

Transgressive Titties: Female Expression and Transgression in the Jacobean Court Masque



Anna Jennings
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Costume Design by Inigo Jones
Oberon (1611)





Ben Jonson

Playwright (1572-1637)



Inigo Jones

Designer (1573-1652)

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Elizabeth I

(1533-1603)

“The Rainbow Portrait”

Marcus Gheeraerts the Younger c. 1600-1602



Queen Anna of Denmark

(1574-1619)

Portrait by John de Critz, 1605

The Masque of Blackness (1605)



“It is proper [...] that not only arms but indeed also speech of women never be made public; for the speech of a noble woman can be no less dangerous than the nakedness of the limbs”

-Francesco Barbaro, *On Wifely Duties* (1415)

James I and Queen Anne
of England
1610



“Will I let my child, the child of the king, suck the milk of a subject and mingle the royal blood with the blood of a servant?”

–Queen Anna of Denmark

Breast as Locus of Feminine Spirit
Queen Camilla
The Masque of Queens



“[Her] bosom bare down to the pit of her stomach...”

-Buzio Orsino, Venetian Chaplain

“Their Apparell was rich but too light and Curtizan-
like for such great ones”

-Sir Dudley Carleton referring to *The Masque of Blackness*

“large, low, open breast,
Full, white, round, swelling, azure vain'd”

-Patrick Hannay

The Masque of Queens

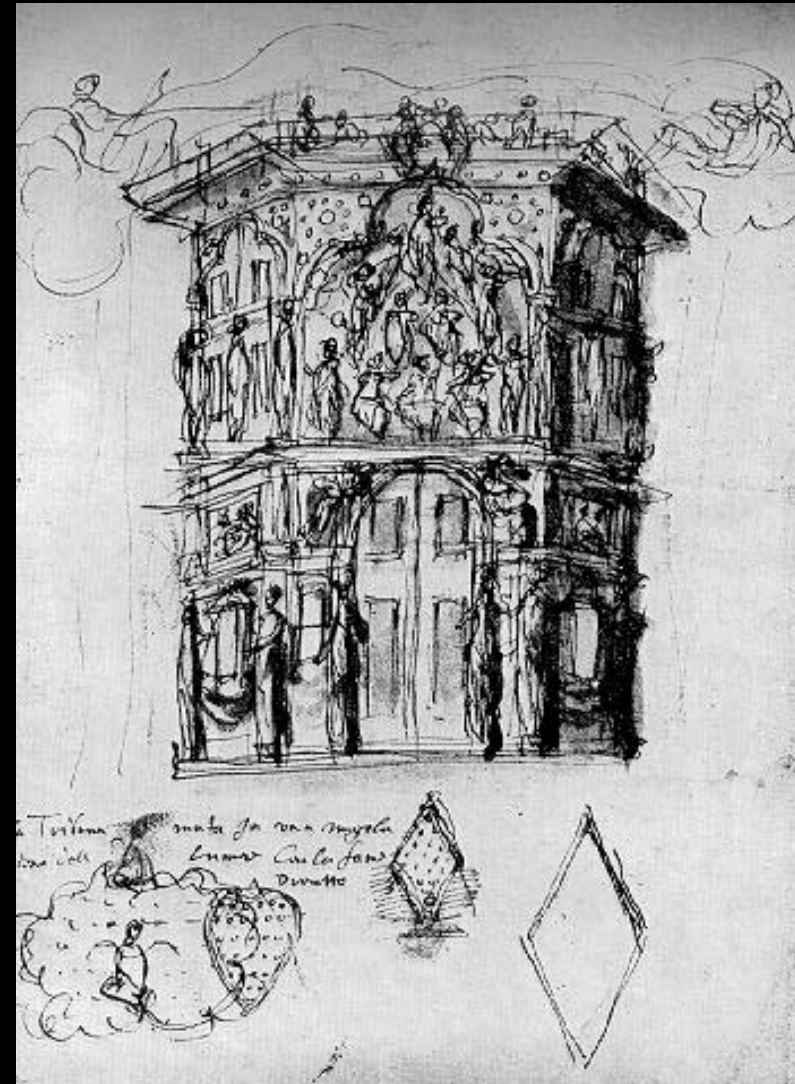
(1609)

Written by Ben Jonson

Scenic and Costume designs by Inigo Jones

Commissioned by Queen Anna

Performed by the Queen and her ladies



Rendering for the “House of Fame”

“To live eterniz'd in the house of *Fame*”:

“*Penthesilea*, the brave Amazon,
Swift-foot *Camilla*, Queen of Volscia,
Victorious *Thomyris* of Scythia,
chaste *Artemisia* the Carian Dame,
And fair-hair'd *Beronice*, Ægypt's fame,
Hypsicratea, Glory of Asia,
Candace, Pride of Æthiopia,
the Britain honour, *Voadicea*,
The vertuous Palmyrene, *Zenobia*,
The wise and warlike Goth, *Amalasunta*,
And bold *Valasca*, of Bohemia”

-Ben Jonson, *The Masque of Queens* (1609)

Inigo Jones' Costume Designs for *The Masque of Queens*



Queen Candace



Queen Camilla



Queen Thomyris



Queen Amalasantia



Queen Zenobia



Penthesilea, Amazon Queen
played by Lucy Russell, Countess of Bedford



Artemisia, Queen of Caria
played by Lady Wynter

“Royal Queen of the Ocean”
Headdress for Bel-Anna
played by Queen Anna of Denmark





Queen Beronice
The Masque of Queens



Unidentified Queen
The Masque of Queens

Queen Henrietta Maria as Chloris
Designed by Inigo Jones
for Ben Jonson's *Chloridia* (1631)

