What is the matter with Shakespeare's families? Why do so many of his tragic plays involve injuries and betrayals committed between parents and children, husbands and wives, sisters and brothers? How do these plays respond to changes in the understanding and organization of the family during the English Renaissance? Works by Shakespeare and other Renaissance writers rarely provide a straightforward expression of either older or newer beliefs about the family and marriage. What their texts can show us, instead, are the conflicts and contradictions that emerged as writers examined family relationships during this period. This item appears in the collection Marriage and Family in Shakespeare's England. Tags: illustration religion 17th century Britain Christianity. Return to Top.

Renaissance records of Shakespeare's plays in performance are scarce, but a detailed account of an original production of Macbeth has survived, thanks to Dr. Simon Forman. Earliest known text: First Folio (1623). Othello (1604-1605) Othello, a valiant Moorish general in the service of Venice, falls prey to the devious schemes of his false friend, Iago. Earliest known text: Quarto (1622). The sweet whispers shared by young Tudor lovers throughout the realm were often referred to as "naught but pure Romeo and Juliet." Earliest known text: Quarto (1597). Timon of Athens (1607-1608) Written late in Shakespeare's career, Timon of Athens is criticized as an underdeveloped tragedy, likely co-written by George Wilkins or Cyril Tourneur. One of Shakespeare's great comedies, As You Like It subverts the traditional rules of romance, confusing gender roles, nature, and politics. Read More. Hamlet. An immortal tale of a vengeful Danish prince quite possibly driven to madness, Hamlet, Shakespeare's most widely performed play, is filled with startling insight into humankind's unconscious desires. Widely considered Shakespeare's most intellectually challenging comedy, Love's Labour's Lost nevertheless offers a feast of broad, farcical humor, plot twists, Elizabethan cultural allusions, and irrepressibly clever turns-of-phrase. Read More. Macbeth. RSC Shakespeare Complete Works Edition: Editor's Blog. Popular. Tags.
Shakespeare and Stage Directions The plays of Shakespeare are so well written that they seem to leap off the page and come to life. However, the plays themselves have very few stage directions. Perhaps this is because Shakespeare’s plays were performed in large amphitheaters that were very simple. Most important to the sense of spectacle were the costumes worn by the actors. These were elaborate, colorful, and very expensive. Therefore, they often purchased these outfits from servants who had inherited the clothes from their masters or from hangmen, who received the clothes of their victims as
William Shakespeare was an English poet and playwright who is considered one of the greatest writers to ever use the English language. He is also the most famous playwright in the world, with his plays being translated in over 50 languages and performed across the globe for audiences of all ages. Known colloquially as “The Bard” or “The Bard of Avon,” Shakespeare was also an actor and the creator of the Globe Theatre, a historical theatre, and company that is visited by hundreds of thousands of tourists every year. See more ideas about Shakespeare, Cambridge and Shakespeare plays.

SHAKESPEARE EN POINTE The Bard’s magical comedy, with its lovers and sprites, tiffs and crushes, is a natural for dance. Vivien Leigh as Titania in A Midsummer Night’s Dream at the Old Vic Theatre in London. Shakespeare in Numbers. I love Shakespeare and this is a fun read. Christine K. What others are saying. Shakespeare in Numbers. I love Shakespeare and this is a fun read. Shakespeare by the numbers. For all my fellow Shakespeare Nerds. Shakespeare facts: Interested in facts about William Shakespeare? Here’s a range of 50 little known interesting facts about Shakespeare that's a work in progress. Shakespeare's Parents and Siblings. John Shakespeare was a prominent citizen who served on the town council for many years. He even became a high bailiff in 1568 (the equivalent of Mayor). Aside from his craft as a glover, he traded as a wool dealer and was also involved in money-lending. He was granted a Coat of Arms in 1596, elevating him and his heirs to the official status of gentlemen. Edmund was the youngest of Shakespeare’s siblings, born when William was 16 years old. Edmund became an actor in London, as his brother William did. He died in 1607 and is buried in Southwark Cathedral in London. It is thought that William Shakespeare paid for his brother’s burial inside the church and for the great bell to be rung in his memory. Shakespeare Family Life.