To Better Understand the Theater of the Middle Ages by an In-Depth Study of the Old Testament Plays of the York Cycle of Corpus Christi Plays

Carole Casey, University of Central Florida

Keywords
Corpus christ play, york

Abstract
Scholastic texts on theater move from the Greeks and Romans to the theater of Shakespeare's time with little or no acknowledgment of the Middle Ages. From the late thirteenth century until the reformation an active community theater known as the mystery plays existed throughout much of Europe. The York Corpus Christi Cycle was part of that movement. The play was produced by the guilds of York under the supervision of the chamber of commerce with the Church monitoring the theology and morals. Performed yearly on the Feast Day of Corpus Christi, the subject of the play was the salvation of man from the creation through the last judgment. This thesis examines in depth the language and characters of four pageants of the forty-eight pageants of the York Cycle Play and draws connections to the writings and teachings of Bishop Thoresby. While many scholars understand the Cycle Play as a municipal production, this thesis argues that the plays were in fact created by the Church as a means to bring their teachings to the Medieval masses.

Notes
If this is your thesis or dissertation, and want to learn how to access it or for more information about readership statistics, contact us at STARS@ucf.edu

Graduation Date
2014

Semester
Spring

Advisor
Wood, Vandy

Degree
Master of Arts (M.A.)

College
College of Arts and Humanities

Department
Theatre

Degree Program
Theatre

Format
application/pdf

Identifier
CFE0005144

URL
http://purl.fcla.edu/fcla/etd/CFE0005144

Language
English

Release Date
5-15-2017

Length of Campus-only Access
3 years
THA 300 part 2. study. Play. The neoclassical "unities" consisted of. Shakespeare's theatre in England, the Spanish public theatre of Lope de Vega and Miguel de Cervantes, and the Italian commedia dell'arte are all examples of Renaissance drama. True. Which of the following is true of Publius Terentius Afer (c.190-159 b.c.)? He was a freed African slave who wrote six comedies, based on Greek models, which were highly prized during the Middle Ages for their rhetorical excellence and philosophic depth. The high point of stylistic realism, in terms of the depth of characterization, is best exemplified by. Anton Chekhov. Which is a characteristic of realist drama?