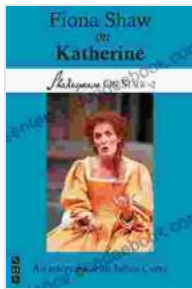


# Fiona Shaw on Katherine Shakespeare on Stage

Fiona Shaw is one of the most celebrated actresses of her generation, known for her fearless and transformative performances. She has won numerous awards, including two Tony Awards, for her work on both stage and screen. In recent years, she has turned her attention to Shakespeare's plays, giving acclaimed performances as Katherine in both "The Taming of the Shrew" and "Henry V." In this article, we will explore Shaw's insights into these iconic roles and her unique approach to Shakespearean performance.



## Fiona Shaw on Katherine (Shakespeare On Stage)

★ ★ ★ ★ ☆	4.5 out of 5
Language	: English
File size	: 1987 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 47 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported



## The Taming of the Shrew

Shaw first played Katherine in "The Taming of the Shrew" in 2016 at the Royal Shakespeare Company. Her performance was widely praised for its wit, intelligence, and physicality. Shaw brought a modern sensibility to the role, while still respecting the play's original language and context.

"I wanted to play Katherine as a real woman," Shaw said in an interview. "She's not a shrew. She's a strong, independent woman who is trying to find her place in a world that is dominated by men." Shaw's interpretation of Katherine challenged traditional notions of femininity and sparked a new debate about the play's meaning.



**Henry V**

In 2019, Shaw played Katherine again in Shakespeare's history play "Henry V." This time, she brought a more nuanced and vulnerable interpretation to the role. Her Katherine was a woman who was torn between her love for her country and her desire for peace.

"Katherine is a very complex character," Shaw said. "She's a strong woman, but she's also very vulnerable. She loves her country, but she also sees the horrors of war. I wanted to play her as a woman who is trying to make sense of a very difficult world." Shaw's performance was once again praised for its depth and sensitivity.



Fiona Shaw as Katherine in 'Henry V'

### **Shaw's Approach to Shakespearean Performance**

Shaw has a unique approach to Shakespearean performance. She believes that the plays are not simply historical artifacts, but living works of

art that can speak to contemporary audiences. She also believes that the actors have a responsibility to bring their own experiences and interpretations to the roles they play.

"I think it's important to find the humanity in Shakespeare's characters," Shaw said. "These are not just characters from a bygone era. They are people with real emotions and experiences. We need to find a way to connect with them on a human level." Shaw's approach to Shakespearean performance has been highly influential, and she has inspired a new generation of actors to approach the plays with a fresh perspective.

Fiona Shaw is one of the most respected and acclaimed actresses of her generation. Her performances as Katherine in "The Taming of the Shrew" and "Henry V" have been hailed as groundbreaking. Shaw's unique approach to Shakespearean performance has challenged traditional notions of femininity and sparked a new debate about the plays' meaning. She is a true master of her craft, and her work continues to inspire and challenge audiences around the world.



## Fiona Shaw on Katherine (Shakespeare On Stage)

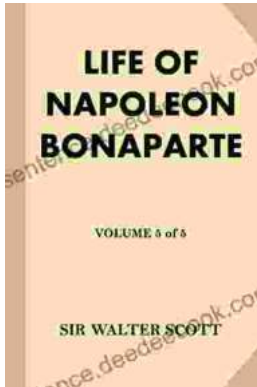
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