



Peter Brown

We are very sad to announce the death of our dear friend and colleague, Peter Brown (Trinity College), who wisely and unstintingly guided and supported the APGRD from the early days of the project until his death on 30 November 2018. We remain indebted to Peter not just for his leadership of the APGRD's research into opera and music but also for his key role on our Advisory Board where his wit, warmth and enormous generosity of spirit was always in evidence and ever appreciated by us all. (Photo: Oxford Times)

New APGRD Artist Associate: Marina Carr

We are delighted that Marina Carr has agreed to become our new Artist Associate. Marina is an Irish playwright of international standing, whose work has been produced by the Abbey Theatre, the Gate, Druid, The Royal Court, Wyndhams Theatre, The RSC, The Tricycle, The MacCarter Theatre, San Diego Rep, and Milwaukee rep. A number of her plays have been inspired by Greek tragedies and are considered 'classics' of the modern theatre (*...By the Bog of Cats* (based on Euripides' *Medea*, Abbey Theatre, 1995; revival 2015); *Ariel* (version of *Oresteia*, Abbey Theatre, 2002); *Hecuba* (RSC 2015); *Phaedra Backwards* (McCarter Theater, Princeton, 2011)). The plays have been translated into many languages and produced around the world. Prizes include: the Windham-Campbell Prize (Yale) 2017 for her body of work; the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize; the American/Ireland Fund Award; the E. M. Forster Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters; the Macaulay Fellowship; and the Puterbaugh Fellowship. She is a member of Aosdána.



Archivist-Researcher returns & welcome to our new Archivist-Assistant

Claire Kenward has returned to her role as APGRD Archivist-Researcher and is working alongside Zoë Jennings, our Archivist-Assistant. Zoë began working at the APGRD as a volunteer in 2016 while completing her studies in Classics at Durham. Her Master's dissertation, on 1990s performances of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, was inspired by the APGRD's growing collection of materials relating to the performance reception of Greek and Roman epic poetry. While assisting with the day-to-day running of the Archive, Zoë is also planning a doctorate on contemporary performances of Ovid.

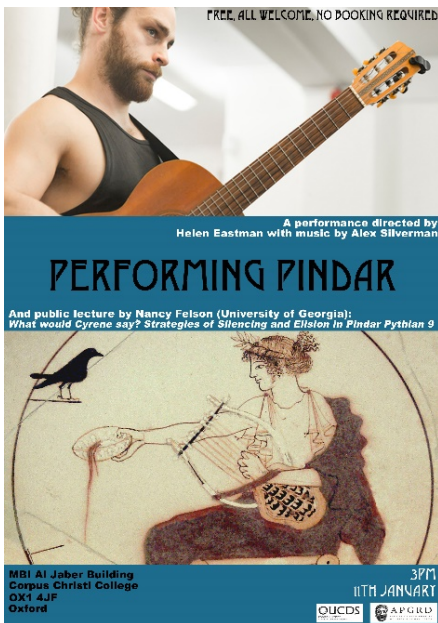
New APGRD Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow

Estelle Baudou will join the APGRD in September as a two-year Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow to work on 'Europe at War in Post-war Europe: Performing Greek Tragedies, Comedies and European Identity'. After a PhD at Paris-Nanterre University on the chorus in contemporary performances of Greek tragedies, her new project will combine her work as scholar with her practice as theatre-director and dramaturg.



APGRD Events

Past events



Performing Pindar

'Performing Pindar' (8 – 11 January) was an APGRD practice-based research project, led by Dr Helen Eastman (writer, director) and composer Alex Silverman, and initiated by Professor Nancy Felson (University of Georgia). Its principal aim was to explore what can be discovered by taking a performative approach to Pindar's *Pythian* 9. The project was not focussed on reconstructing the original performance conditions, but on applying contemporary performance techniques to the text. Helen and Alex worked with actors from the Live Canon ensemble and students from the University of Oxford, in a number of performance traditions, including 'Lecoq style' chorus work, sung work with metre, English ballad and Stanislavskian character-led approaches. They worked in both the original language and in translation, with commissioned 'performance translations' from 12 contemporary poets. There were many discoveries in the week, and scholars are able to access an archival recording of the final presentation through the APGRD. You can keep in touch with Live Canon's work at www.livecanon.co.uk.

