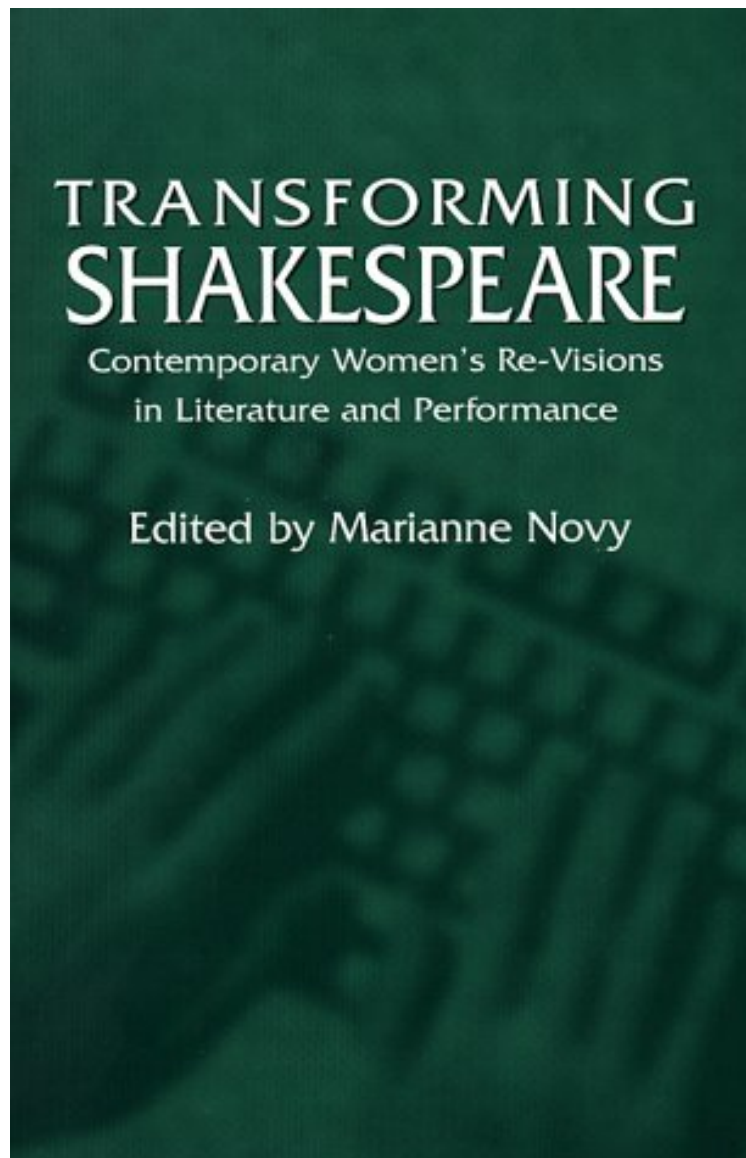


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Transforming Shakespeare: Contemporary Women's Re-Visions in Literature and Performance

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From St Martins Press : Transforming Shakespeare: Contemporary Women's Re-Visions in Literature and Performance before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Transforming Shakespeare: Contemporary Women's Re-Visions in Literature and Performance:

A surprisingly large number of women writers, directors, and performers have created works that respond to Shakespeare, or to most earlier and more traditional interpretations of his plays, in the late twentieth century. In this collection, feminist critics explore rewritings, as well as recent Shakespeare performances directed by women. The essays examine how these works use rewritings of Shakespeare to address issues of gender, race, sexuality, colonialism, environmentalism, class, and nationalism, as well as the general question of our relation to cultural tradition at the start of the new millennium. *Transforming Shakespeare* offers a striking new look at Shakespeare and his place in a modern, diverse world.

From *Library Journal* Through film, stage, the novel, and poetry, women are revisiting and reinterpreting Shakespeare from a distinctively feminist viewpoint. These well-written and accessible essays show how contemporary women subvert or expand upon his original texts, covering subjects as diverse as ecofeminism, colonialism, incest, and production styles. Novy (English, Univ. of Pittsburgh) makes a wonderful and unusual editorial decision in the extended and multifaceted interest given to the reinterpretation of *King Lear* in Jane Smiley's *A Thousand Acres* (including two critical essays and a personal account from Smiley). Linda Bamber's chapter, "Claribel at Palace Dot Tunis," also works well within this collection as an example of a way in which a woman approaches the Shakespeare text as a writer of fiction and literary criticism, blending the concerns of this collection in theory and in practice. Recommended for academic libraries. AKaren E. Sadowski, Simmons Coll., Boston Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. 'Novy's book is a must.' - *Shakespeare Quarterly* About the Author MARIANNE NOVY is Professor of English and former Director of Women's Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. She is the author of *Love's Argument: Gender Relations in Shakespeare* and the editor of *Women's Re-Visions of Shakespeare and Cross-Cultural Performances*.