## PREFACE

This volume marks a change in editorial policy: instead of representing the current and rather diverse research in English and American studies by the Department, it offers papers devoted to one major topic in the field of Shakespeare studies.

The papers are the fruits of a two year project, which was partly launched by a deeply felt need to stimulate Shakespeare studies in Hungary. The team working on the project included both teachers and students of the Department and welcomed among its members people from other departments and universities.

The project adopted a methodological approach based on recent developments achieved mainly in the 1970s, which helped to take a fresh look at Shake-speare's dramas. It also explains the fact that this volume is rather an interim report on work in progress than a summary of a completed research.

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