Likely Terpsichore?; a film

The full-length film of *Likely Terpsichore? (Fragments)*, a solo performance in the Ashmolean Museum by APGRD Artist in Residence Marie-Louise Crawley (January - June 2017), is now available [here](#). Based on four female figures from Ovid's *Metamorphoses* - Galatea, Myrrha, Philomela and Medusa - *Likely Terpsichore?* formed part of the APGRD's 'Performing Epic' project. Marie-Louise has a chapter outlining her motivations, process, and findings in *Epic Performances* (OUP 2018).



Upcoming events

Postgraduate Symposium 2019: 'Communities and Contexts'

On Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th June 2019, the APGRD and Royal Holloway, University of London, will host the 19th Annual Joint Postgraduate Symposium on the Theory and Practice of Ancient Drama. This year's focus is on the concept and involvement of communities (choruses, audiences, etc.) in and out of their (cultural, performative, etc.) contexts in the interpretations of Greek and Roman drama. Our guest respondent will be Dr Hallie Marshall (University of British Columbia). Please send your abstracts to postgradsymp@classics.ox.ac.uk. We look forward to reading them! Some bursaries will be available.

Day 1 at the Ioannou Centre, Oxford, will include a performance from By Jove Theatre Company.

Day 2 will be held in the Department of Drama, Theatre and Dance, RHUL, Egham, Surrey TW20 OEX.

You are most welcome to attend one or both days. Free, all welcome, no registration or fees.

Classical Theatre and the Middle East conference: 'Greek drama and the "classic(s)" in the Arab-speaking world and Iran'

On Friday 12 July 2019 the APGRD will host a one-day conference on Greek drama and the notion of the classic(s) in the Middle East. Speakers and Chairs will include: Marilyn Booth (Oxford), Raphael Cormack (Oxford), Marios Chatziprokopiou (Aberystwyth and Athens), Malika Bastin-Hammou (Grenoble), Carmen Gitre (Virginia Tech), Sameh Hanna (Leeds), Lloyd Llewelyn-Jones (Cardiff), Shaymaa Moussa (Cairo), Evelyn Richardson (Chicago), Ons Trabelsi (Bordeaux), and Houman Zandi-Zadeh (Flinders). The conference will be followed by a solo show inspired by Euripides' *Medea* entitled 'Jogging' by Hanane Hajj Ali. **For further details, please email apgrd@classics.ox.ac.uk.**

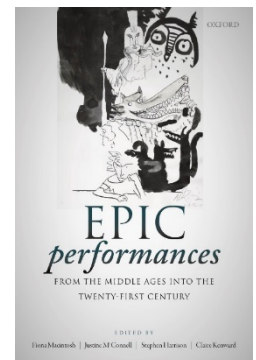


Hanane Hajj Ali in 'Jogging' (Photo: Eric Deniaud, Howlround Theatre Commons)

Publications

Epic Performances: TORCH Book at Lunchtime

To mark the recent publication of *Epic Performances from the middle ages into the twenty-first century* (OUP 2018), editors Fiona Macintosh, Justine McConnell, Stephen Harrison, and Claire Kenward will be hosting a discussion at TORCH's Book at Lunchtime on 27 February at 12.30pm. Guest respondents will be Oliver Taplin (Oxford), Olga Taxidou (Edinburgh/NYU), and Sarah Whatley (Coventry). Free, all welcome - book your place [here](#).



