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Titolo	Gender in Play on the Shakespearean Stage : Boy Heroines and Female Pages // Michael Shapiro
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ISBN	0-472-90424-8
Edizione	[First paperback edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource

**Soggetti**

Theatre - Angleterre (GB) - Identite sexuelle - Dans la litterature  
Theatre - Angleterre (GB) - 17e siecle  
Theatre - Angleterre (GB) - 16e siecle  
Role selon le sexe - Dans la litterature  
Women in the theater  
Women in literature  
Theater - Casting  
Theater  
Sex role in literature  
Gender identity in the theater  
Gender identity in literature  
Disguise in literature  
Cross-dressing in literature  
Child actors  
Travestisme dans la litterature  
Femmes dans la litterature  
Deguisement dans la litterature  
Role selon le sexe dans la litterature  
Identite de genre dans la litterature  
Enfants acteurs - Angleterre - Histoire - 17e siecle  
Enfants acteurs - Angleterre - Histoire - 16e siecle  
Femmes au theatre - Angleterre - Histoire - 17e siecle  
Femmes au theatre - Angleterre - Histoire - 16e siecle  
Identite de genre au theatre - Angleterre - Histoire - 17e siecle  
Identite de genre au theatre - Angleterre - Histoire - 16e siecle  
Theatre - Distribution artistique - Angleterre - Histoire - 17e siecle  
Theatre - Distribution artistique - Angleterre - Histoire - 16e siecle  
Child actors - England - History - 17th century  
Child actors - England - History - 16th century

Women in the theater - England - History - 17th century  
Women in the theater - England - History - 16th century  
Gender identity in the theater - England - History - 17th century  
Gender identity in the theater - England - History - 16th century  
Theater - Casting - England - History - 17th century  
Theater - Casting - England - History - 16th century  
History  
England

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Lingua di pubblicazione

Inglese

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Formato

Materiale a stampa

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Livello bibliografico

Monografia

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Nota di contenuto

A brief social history of female cross-dressing -- Male cross-dressing in playhouses and plays -- Cross-gender disguise plus cross-gender casting -- Bringing the page onstage: The two gentlemen of Verona -- Doubling of cross-gender disguise: The merchant of Venice -- Layers of disguise: As you like it -- Anxieties of intimacy: Twelfth night -- From center to periphery: Cymbeline.

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Sommario/riassunto

"Like other English Renaissance writers and dramatists, Shakespeare was attracted to the heroine in male disguise. *Gender in Play on the Shakespearean Stage* examines the use of this type of character--man playing woman playing man--by framing five plays by Shakespeare against readings of some of the other "female page" plays written by other playwrights of the period. The many variations Michael Shapiro traces are placed in the context of female cross-dressing as a social phenomenon and in the context of female impersonation as the standard way of representing women on the Shakespearean stage. Shakespeare's use of the female page spanned his entire career: *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (an early comedy), *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night* (mature romantic comedies), and *Cymbeline* (a late romance). Shapiro deploys several modes of literary criticism to establish the distinctiveness of each of Shakespeare's five disguised heroine plays and to trace the subtle and ingenious variations on the motif by such writers as Greene, Fletcher, Chapman, Middleton, Jonson, and Ford. The popularity of the "female page" is examined as a playful literary and theatrical way of confronting, avoiding, or merely exploiting issues such as the place of women in a patriarchal culture and the representation of women on stage. Looking beyond and behind the stage for the cultural anxieties that cross-dressing London women being punished as prostitutes and speculation that the apprentices who played female roles in adult companies engaged in homoerotic practices. [This book] will appeal not only to scholars of Renaissance drama but to any reader interested in the historical construction and analysis of gender and sexuality, both on- and offstage"-- Back cover.

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