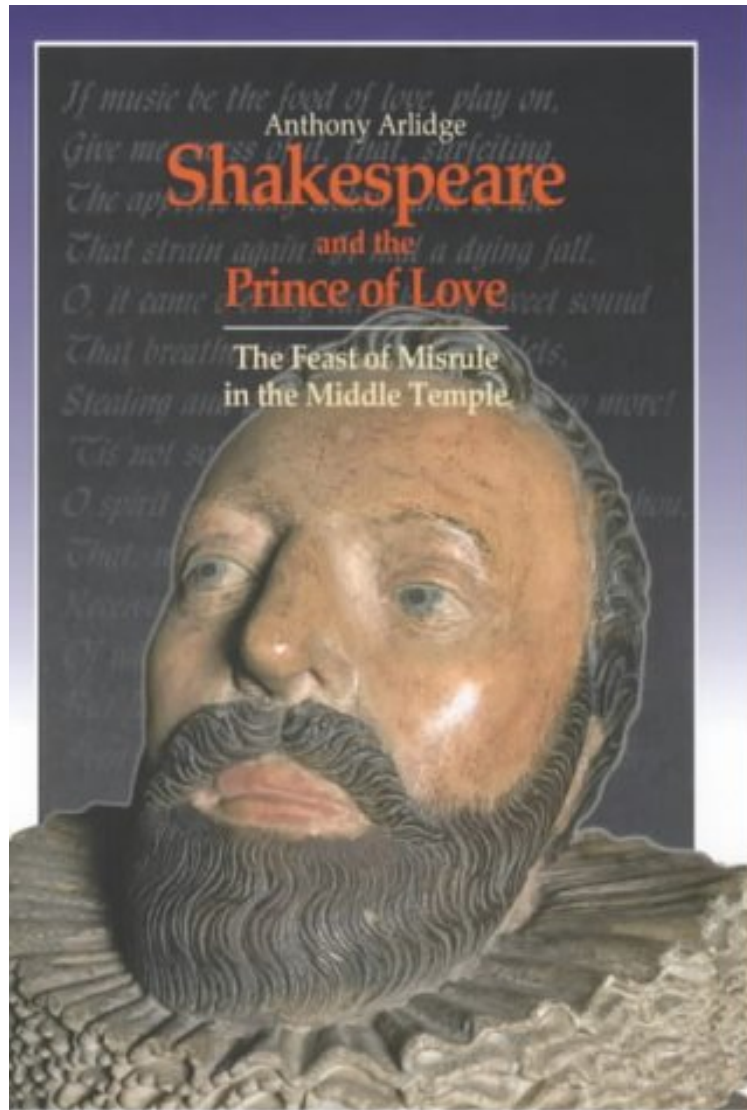


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Shakespeare and the Prince of Love: The Feast of Misrule in the Middle Temple

Anthony Arlidge

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Anthony Arlidge : Shakespeare and the Prince of Love: The Feast of Misrule in the Middle Temple before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shakespeare and the Prince of Love: The Feast of Misrule in the Middle Temple:

Through his researches in the rich archive of 16th and 17th century manuscripts and documents at the Middle Temple in London, where he is a senior barrister, Anthony Arlidge has revealed that Shakespeares Twelfth Night was commissioned for performance there in 1602. Middle Temple Hall is the only building surviving from Shakespeares time where it is known that one of his plays had its first night. In the course of the book, Anthony Arlidge describes in detail the background of the contemporary legal world, and brings to life the extravagant literary and social milieu of the Elizabethan Inns of Court in all its complexity. Shakespeare and the Prince of Love is written in such a way that it will have a strong appeal to the general reader as well as to Shakespeare enthusiasts, students of English literature, and historians.

'...[his book] is important not because it shows that Twelfth Night was first performed at the Middle Temple but because it demonstrates the close links between Shakespeare and the Inns. If it was specially commissioned by the Inns it has all sorts of ramifications for other plays, including Troilus and Cressida...' Professor Anne Barton, Faculty of English, University of Cambridge

About the Author Anthony Arlidge is well known as a senior barrister and Queen's Counsel at the Middle Temple in London, where he is Master of the Entertainments, and he is the co-author of standard textbooks on contempt of court and fraud. He has long had an interest in the theatre, and in 1998 he directed the performance of a highly successful new version that he edited of the Inn's 1597/8 festivities in the Middle Temple Hall, taking part himself. The Globe Theatre put on a special production of Twelfth Night in the Middle Temple Hall in 2002 to celebrate the quatercentenary of the first performance there in 1602.