

Who Wrote Shakespeare

There have been doubts, questions, and controversies circling around Shakespeare and “The Authorship Question” for over two hundred years:

- who was William Shakespeare?
- how come we know so little about his personal life?
- how did he know so much about ambition, jealousy, life, love, the law, kings and princes, soldiers, women... all the many-faceted wonders of the Human Condition?
- how come he knew so much French?
- how could the son of an illiterate glove-maker, from a small provincial Midlands town, become the most renowned and respected poet/playwright in English, a household name, a national treasure?
- just what was the source of Shakespeare’s Genius?

The academic world is riven into two hostile camps: the Stratfordians, who maintain that Shakespeare really did write Shakespeare’s plays... and the Anti-Stratfordians, who have, over the years, suggested many dozens of alternative candidates who, they maintain, must have... or might have... been the Real Genius behind the revered works which bear Shakespeare’s name.

We will consider the most common controversies which have exercised scholars and authors alike, names as diverse as Walt Whitman, Mark Twain, Henry James, Sigmund Freud, as well as actors Sir Mark Rylance and Sir Derek Jacobi.

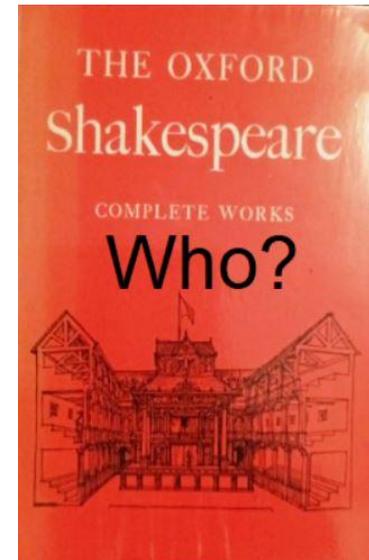
We’ll also address the question in the title of Elizabeth Winkler’s book: Was Shakespeare A Woman?

And — as usual — we may come to no definitive conclusions!

CALL is a not-for-profit voluntary organisation which promotes lifelong learning in Cambridgeshire.



Who Wrote Shakespeare



A Morning session with Michael Wilson

Saturday 14th March 2026

On Zoom 10:00 – 12:30

Price £5.00 per screen

Booking Instructions. Please read carefully.

To make a booking, please provide your email address, without which we cannot send you the joining instructions

Payment of **£5.00** per screen can be made:

Either:

Email us and pay online to:

Cambridgeshire Alliance of Lifelong Learners

Account no.52501360

Sort code 30-90-89

Or:

Please send your email address and a cheque payable to
Cambridgeshire Alliance of Lifelong Learners

to: Mrs Vera Williams, 59, High Street, Offord Darcy,
St Neots, PE19 5RF.

Please **DO NOT** use the abbreviated title '**CALL**' when making any payment, (online or cheque) as the bank software will be unable to match this with our account.

How to contact CALL:

Website: www.call-ed.org.uk

Email : info@call-ed.org.uk

Phone : 01480 810353

All CALL group activities are listed on: www.call-ed.org.uk.

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Programme

9:30 am The Zoom room will open

10:00 am Morning Session
**2 hours of lectures and discussion
with a break for refreshments**

12:30 pm Close of Session



Using Zoom. If you have not used Zoom before, and would welcome guidance on how to install the software, please contact us.