

# SHAKESPEARE



## ON SCREEN

Week Ten

## Welcome to *Shakespeare On Screen*

### Week Ten

And now the end is near, and so I face the final curtain.

Hold on, that's not Shakespeare. That's Sinatra.

Still, it feels right.

Yes, it's our final outing for *Shakespeare On Screen* and while we've reached a clutch of plays for which there are fewer adaptations than previously, that doesn't mean there aren't some gems to pick out.

That being said, the nature of Shakespearean academia and the arguments about canon therein do mean there isn't even a BBC Television Shakespeare version of *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, the last play Shakespeare (co)wrote before his retirement.

*Henry VIII* doesn't fare much better, given the seeming ubiquity of this particular Henry in cultural conversation, but we do have a handful of *Winter's Tales* (vessel for the greatest stage direction in history – 'exit, pursued by a bear').

And then there is *The Tempest*. Believed to be the final play that Shakespeare wrote solo, *The Tempest* is so very, very weird. Gloriously so, in fact, something that shines through all of the extant adaptations, not least Peter Greenaway's *Prospero's Books*.

So, we'll go out with a bang.

It's been a pleasure. May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.

## **WEEK TEN FILMS**

### **The Winter's Tale**

The Winter's Tale (1962)  
*Don Taylor*

The Winter's Tale (1981)  
*Jane Howell*

The Winter's Tales (1994)  
*Stanislav Sokolov*

### **The Tempest**

The Tempest (1960)  
*George Schaefer*

The Tempest (1979)  
*Derek Jarman*

The Tempest (1980)  
*John Gorrie*

Prospero's Books (1991)  
*Peter Greenaway*

### **Henry VIII**

The Famous History of the Life of King Henry the Eighth (1979)  
*Kevin Billington*

### **The Two Noble Kinsmen**

The Two Noble Kinsmen (2016) – RSC Trailer  
*Blanche McIntyre*

Bonus

## **Edward III**

‘As Many Sands’ (2021)  
*Michael Southworth*

## **Shakespeare**

Blackadder: Back and Forth (1999)  
*Paul Weiland*

A Waste of Shame (2005)  
*John McKay*

Bill (2015)  
*Richard Bracewell*

Hamnet (2025)  
*Chloé Zhao*