



# Filming Shakespeare's Plays: The Adaptations of Laurence Olivier, Orson Welles, Peter Brook and Akira Kurosawa

*Anthony Davies*

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Davies begins his study with a comparison of theatrical and cinematic space showing that the dramatic resources of cinema are essentially spatial. Central chapters focus on Welles' *Macbeth*, *Othello*, and *Chimes at Midnight*; Olivier's *Henry V*, *Hamlet*, and *Richard III*; Brook's *King Lear*; and Kurosawa's *Throne of Blood*. Davies then discusses the dramatic problems the sources for these films pose for the film maker and he examines how these films influenced later theatrical stagings. The book concludes by exploring the demands that distinguish the work of a Shakespearean stage actor from his counterpart's in film.

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