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New Website MadShakespeare.com Combines Talents of MAs in Shakespeare

“Shakespeare’s face is changing” is the tagline of the new website, MadShakespeare.com, which has the twin aim of showing how Shakespeare is relevant today and making Shakespeare relevant today.

MadShakespeare.com produces articles on news; reviews of plays, films, and books; short educational and entertaining blog entries; and magazine-style features. Recent highlights are:

Shakespeare and the Muppets: In honor of *Sesame Street*’s 40th anniversary, a history of the long relationship between Jim Henson’s company and Shakespeare, from a skull named Yorick to a musical treatment for *Kermit, Prince of Denmark*.

Bard the Obscure: Shakespeare the Collaborator: A new column promising to pick out the trivia about Shakespeare your Brit. Lit. professor never told you begins with a look at the plays Shakespeare wrote with another playwright.

Tabloid Shakespeare: A new column that plays fast and loose with the latest Shakespearean news, beginning with a reimagining of what might be causing the beam in Holy Trinity Church to collapse.

Review: Twelfth Night at the Courtyard Theatre: Mad Shakespeare has a special relationship with a journalist working with the Royal Shakespeare Company. About once a month, she brings us reviews of Shakespeare productions around the UK.

Shakespeare in the Post-Colonial Indian Subcontinent: How Shakespeare played a part in the British Empire’s control over India, and how that country has reclaimed *Sheikh Peer* since.

MadShakespeare.com is the idea of its editor, Stefanie Peters, who solicited the help of her fellow MA students in University College London’s Shakespeare in History course to develop the website and create its content. The authors behind Mad Shakespeare believe their degrees give them a unique perspective on Shakespeare and his place in contemporary culture. MadShakespeare.com launched on October 7, 2009.