

CONTENTS

List of illustrations	<i>page</i> vi
Acknowledgements	vii
List of abbreviations and conventions	ix
Introduction	i
Authorship	i
Date	6
Sources	6
Craftsmanship	7
Critical reception	16
Shakespeare’s late style	23
<i>The Two Noble Kinsmen</i> in performance	28
Early performances and adaptations	29
Twentieth century	31
Twenty-first century	47
Note on the text	52
List of characters	57
THE PLAY	59
Supplementary notes	213
Textual analysis	220
Appendix: Productions, staged readings, and recordings, 1928 to 2011	224
Reading list	227

ILLUSTRATIONS

1	Title page, 1634 quarto. Courtesy of the Rare Book & Manuscript Library, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign and the Malone Society	<i>page 2</i>
2	Theseus and the Amazons. Red-figured dinos (mixing bowl), 440–430 BC. British Museum	9
3	The queens petition Theseus (David Dodimead), Act 1, scene 1, Open Air Theatre, Regent’s Park, 1974. Photograph: John Timbers	35
4	Arcite (Martin Potter) resigns Emilia (Lea Dregorn) to Palamon (Philip Bowen), Act 5, scene 4, Open Air Theatre, Regent’s Park, 1974. Photograph: Nobby Clark	37
5	Jailer’s Daughter (Imogen Stubbs), Act four, scene 1, RSC, 1986. Photograph: Donald Cooper	40
6	Schoolmaster (Richard Moore) and Countrymen lead the Jailer’s Daughter (Imogen Stubbs) into the Morris, Act three, scene 5, RSC, 1986. Photograph: Donald Cooper	41
7	Arcite (Hugh Quarshie) arms Palamon (Gerard Murphy), Act three, scene 6, RSC, 1986. Photograph: Donald Cooper	43
8	Palamon (Jasper Britton) and Arcite (Will Keen), Act two, scene 2, Shakespeare’s Globe, 2000. Photograph: Donald Cooper	45
9	Emilia (Geraldine Alexander) and Hippolyta (Yolanda Vazquez), Act three, scene 6, Shakespeare’s Globe, 2000. Photograph: Donald Cooper	48
10	Emilia (Michelle Giroux), Palamon (Kami Posner), and Arcite (Brendan Murray), Act 2, scene 2, Stratford Festival, Ontario, 2002. Courtesy of Stratford Festival. Photograph: Michael Cooper	49