

Dédicace de The Works of Mr. John Marston

Auteur : Sheares, William

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4 Fichier(s)

Mots clés

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Informations éditoriales

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Auteur de la pièce Marston, John

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- [Mathewes, Augustine]
- Sheares, William

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THE
SPECTATRIX
OR
A
DIALOGUE
BETWEE
THE
SPECTATOR
AND
THE
SPECTATRIX.

TO THE RIGHT
HONOURABLE, THE
Lady ELIZABETH CARIE,
Viscountesse FAVVCLAND.

Many opprobies and aspersiones haue not long since been cast upon Playes in generall, and it were requisite and expedient that they were vindicated from them; But I referre that taske to those whose leasure is greater, and Learning more transcendent. Yet for my part I cannot perceiue wherein they should appeare so vile and abominable, that they should bee so vehemently inveighed against; Is it
A 3 because.

THE EPISTLE

because they are Playes ? The name it
seemes somewhat offends them, where-
as if they were styled Workes , they
might haue their Approbation also. I
hope that I haue now somewhat pacified
that precise Sect, by reducing all our
Authors severall Playes into one Vo-
lume, and so stiled them The Works
of MR. JOHN MARSTON ; who was
not inferiour unto any in this kind of
Writing, in those dayes when these were
penned , and I am perswaded equall
unto the best Poets of our times. If
the lines bee not answerable to my En-
comium of him, yet herein beare with
him, because they were his Iuvenilia,
and youthfull Recreations; Howsoever
hee is free from all obcene fpeeches,
which is the chiefe cause that makes
Playes to bee so odious unto most men.

Hee

DEDICATORIE.

Hee abhorres such Writers, and their Workes, and hath professed himselfe an enemie to all such as stiffe their Scenes with ribaldry, and lard their lines with scurrilous taunts and jests : so that whatsoever even in the Spring of his yeeres bee hath presented upon the private and publike Theater, now in his Autumne, and declining age bee need not bee ashamed of ; and were it not that bee is so farre distant from this place , bee would haue beene more carefull in revising the former Impressions, and more circumspect about this, then I can. In his absence, Noble Lady, I haue been imboldened to present these Workes unto your Honours view, and the rather, because your Honour is well acquainted with the Muses; In briefe, Fame hath given out, that your

A 4

Honour

THE EPISTLE, &c.

Honour is the Mirror of your sex, the admiration, not onely of this Iland, but of all adjacent Countries and Dominions, which are acquainted with your rare Vertues, and Endowments : If your Honour shall vouchsafe to accept this Worke, I with my Booke am ready prest and bound to be

Your truly devoted,

WILLIAM SHEARES.