

William Shakespeare

1564–1616

- 1564: Born in Stratford upon Avon to *John Shakespeare* and wife *Mary Arden*
- 1569-71: Enters local grammar school
- 1582: Aged 18, he marries *Anne Hathaway*, 26
- 1583: First child, *Susanna*, born. Twins *Judith* and *Hamnet* born in 1585
- 1589-90:

Writes first play, *Henry VI, Part One*. Around this time Shakespeare leaves Stratford to work as playwright and actor in London



Reconstruction of Globe Theatre opened in London in 1997



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■ 1593: Composes first sonnets and other poems while theatres closed due to plague

■ 1594: Shakespeare's troupe, *The Lord Chamberlain's Men*, perform frequently for *Queen Elizabeth I*

■ 1595: Plays include *Richard II*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Romeo and Juliet*

■ 1601: *Hamlet* written at around this time

■ 1603: Elizabeth dies. Lord Chamberlain's Men renamed *The King's Men* in honour of new king, *James I*

1590

1600

1610



▲ 1968 film adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet* directed by *Franco Zeffirelli*



▲ *King Lear*, Avignon Theatre Festival, 2007

■ 1611: *The Tempest* written. Shakespeare returns to Stratford

■ 1613: Globe Theatre burns down, reopens 1614

■ 1616: Shakespeare dies at age 52

▲ *Laurence Olivier* as *Hamlet* in 1948 film

