

Who Wrote Shakespeare?

"I am 'a sort of' haunted by the conviction that the divine William is the biggest and most successful fraud ever practised on a patient world."

- Henry James



Shakespeare is the most acted and quoted artist in any culture, perhaps the greatest writer there has ever been, yet his identity remains a mystery.

Charles Beauclerk presents the true story behind the name Shake-speare and paints a picture of the court intrigue and treachery that led to the biggest political cover-up of English history. He tells the poignant tale of the buried author Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford, a real-life Hamlet who sacrificed his name and reputation for the sake of his art, and whose love for Queen Elizabeth weathered all storms. In addition, he demonstrates that the semi-literate man from Stratford, known as "Gulielmus Shaxpere", lacked the range of education and experience (not to mention the inside knowledge of court affairs) evinced by the author, and could not have lampooned the ruling elite in his plays without forfeiting his life. He also shows how a knowledge of Shakespeare's true identity adds a new depth to his works.

"I no longer believe that the actor from Stratford was the author of the works that have been ascribed to him. I am almost convinced that the assumed name conceals the personality of Edward de Vere, Earl of Oxford."

- Sigmund Freud



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Charles de Vere Beauclerk

A first-class honors graduate of Oxford University, Charles Beauclerk is a dynamic and authoritative speaker on the Shakespeare authorship question. He is a descendant of Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford, thought by a growing number of historians and literary scholars to have been the true author. A past president of the Shakespeare Oxford Society, he has spoken before over 250 audiences in the U.S.A. and Canada, including the Smithsonian Institution and the Folger Shakespeare Library. His first book *Nell Gwyn: A Biography* was published by Macmillan in 2005. His next book, *Shakespeare's Identity Crisis* will be published by Grove Atlantic.

"Truth is truth, though never so old, and time cannot make that false which once was true."

- Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford

A Great Programme for your Next School Event !

"Charles Vere Beauclerk is an engaging, learned and engrossing speaker. On the subject of Shakespeare, they don't come any better. Heartily recommended."

- William F. Buckley Jr.

"Charles Vere Beauclerk has a remarkable gift for public speaking, and was most convincing in his argument that the Earl of Oxford was the true author of works previously attributed to William Shakespeare. The whole evening was stimulating, provocative, and greatly entertaining."

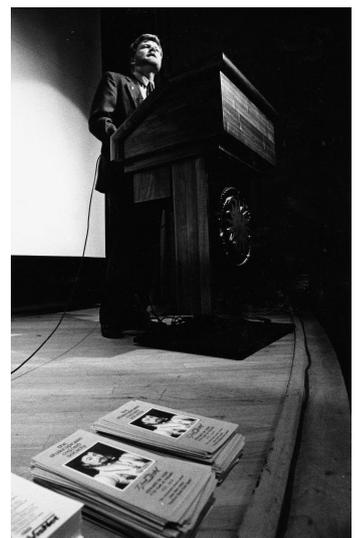
- Headmaster Andrew Auster, Orwell Park School

"I have rarely seen students sit with such rapt attention at so complex a subject for the span of an hour. Charles Beauclerk's vast store of information and facility with words made his already intriguing argument all the more riveting."

- Ralph Hammann, Director of Drama – Pittsfield Public Schools, USA

"Charles Beauclerk's talk was academically authoritative, intellectually stimulating and delivered with complete professional competence. Many who attended the lecture expressed great admiration and enthusiasm for what they had heard. Some told me that it was the best lecture on Shakespeare in his historical context that they had attended."

- Michael Schutzer-Weissmann, Head of English, Shrewsbury School



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