

“Latest Results in the Field of Shakespeare Research”
(Neueste Ergebnisse auf dem Gebiet der Shakespeare-Forschung)
[Extract], DAMALS (05-01-2011)

In early September 2010, Prof. Hammerschmidt-Hummel compared the new 3D recreation of the Darmstadt Shakespeare death mask with the original kept in the University and State Library in Darmstadt. This novel three-dimensional image was shown in the WILD DREAM FILMS documentary "Death Masks," broadcast on HISTORY in Great Britain in September 2010 and in the United States in the year 2009. Although the Shakespeare researcher, who had been able to prove the authenticity of the death mask in 1995/96 with the help of BKA (= CID/FBI) experts and medical specialists and was therefore interviewed for this film, was impressed by the fascinating technique and the result in general, she found a couple of divergences between the new 3D depiction and the authentic death mask: As a consequence of the insertion of artificial eyes, striking, medically diagnosed signs of illness were removed, like, for instance, the mask's deformed and protruding left eye, or were no longer clearly visible, like the significant pathological protuberance on the forehead. The artificial beard of the 3D reproduction and its likewise artificial moustache are not in agreement with the original. And the warts in the area of the chin are additions. Prof. Hammerschmidt-Hummel concluded: The novel 3D recreation of Shakespeare's death mask cannot claim to depict all the details of the poet's face faithfully. Only the Darmstadt Shakespeare death mask reveals what Shakespeare's face really looked like at the time of his death.

05-01-2011. Source: Olms Verlag

<http://www.hammerschmidt-hummel.de>

www.damals.de/de/8/Neueste-Ergebnisse-auf-dem-Gebiet-der-Shakespeare-Forschung.html?aid=190145&cp=2&action=showDetails