

SHAKESPEARE'S MAKING OF THE WORLD:

d i s t a n c e

horizon

possibility



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JANE HWANG DEGENHARDT is associate professor in the department of English at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She is the author of *Islamic Conversion and Christian Resistance on the Early Modern Stage* (2010) and co-editor of *Religion and Drama in Early Modern England* (2011). As a scholar and teacher, Jane is interested early modern globalizing processes, dramatic representation and the nature of performance, the cultural history of race, and the conversion of trauma into narrative. She is currently completing a book entitled *Fortune's Empire: Chance, Providence, and Overseas Ventures in Early Modern English Drama* that explores evolving understandings of "fortune" in relation to English global expansion. She is also beginning a new project on the concept of "the world" in the plays of Shakespeare. This study explores how Shakespeare's contributions to early modern understandings of the world established new relationships between geographical distance, time, and future possibility, as well as new forms of empathy and intimacy.