New film for Medea, a performance history ebook

An introductory film to our free-to-download *Medea* ebook has been made, featuring Helen Eastman, theatre director/writer and APGRD Advisory Board Member, and Qasim Alli, Oxford Classics Outreach Officer, discussing the impact of the ebook. The ebook draws on a unique collection of archival material and research at the APGRD and uses images, film, interviews and digital objects to tell the story of a play that has inspired countless interpretations, onstage and onscreen, in dance, drama and opera across the globe from antiquity to the present. The film will be released shortly.

Forthcoming volumes

- ***Heaney and the Classics*, edited by Stephen Harrison, Fiona Macintosh, and Helen Eastman (OUP 2019).** With chapters by Neil Corcoran, Helen Eastman, Rachel Falconer, Rowena Fowler, Edith Hall, Lorna Hardwick, Stephen Harrison, Rosie Lavan, Marianne McDonald, Peter McDonald, Bernard O'Donoghue, Michael Parker, Lucy Pitman-Wallace, Kathleen Riley, and Oliver Taplin.
- ***Telling Tales, or Performing Epic Now* (2019) by Fiona Macintosh and Justine McConnell.**
- ***Agamemnon, a performance history* – curated by Fiona Macintosh and Claire Kenward.** The second APGRD interactive multi-media ebook will appear in 2019.

| Upcoming APGRD Events | |
|--|--|
| Monday 25 February Lecture Theatre, Ioannou Centre, 66 St Giles', Oxford. 3pm | 'Translation Prefaces': a lecture by Martin Revermann (Toronto). Martin Revermann will be discussing translation prefaces, which are sites of unusual visibility for the translator and offer multiple opportunities for reflection, self-presentation, explanation and for establishing an engaging rapport with the prospective reader. <i>Free, all welcome, no booking required.</i> |
| Wednesday 27 February Seminar Room, Radcliffe Humanities, Woodstock Road, Oxford. 12.30 – 2pm | <i>Epic Performances from the Middle Ages into the Twenty-First Century: A Book at Lunchtime</i> The editors will be joined by an expert panel, Oliver Taplin (Chair), Olga Taxidou (Edinburgh), Sarah Whatley (Coventry) to discuss the new volume. <i>Free, all welcome, booking required via TORCH.</i> |
| Thursday 28 February Outreach Room, Ioannou Centre, 66 St Giles', Oxford. 5pm | 'The Dancer and the Übermarionette: Duncan, Craig and Modernist Performance': an APGRD/DANSOX lecture by Olga Taxidou (Edinburgh). <i>Free, all welcome, no booking required.</i> |
| Monday 13 May Lecture Theatre, Ioannou Centre, 66 St Giles', Oxford. 3pm | 'Homer and the Discovery of the Pacific': a lecture by Henry Power (Exeter/All Souls). <i>Free, all welcome, no booking required.</i> |
| Monday 20 May Lecture Theatre, Ioannou Centre, 66 St Giles', Oxford. 3pm | Annual Classics and English Lecture: "'The mask of a very definite purpose": Edith Wharton and the Classics', by Isobel Hurst (Goldsmiths). <i>Free, all welcome, no booking required.</i> |
| Monday 24-Tuesday 25 June Day 1: Lecture Theatre, Ioannou Centre, 66 St Giles', Oxford. Day 2: Department of Drama, Royal Holloway, Egham, Surrey | 19th Annual Joint Postgraduate Symposium: 'Communities and Contexts in the Theory and Practice of Greek and Roman Drama'. Day 1 will conclude with a performance from By Jove Theatre Company. For further details, see above. |
| Friday 12 July Jacqueline du Pré Music Building, St Hilda's College, Oxford. | Classical Theatre and the Middle East conference: 'Greek drama and the "classic(s)" in the Arab-speaking world and Iran' A one-day conference followed by a solo performance inspired by <i>Medea</i> entitled 'Jogging' by Hanane Hajj Ali. For further details, see above. |

@APGRD

You can follow the APGRD on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for more immediate updates about our events and research, or read the [APGRD blog](#) for stories from within our collections, as well as guest posts from scholars and performers.