

Shakespeare in the Theatre: an Interdisciplinary Approach

1993-1996

The initial objectives of the project on "Shakespeare in the Theatre: an Interdisciplinary Approach" were to meet regularly to share the findings of individual research projects, to analyze theoretical and methodological issues, and to become better acquainted with evidentiary standards typical of differing research practises. These initial objectives have been achieved. We have held monthly colloquia on wide a range of topics. These meetings have been well-attended by members of the McGill community, graduate students, and visitors from other institutions in the Montréal area.

During the first year we focused on the topic of evidence, in order to develop a broad consensus on questions relating to methods and materials for theatre research. Papers covered a range of issues, including theories of evidence, evidentiary standards in theatre history, and the availability of various types of evidence for performances. The unifying theme for the second series of colloquia was "The Visual Dimension of Shakespeare in Performance." The focus for the third year's colloquia, "The Sound of Shakespeare," complemented the previous year's work on visual aspects of performance.