



Dryden vs Shadwell - a Poetic Duel

By John Dryden (1631-1700) & Thomas Shadwell (c.1642-1692)

Throughout history there have been many creative artists whose fame depends largely on their association with a much greater artist. Such the case of Thomas Shadwell, poet and prolific writer of low brow comedies, who is today most famous as the butt of satire by one of greatest and most influential English poets, John Dryden. Shadwell and Dryden were at first colleagues and collaborators, but later fell out over some sharp divergences of opinion. In particular, Dryden disagreed with Shadwell's high estimation of Ben Jonson, and even more of the latter's claim to be Jonson's artistic heir.

- 01 - Epistle to the Whigs by John Dryden – 00:11:44 - Read by Bob Gonzalez
- 02 - The Medal by John Dryden – 00:19:53 - Read by Bob Gonzalez
- 03 - Epistle to the Tories by Thomas Shadwell – 00:17:42 - Read by Algy Pug
- 04 - The Medal of John Bayes by Thomas Shadwell – 00:22:02 - Read by Algy Pug
- 05 - Mac Flecknoe by John Dryden – 00:19:47 - Read by Martin Geeson

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