William Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice

- It is believed to have been written between 1596 and 1598.
- The play is perhaps most remembered for its dramatic scenes.
- Best known for Shylock and the famous "Hath not a Jew eyes?" speech.

Timon of Athens

- Published in the *First Folio* (1623) and probably written in collaboration with another author, most likely Thomas Middleton, in about 1605–1606.
- It is about the fortunes of an Athenian named Timon (and probably influenced by the philosopher of the same name).
- The central character is a well beloved citizen of Athens who through tremendous generosity spends his entire fortunes on corrupt hangers-on only interested in getting the next payout.
- *Timon of Athens* was originally grouped with the tragedies, but some scholars name it one of the problem plays.

Julius Caesar

- It is one of several plays written by Shakespeare based on true events from Roman history, which also include *Coriolanus* and *Antony and Cleopatra*.
- Although the title is *Julius Caesar*, Caesar is not the most visible character in its action, appearing alive in only three scenes.
- Marcus Brutus speaks more than four times as many lines, and the central psychological drama of the play focuses on Brutus' struggle between the conflicting demands of honor, patriotism and friendship.

MARLON BRANDO
as Mark Antony

Thank you for your attention