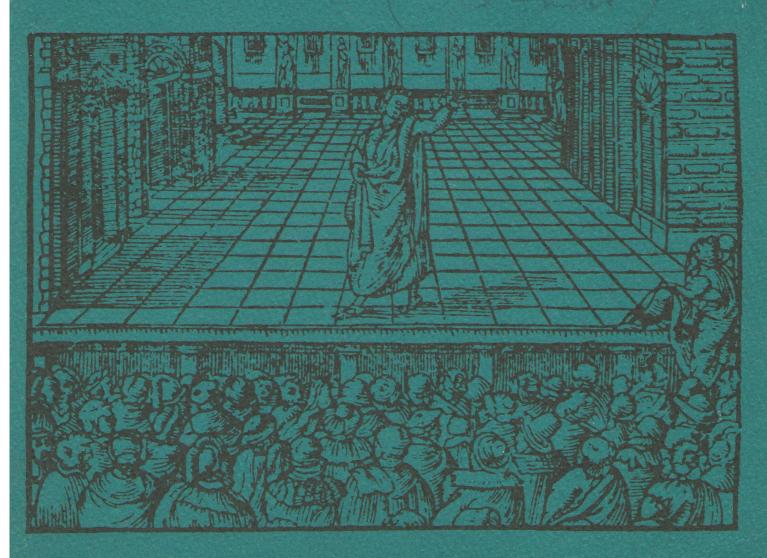
SONGS FROM SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS AND POPULAR SONGS OF SHAKESPEARE'S TIME

COMPILED AND EDITED BY

TOM KINES



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Photo by Malak

is a singer with a wide range of interests and talents. He began singing at the age of five and has sung leading roles with the Orpheus Operatic Society, the Ottawa Choral Society, the Toronto Bach Society, and the Montreal Bach Choir. As a founding member of the Tudor Singers, he has devoted twelve years to the performance of music of the Elizabethan period, including works for recorder and lute. Mr. Kines has been broadcasting each week for the CBC national radio network in a program called "Song Pedlar." He has done extensive work in television, has been featured at the Mariposa Folk Festival, and has performed numerous concerts. He has recorded two albums for Folkways Records, An Irishman in North Americay (FG 3522) and Popular Songs of Shakespeare's Time. (FW 8767).

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INTRODUCTION

This may not yet be the new Elizabethan age, but certainly there are a lot of amateur poets, musicians and singers who are doing a great deal to enrich their lives and those of their fellowmen with the practise of the arts while contributing their daily stint to industry and commerce.

This book is for them so that they may more easily explore some of the wealth of that other age without the long hours of search and research which have been necessary to produce it.

When Irwin Silber asked me to prepare a book of Shakespeare songs for this quarter-centennial year of the great bard's birth, I thought it was a wonderful idea, for someone else. But as I searched the volumes of reference and the old song books and the list grew, I became more and more excited because I realized that no similar book was available and I knew that when this one was printed, I would be happy to have a copy for my own use!

It is therefore a practical book and I hope a useful book. It has no pretensions to scholarship nor does it attempt to prove anything except that the song-makers of Shakespeare's time were a skilful lot and the combination of the golden flow of poesy with the silver flood of melody and harmony will perhaps never again be equalled.

Naturally, everything excellent of the period could not be included, (there are over 16 volumes in Fellowes' "The English School of Lutenist Song Writers" alone). A degree of selection has been exercised which owes something to the availability, simplicity and authenticity of the material and something to personal preference.

With respect to availability, the latest published volume to present these songs in simple form is the wonderful "Melody and the Lyric" by fellow-Canadian John Murray Gibbon published by Dent in 1930 — now out of print and very scarce. The remaining bibliography as will be seen in the list at the end of the book is mostly older and even harder to acquire. Fortunately, I have been collecting such books for some years.

On the authenticity of the material used I can say only that I have not included without so stating any tune or text that is not of the period. This has of course excluded many beautiful songs; for instance, I very much regret having to exclude "Who is Sylvia" in the magnificent Schubert setting which is so readily adaptable to guitar accompaniment.

Fortunately, Chappell and Co. has just brought out nine of Dr. Arne's beautiful Shakespeare songs and of course Oxford University Press carries the exquisite settings of Peter Warlock as well as many other contemporary composers, thus making most of the good songs from the 18th century onward fairly easy to obtain.

But if we once abandon the restriction of the period contemporary with Shakespeare's life and the lives of those who knew him but survived a few years longer, we would need a book four or five times as large and certainly much more expensive.

I have therefore included only those traditional settings which are believed by scholars to have been in use during Shakespeare's time or have survived in oral tradition.

The New York Public Library has a card file listing over 200 references to songs in Shakespeare's plays — unfortunately, many are lost to us. Either the texts have not survived or the tune is not known or both are missing.

There are other songs important to the plays where music composed at a later period has completely rendered any earlier tunes unacceptable, and some lyrics which simply have no acceptable tunes or known tunes of the period, and some little snatches of songs as given in Caulfield which I did not feel were worth including. To this extent, this book is not a complete collection. Such a collection should be made.

However, it would take a great deal of research to authenticate some of the so-called traditional tunes. Professor Cutts has just published a book — Musique de la Troupe de Shakespeare — but it contains only a few songs from Shakespeare's plays.

