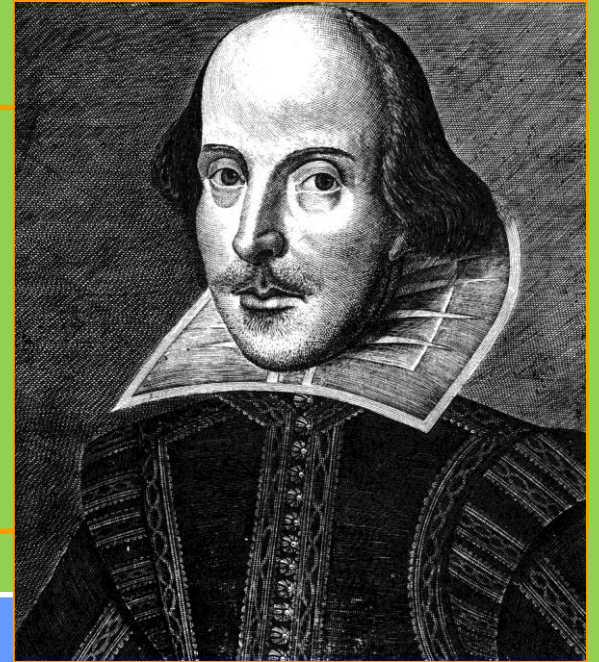


School of English Studies

Shakespeare's Lost Play

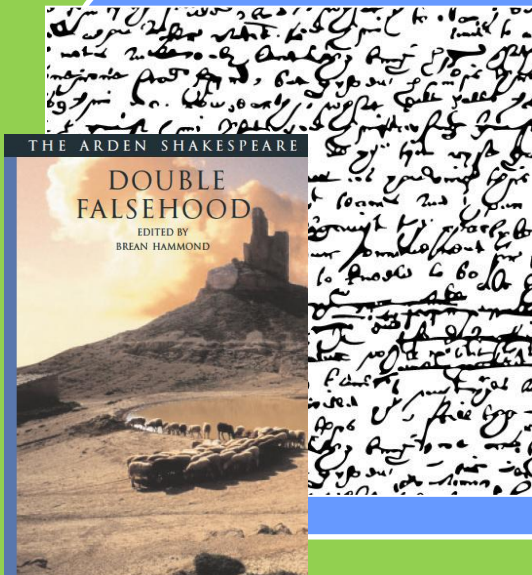
About

Late in his career, Shakespeare wrote a play with John Fletcher based on the story of Cardenio in Cervantes' *Don Quixote*. No copy of the play survives but in 1727, a lawyer and Shakespeare scholar called Lewis Theobald claims to have acquired manuscripts. He adapted those into a play called *Double Falsehood*.



Was it a forgery?

Professor Brean Hammond has argued that the play contains genuine Shakespearean DNA and the publication of the play in the prestigious Arden Shakespeare series (March 2010) has created ripples worldwide.



The story excited great local and community interest and Professor Hammond has been very eager to build bridges with the community through his research.

His links with the Nottingham Shakespeare Society enabled him to try out some of his findings at an early stage.

He spoke to an enthusiastic audience at the Lowdham Book Festival.

The Nottingham Playhouse devoted a day to his work [October 2010], with talks and a professional play reading, while *Nottinghamshire Today* Magazine followed up earlier articles in the *Nottingham Post* with a feature article.

Lecturing in local schools has enabled Professor Hammond to spread the word to a new audience of potential Shakespeare readers.

