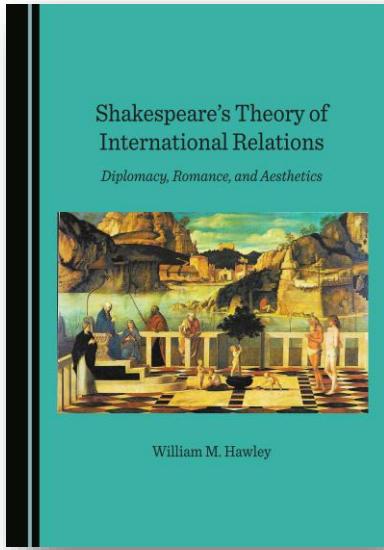


Shakespeare's Theory of International Relations *Diplomacy, Romance, and Aesthetics*

By William Hawley



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Book Description

This book treats William Shakespeare's romances as international relations (IR) theory plays depicting paths to peace abroad, showing that the playwright sounds the depths of human emotions and resolves diplomatic crises threatening entire populations overseas. Remarkably, Shakespeare vindicates Renaissance concepts of IR classical realism, as well as our modern definitions of IR realism, defensive realism, and constructivism. These late plays reveal the playwright at the height of his aesthetic powers, for, by virtue of his art, his antagonistic state actors restore frayed international alliances and reap the benefits of a renewed sense of universal well-being.

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A Word from the Author

Given that unexpected new dangers seem to present themselves almost daily abroad, what wisdom does Shakespeare impart in order to help us reach peaceful, fair accommodations? The playwright's worldview was imbued in international relations (IR) classical realism; but, in his romances, he foresaw several of the helpful new concepts marking our contemporary notions of IR theory, including defensive realism and constructivism. Yet Shakespeare always required that moral values form an essential part of any lasting IR solution.

About the Author

William M. Hawley publishes widely on Shakespeare, international relations theory, and aesthetics. He earned his PhD in Dramatic Art and his BA in English at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

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