



THE ARCHIVE OF PERFORMANCES OF GREEK AND ROMAN DRAMA

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

AUTUMN 2002 – WINTER 2003

'ARISTOPHANES: UPSTAIRS AND DOWNSTAIRS'

CONFERENCE 2004

The Archive's next conference, provisionally titled 'Aristophanes: Upstairs and Downstairs', will be held at Magdalen College, Oxford from the morning of Thursday 16 September to lunchtime on Saturday 18 September 2004. The focus of the conference will be the three Aristophanic plays *Peace*, *Birds* and *Frogs*. Further details of the programme and booking arrangements will be announced nearer the time. Please email apgrd@classics.ox.ac.uk or telephone 01865 288 210 should you wish to be added to our conference mailing list.

THE APGRD'S WEBSITE

The APGRD's website has been awarded a top-level domain name by the University of Oxford. It is hoped that the new web address, www.apgrd.ox.ac.uk, will improve accessibility. In conjunction with the new address, the site has recently been redesigned, with new features such as a site map (a hierarchical index to the website), and further full-text articles and book reviews. Suggestions for further improvements and additions to the site would be most welcome. We are hoping to make the project's database available online by the end of 2004. The database currently contains records for over 5800 productions of ancient drama performed since the Renaissance. We are working hard to increase this number significantly and to add further information to existing records before the online launch.

IAN MARTIN'S COLLECTION

We would like to record our thanks to Keith Martin for the generous gift of a substantial number of books, theatre programmes, videotapes, and audiotapes from the collection of his brother Ian who sadly passed away in 1997. Ian Martin read Classics at University College London where – following library posts at the Bodleian and at the LSE – he was to return in 1969 as the Classics and Ancient World Librarian, a post which he held for almost twenty-five years and for which he is widely and fondly remembered. Apart from philhellenism, Ian's other great love was music, and he served for many years as both chorus and committee member of the Chelsea Opera Group, and as librarian of the Berlioz Society.

Ian Martin's love for all things Greek, whether archaic, classical, Byzantine, or modern, combined with his passion for music, is well displayed by the wide-ranging collection of material which has been donated by his brother. His enthusiasms are neatly summed up by one item in particular: an important and rare programme for an evening of Greek music and drama organised by the Greek Committee Against Dictatorship in London early in 1970 which featured an impressive range of performers including Alan Bates, Cleo Laine, Ian McKellen, Melina Mercouri, and Janet Suzman.

NEWS FROM EDITH HALL

Edith Hall wrote a programme essay for Marina Carr's brilliant *Ariel*, a new version of the *Iphigenia in Aulis* plus the *Oresteia*, translated to County Offaly and Dublin in the third millennium. Edith also participated in a panel discussion of *Ariel* entitled 'Justice, Vengeance and Myth' at the Abbey Theatre on 12 October 2002, chaired by the Hon. Mr Justice Hardiman of the Supreme Court of Ireland. He was shocked by the violence of the ancient Greek imagination, but sensibly said that he was not prepared to decide whether the Clytemnestra figure (Frances Fitzgerald) was guilty, and would have to leave it up to a jury.

On 11 February Edith is going to review Edna O'Brien's new Sheffield Crucible version of *Iphigenia in Aulis* for the *Times Literary Supplement*. She has also recently recorded some material on the performance of myth and tragedy at Rome for a radio programme on the Colosseum to be broadcast on BBC Radio 3 on 12 February 2003.

APGRD LECTURES, HILARY & TRINITY TERMS 2003

- ✉ **BARRIE RUTTER** (Actor and Artistic Director, Northern Broadsides), '*Oedipus and Creon: Double Hybris*', 2.15pm on 29 January 2003, Magdalen College Auditorium (**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF VENUE!**)
- ✉ **GREG HICKS - CANCELLATION** Greg Hicks' lecture on 'Acting in a Mask', scheduled to take place on 5 February 2003, has regrettably had to be cancelled.
- ✉ **SEAN O'BRIEN** (Poet and Critic), '*Translating Aristophanes' Birds for Performance*', 2.15pm on 14 May 2003, Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum
- ✉ **PROFESSOR REINHARD STROHM** (Faculty of Music, Oxford), '*Baroque Opera and the Classics*', 2.15pm on 4 June 2003, Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum

3RD ANNUAL POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM

'THE CHORUS IN MODERN PERFORMANCES OF GREEK DRAMA': A CALL FOR PAPERS

A third annual postgraduate symposium is being organised by the Department of Drama and Theatre, Royal Holloway University of London, and the APGRD. The two-day event is to take place on Wednesday 25 June at the Classics Centre in Oxford and on Thursday 26 June 2003 at Royal Holloway in Egham. Postgraduates from across the globe who are working on modern revivals and adaptations of Greek drama – on stage and film, or in opera or dance – are welcome to participate. Those who wish to offer either a short paper or a performance on the theme of 'The Chorus in Modern Performances of Greek Drama' should send an abstract of up to 400 words by Friday 28 March 2003 to both amanda.wrigley@classics.ox.ac.uk and g.sampatakakis@rhul.ac.uk. Please include details of your current course of study, supervisor, and academic institution.

