



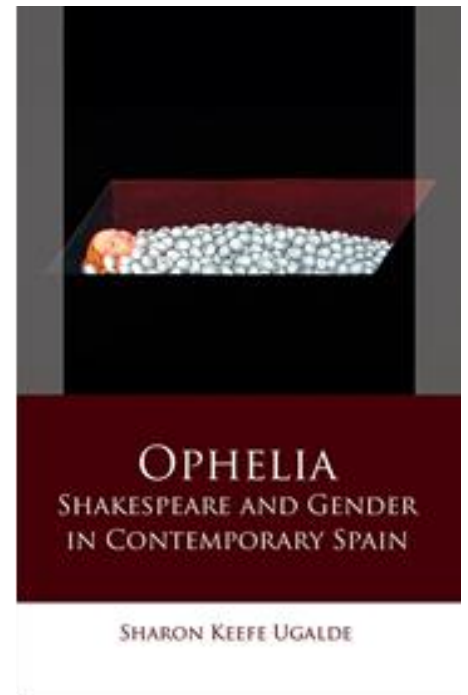
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Ophelia

Shakespeare and Gender in Contemporary Spain

Sharon Keefe Ugalde

June 2020



This fascinating study demonstrates how Spanish authors, dramatists and visual artists have brought Shakespeare's heroine to life. The author shows how Ophelia has been prominent in Spanish literature since her first appearance in eighteenth-century translations of *Hamlet*, and how the figure retained significance for major nineteenth and early twentieth-century Spanish poets, including Espronceda, Bécquer, Villaspesas, Lorca, and the pioneer female author Blanca de los Rios. The figure of Ophelia was also used by writers from the 1970s onwards, including Clara Janés, María Victoria Atencia, Eduardo Quiles, and an extensive group of important lesser-known writers. Ophelia has also been brought to life in the visual arts, by artists such as Marina Núñez, and the author explores the different viewpoints that these artists offer on a complex figure – is Ophelia invisible, a victim, mad, controlled by the masculine gaze, or an agent of her own identity? In many of these works, she unconventionally performs as an authoritative female author. The new perspectives outlined in this book reflect the gender diversity that has gained legitimacy in Spanish society since the political Transition.

This book is written for those interested in Shakespeare and the Spanish visual arts since the death of Franco in 1975. Students of humanities and gender, cultural or Hispanic studies will refer to the book's emphasis on the role of the arts and humanities in re-plotting gender, as well as the linking of cultural production to political circumstances, specifically to the end of the Franco dictatorship.

Sharon Keefe Ugalde is Distinguished Professor of Spanish Literature and Culture at Texas State University, San Marcos. She is the author of numerous critical works on Spanish poetry.



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Ophelia: Shakespeare and Gender in Contemporary Spain – Sharon Keefe Ugalde – PB – 9781786835987 – £45

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