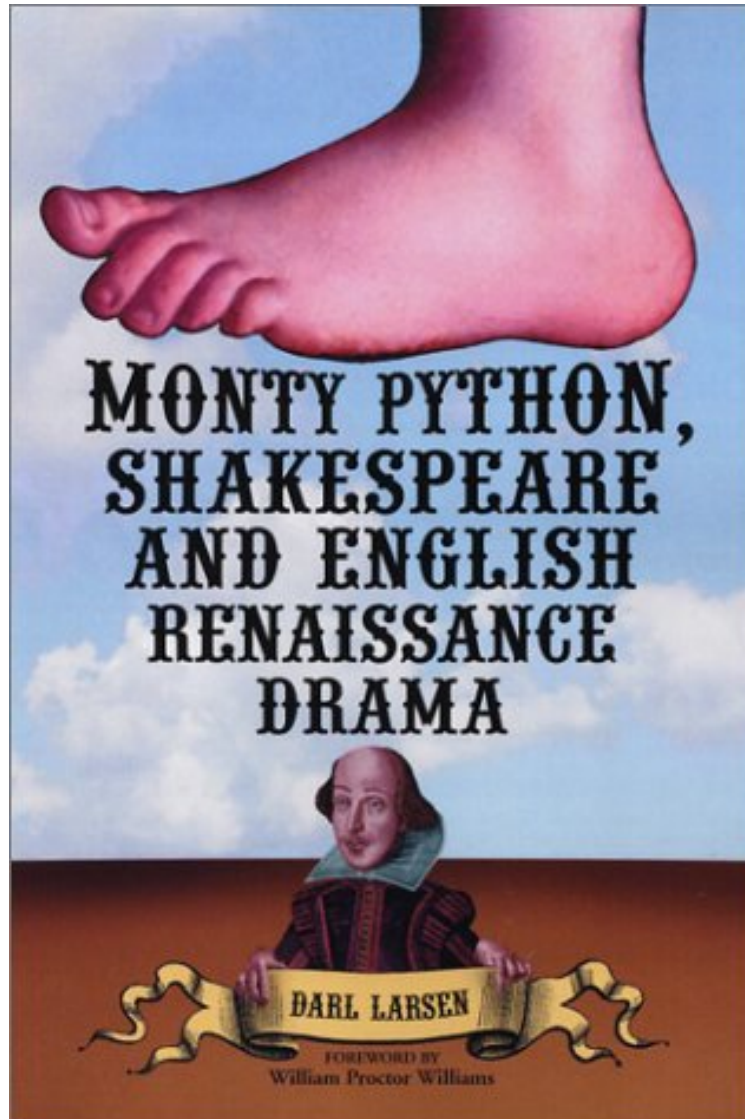


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Monty Python, Shakespeare and English Renaissance Drama

Darl Larsen

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Darl Larsen : Monty Python, Shakespeare and English Renaissance Drama before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Monty Python, Shakespeare and English Renaissance Drama:

At first consideration, it would seem that Shakespeare and Monty Python have very little in common other than that they're both English. Shakespeare wrote during the reign of a politically puissant Elizabeth, while Python flourished

under an Elizabeth figurehead. Shakespeare wrote for rowdy theatre whereas Python toiled at a remove, for television. Shakespeare is The Bard; Python is-well-not. Despite all of these differences, Shakespeare and Monty are in fact related; this work considers both the differences and similarities between the two. It discusses Shakespeare's status as England's National Poet and Python's similar elevation. It explores various aspects of theatricality (troupe configurations, casting and writing choices, allusions to classical literature) used by Shakespeare, Ben Jonson and Monty Python. It also covers the uses and abuses of history in Shakespeare and Python; humor, especially satire, in Shakespeare, Jonson, Dekker and Python; and the concept of the "Other" in Shakespearean and Pythonesque creations.

"A serious study of a popular subject" --Interzone
"Opens students up to the wonder, excitement, admiration and fun of Shakespeare. Larsen's book is fun and interesting while also being well researched. One reads it remembering how much one enjoys both Shakespeare and Python" --New England Theatre Journal
About the Author
Darl Larsen is Professor of Theatre and Media Arts and the Center for Animation at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. He is the author of *A Book About the Film Monty Python and the Holy Grail* (2015), and *Monty Python's Flying Circus: An Utterly Complete, Thoroughly Unillustrated, Absolutely Unauthorized Guide to Possibly All the References: From Arthur "Two-Sheds" Jackson to Zambesi* (2013; 2008).