



Garrick as Richard III, Kemble as Richard III, Kean as Richard III. United Kingdom: 18th and 19th centuries. Folger ART 241076, ART 241078, ART 241079

The famed English actor David Garrick debuted on the London stage -- and became incredibly popular -- as Richard III in 1741. Two poses he struck in the production became iconic images of his performance, and, eventually, of the character. One of the poses can be seen in the series of porcelains featured here; Garrick's (left) startled pose transferred from actor to actor as John Philip Kemble (center) and Edmund Kean (right) drew elements of Garrick's performance into the nineteenth century. Porcelains and other theatrical memorabilia like these allowed theatregoers to take legendary performances back into their own homes.

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