16TH UNIVERSITY OF LONDON FESTIVAL OF GREEK DRAMA

This year's two productions will be Euripides' *Hippolytos* (in the original Greek with English surtitles) performed by the Department of Classics, King's College London at the Greenwood Theatre, 5 – 8 February 2003, and Aristophanes' *Wasps* (in English translation) performed by the Department of Greek and Latin, University College London at the Bloomsbury Theatre, 5 – 8 March 2003. The performances are accompanied by the following programme of lectures:

- ✉ Professor John Davidson, '*Some Performance Disasters on the Athenian Stage*', 1.15pm on 12 February 2003, ICS, Senate House
- ✉ Mr David Matthews, '*Workshop on Epic Performances*' introduced by Professor David Wiles, 1.15pm on 19 February 2003, ICS, Senate House
- ✉ Professor Pat Easterling, '*Oedipus and Family in Sophocles*', 6pm on 25 February 2003, Garwood Lecture Theatre, UCL
- ✉ Dr Pantelis Michelakis, '*Medea on Film*', followed by a screening of Pasolini's *Medea*, 6.30pm on 26 March 2003, New Theatre, KCL

A SELECTION OF CURRENT AND FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

The following is a list – by no means exhaustive – of productions of ancient drama to be staged in 2003. We warmly welcome further notices for our database, so do keep in touch.

AUSTRIA

- ☞ Klaus Michael Grüber's *Ödipus in Kolonos*, in Peter Handke's German translation and with Bruno Ganz in the title role, will run from 11 May – 9 June 2003 at the Burgtheater, Vienna. Other productions at the Wiener Festwochen include Anouilh's *Antigone* and Racine's *Phèdre*. See www.festwochen.at for further details.

LIECHTENSTEIN

- ☞ Wolfgang Heyder directs Euripides' *Hekabe* at the Theater am Kirchplatz, Liechtenstein, 20 March – 4 April 2003.

SPAIN

- ☞ The Orquesta Simfònica de Barcelona i Nacional de Catalunya, with the Cor del Gran Teatre del Liceu, present George Enescu's *Cedipe* at the Gran Teatre del Liceu, Barcelona, 5 – 8 June 2003 (www.liceubarcelona.com).

UK

- ☞ Mark-Anthony Turnage's opera *Greek*, based on Steven Berkoff's play of the same name, will be performed on 18 January 2003 at the Barbican, London (to be broadcast on Radio 3 on 20 January at 7.30pm).
- ☞ In January the Actors of Dionysus begin their UK tour of their latest production of Aeschylus' *Agamemnon* in David Stuttard's adaptation. See www.actorsofdionysus.com/agamemnon.htm.
- ☞ Two Minds Theatre Company presents Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex* and Jeremy Kingston's *Oedipus at the Crossroads* at the Rosemary Branch Theatre, London from 28 January 2003 (www.rosemarybranch.co.uk).
- ☞ Edna O'Brien's *Iphigenia*, adapted from Euripides, is directed by Anna Mackmin at the Sheffield Crucible, 5 February – 1 March 2003 (www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk/whatson-crucible.asp).
- ☞ Strauss' opera *Elektra* is at the Royal Opera House, London from 31 March – 19 April 2003.
- ☞ Northern Broadsides' production of Blake Morrison's new version of Sophocles' *Antigone*, entitled *Creon*, will tour with their earlier and much acclaimed *Oedipus* (also by Morrison) next Autumn

USA

- ☞ Charles Mee's *Songs of Joy and Destitution*, "a twenty-first-century remix of Euripides' and Sophocles' masterpieces", dir. by Matthew Wilder for the Open Fist Theatre Company, will be performed in Hollywood, California from 10 January – 15 February 2003 (www.openfist.org/season2003.htm).
- ☞ Wole Soyinka's *The Bacchae of Euripides: A Communion Rite*, Clarence Brown Theatre, University of Tennessee, 7 – 22 February 2003 (<http://theatre.utk.edu/performance/2002season>).
- ☞ The University of Washington's School of Drama will present Charles Mee's *Orestes*, dir. by Rebecca Brown, in April 2003 (<http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrama/season>).
- ☞ Seneca's *Trojan Women*, directed by Mary Zimmerman, Goodman Theatre, Chicago from 4 April – 11 May 2003.
- ☞ Plautus' *The Rope* will be staged by Theater Ludicrum in Dorchester, Massachusetts and the Bronx, NY from 8 – 11 April 2003 (www.homestead.com/ludicrum).
- ☞ Frank McGuiness' adaptation of Sophocles' *Electra*, dir. by Judith Olauson for the Department of Dramatic Art, University of California, Santa Barbara. At the Hatlen Theatre, UCSB from 28 May – 1 June 2003.

CONTACTING THE APGRD

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