J. H. Long of the University of Florida, has tried in his book "Shakespeare's Use of Music" to match up the available texts with contemporary tunes. But this is a very dangerous practise and I cannot accept some of the conclusions he reaches e.g. the manipulation necessary to fit "When daisies pied" or "When icicles hang by the wall" from Love's Labour Lost to "Of all the Birds" from Deuteromelia.

However, this has meant the exclusion of many of the songs appearing in the plays and will no doubt disappoint the amateur directors and producers who may seek them in vain.

May I suggest for the moment at least, it is better to substitute an appropriate song from these pages unless of course the text is Shakespeare's own verse.

The material included consists of (a) songs whose texts were written by Wm. Shakespeare (b) popular songs and ballads quoted or referred to by characters in the plays (c) songs of contemporary poets and musicians (d) popular songs, folk songs, ballads, rounds and street cries, known to have been current at the time and included to add to the overall setting in which Shakespeare wrote and was performed.

I think the rule of simplicity has not been transgressed by the inclusion of 6 lute songs. I feel their inclusion is justified first of all by the quotation of at least two of them in Shakespeare's plays and by the rounded picture of the period which they help to complete. These poet-composers were Shakespeare's contemporaries and some were probably personal friends or acquaintances. Their songs were being collected and published at the same time as his plays and with Ravenscrofts' Pammelia, Deuteromelia and Melismata containing the common popular songs gives us the first comprehensive view of the musical culture of an exciting and bountiful period in the history of music.

Those included here are from among the simplest of accompaniments in the literature and I have further simplified them by giving only the bass notes and chords and transposing them into keys which lie easily under the hand on the guitar.

I am not an instrumentalist and I feel the song must not be subordinate to the accompaniment, so that unless you have a skilled lutenist readily available you should not attempt the lute songs in their original settings.

Many of the chords used will sound strange to modern ears and in some cases I have modified them slightly, and of course no attempt has been made to indicate the position or inversion of the chord.

However, I suggest that you try them this way for a while at least, and I think you will acquire a taste for the sound which is fairly close to the harmony used at the time. The chords should be plucked and/or rolled to give a closer approximation of the lute sound.

Because Elizabethan harmony was often modal and used wonderful mixtures of major and minor, I have indicated a return to a major chord after a predominant use of the minor by the sign (+) e.g. A+=A Major.

I have also transposed most of the songs which required it, into a medium or low range. Being aware of the wide use of capos among amateur guitarists, I thought it wise to pitch them low so that anyone wanting the pitch raised may apply the capo in the appropriate place.

Finally, then, it is my sincere hope that many amateur singers and guitarists will find a new source of interesting and attractive material in this book and that it will provide them and their friends with many hours of enjoyment.

I wish to acknowledge the very great assistance of the New York Public Library and the British Museum in making books, photostats and microfilms available, and particularly Miss Shepperd of the National Library of Canada for locating important volumes in various universities and other libraries from which they were made available on inter-library loan. Miss Ewart at the Carnegie Library, Ottawa, has been most helpful and very patient with my tendency to keep books overdue, and I want to thank my good friend Wm. France, Mus. Bac. F.C.C.O. for checking the manuscript and harmonies, although I assume full responsibility for what was finally put down.

TOM KINES Ottawa, Canada March 1964



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GLOSSARY

old auld bestraught'd

distraught patch or mend (shoes) clout

maker of barrells cooper

various divers

donned, put on down'd mistress doxy opened up dupp'd

the religious service beevensong

fore sunset

fallow deer a yellowish-brown deer,

smaller than thered deer

guiles tricks, deceits

je vous an pree I beg you a mantle or outer gown kirtle

paramour, mistress leman loon, or fool lo wn

bow lout ye

pallor, whiteness pale

pardon me pardon-a-moy

pastime, pleasure pastance

appear peer

in truth (literally - By perde

God!)

tags of laces points back of the head poll in "It was a Lover" prime

the highest or fullest in "Three Ravens" - a religious service during

the first hour after sun-

rise thieving

pugging separation removes shoon shoes spirits sprites sustain prolong since sy th

turtles & twins symbols for love

twain a pair consent vouchsafe well being weal ween

to think or fancy chosen interests well willing

wight creature blow (a horn) wind accustomed wont

SHAKESPEARE'S ENGLAND

comes alive once again in this delightful and much needed collection of songs from Shakespeare's plays and times. Here are the words and music for 70 songs -- songs from <u>Hamlet</u>, <u>King Lear</u>, <u>Twelfth Night</u>, <u>The Winter's Tale</u>, <u>Much Ado About Nothing</u>, <u>As You Like It</u>, <u>Othello</u>, <u>Romeo and Juliet</u>, and several other plays, plus other popular songs of the time. Each song is chorded for guitar in the musical style of the Elizabethan era.

SONGS FROM SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS consists of songs whose texts were written by William Shakespeare; popular songs and ballads quoted or referred to by characters in the plays; songs of contemporary poets and musicians; and popular songs, folk songs, ballads, rounds and street cries known to have been current at the time and included to add to the overall setting in which Shakespeare wrote and performed.

This is a practical, useful, and informal book, making no pretense to prove anything except, as Tom Kines says, that "the songmakers of Shakespeare's time were a skillful lot and the combination of the golden flow of poesy with the silver flood of melody and harmony will perhaps never again be equalled."

