4 Shakespeare and the politics of superstition<br><i>Susan James</i>                          | 80       |
| PART II THE COURT   |          |
| 5 Counsel, succession and the politics of Shakespeare's <i>Sonnets</i><br><i>Cathy Shrank</i> | 101      |
| 6 Educating Hamlet and Prince Hal<br><i>Aysha Pollnitz</i>                                    | 119      |
| 7 The corruption of <i>Hamlet</i><br><i>Andrew Fitzmaurice</i>                                | 139      |

|                           |   |     |
|---------------------------|---|-----|
| 8                         | Unfolding 'the properties of government': the case of <i>Measure for Measure</i> and the history of political thought<br><i>Conal Condren</i> | 157 |
| 9                         | Shakespeare and the politics of co-authorship: <i>Henry VIII</i><br><i>Jennifer Richards</i>  | 176 |
| PART III THE COMMONWEALTH |   |     |
| 10                        | Putting the city into Shakespeare's city comedy<br><i>Phil Withington</i>   | 197 |
| 11                        | Talking to the animals: persuasion, counsel and their discontents in <i>Julius Caesar</i><br><i>David Colclough</i>                           | 217 |
| 12                        | Political rhetoric and citizenship in <i>Coriolanus</i><br><i>Markku Peltonen</i>   | 234 |
| 13                        | Shakespeare and the best state of a commonwealth<br><i>Eric Nelson</i>  | 253 |
|                           | Afterword: Shakespeare and humanist culture<br><i>Quentin Skinner</i>   | 271 |
|                           | <i>Index</i>  | 282 |