



THE ARCHIVE OF PERFORMANCES OF GREEK AND ROMAN DRAMA

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

SUMMER 2003

CONFERENCE 2004: 'ARISTOPHANES: UPSTAIRS AND DOWNSTAIRS'

The APGRD's conference on the three Aristophanic plays *Peace*, *Birds*, and *Frogs* will be held at Magdalen College, Oxford from Thursday 16 September to Saturday 18 September 2004. The booking form will be sent directly to those on our mailing list by the end of 2003; to be added to our mailing list please email apgrd@classics.ox.ac.uk or telephone 01865 288 210. The provisional list of conference speakers includes:

EWEN BOWIE (Corpus Christi College, Oxford)
MARY-KAY GAMEL (University of California, Santa Cruz)
MALIKA HAMMOU (Université de Toulouse)
NIKOS HOURMOUZIADIS (Thessaloniki)
CHARALAMPOS ORFANOS (Université de Toulouse)
FRANCESCA SCHIRONI (University of Oxford)
MARGOT SCHMIDT (Basle)
BERND SEIDENSTICKER (Freie Universität Berlin)
MICHAEL SILK (King's College London)
MATTHEW STEGGLE (Sheffield Hallam University)
MARTINA TREU (Università di Pavia)
GONDA VAN STEEN (University of Arizona)
BETINE VAN ZYL SMIT (University of the Western Cape)

In addition, there will be a panel on translating Aristophanes which will include Sean O'Brien (poet and translator) and Mike Poulton (playwright and translator).

FORTHCOMING APGRD LECTURES

LECTURES WILL BE FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS ♦ ALL ARE WELCOME!

- ☞ PROFESSOR ALAIN VIALA (Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford) and DR KATE TUNSTALL (Worcester College, Oxford), 'Racine and Greek Tragedy', 2.15pm on 29 October 2003, Magdalen College Auditorium
- ☞ DR PANTELIS MICHELAKIS (University of Bristol & APGRD), 'Greek Tragedy in Silent Cinema', 2.15pm on 26 November 2003, Magdalen College Auditorium
- ☞ PROFESSOR AMY WYGANT (University of Glasgow), 'Medean Alchemy', 2.15pm on 28 January 2004, Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum

APGRD PUBLICATIONS

Dionysus Since 69: Greek Tragedy at the Dawn of the Third Millennium, edited by Edith Hall, Fiona Macintosh, and Amanda Wrigley, will be published in January 2004. The contents list is available on the Oxford University Press website at www.oup.co.uk/isbn/0-19-925914-3, where there is a link to the advance order form. Two further volumes will be published by Oxford University Press in the near future: Edith Hall and Fiona Macintosh's book, *Greek Tragedy and the British Stage, 1660-1914*; and *Agamemnon in Performance, 458 B.C.-2002 A.D.*, edited by Fiona Macintosh, Pantelis Michelakis, Edith Hall, and Oliver Taplin.

NEWS FROM EDITH HALL

Edith has been invited to be Cornell Visiting Chair in the Humanities at Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania for the Fall Semester of 2003. There she will give a course entitled 'Greek Tragedy 458 B.C. to 2003 A.D.: Murders in the House of Atreus', and organise a symposium on the theme of 'Staging Aeschylus today', at which Olympia Dukakis will run a workshop on acting Clytemnestra with the director Peter Meineck. Also participating will be Helene Foley, Ellen McLaughlin (translator for the NAT's recent *Persians*), and Robert Auletta (translator for Peter Sellars' 1993 *Persians*). The symposium will begin at 1pm on 14 November and is open to all who are interested.

In addition to giving lectures in April on the performance reception of the *Oresteia* at Princeton (Faber lecture) and Columbia (as the keynote speaker at the Center for Mediterranean Studies' conference), and related lectures at Harvard, Glasgow, and the British Museum in winter 2002/2003, this summer Edith ran an international conference at the University of Durham on 'Cultural Responses to the Persian Wars' which included discussions of drama, art, and cinema from the Renaissance to the present day. Edith has also written the programme essay for Barrie Rutter's forthcoming production of Blake Morrison's *Antigone* (see the back page for tour).

Lastly, Colin Teevan has been selected as the Arts Council North-East's Literary Fellow 2003-2004. He will be attached to both Newcastle and Durham Universities and will be involved in seminars on performance reception.

POSTGRADUATE ACTIVITIES

The 3rd annual postgraduate symposium on Greek drama in modern performance was held in Oxford and Egham at the end of June. Jointly organised by the APGRD and the Drama Department of Royal Holloway, the two-day event brought an audience of sixty together to hear fourteen papers on the theme of 'The Chorus in Modern Performances of Greek Drama', two of which (by Chris Vervain and Yana Zarifi, both of RHUL) included substantial practical demonstrations. In addition, Avery Willis (Oxford) produced a series of readings from modern adaptations under the collective title 'A Greek Chorus Line'.

Kathleen Riley and Avery Willis, two of the APGRD's current Graduate Associates, both in the final stages of their doctoral work at Oxford, organised a very successful seminar series in the summer term of 2003. The weekly format of 'Dionysus Recast' was a pairing of a postgraduate plus an academic, with a performative element where appropriate. The academic speakers were Peter Brown, Edith Hall, Lorna Hardwick, Stephen Harrison, Tom Paulin, and Matthew Reynolds.

GOODBYE, AND WELCOME

Farewell to Isobel Hurst who provided part-time administrative support to the research project over the past year. Having completed her doctorate at Oxford on "'The feminine of Homer": classical influences on women writers from Mary Shelley to Vera Brittain', Isobel takes up an appointment to a one-year Junior Research Fellowship at the Institute of Hellenic and Roman Studies, University of Bristol.

Welcome to Chris Weaver who has replaced Isobel as the APGRD's part-time administrative assistant. Chris also holds a post at Oxfam as a Trades Union Administrator. Having read History at University College London, he is about to embark on a part-time MA in Social Policy at Oxford Brookes University. We are delighted to have him as a member of the team.

'STUDYING THE ANCIENT THEATRE': A COLLOQUIUM IN LONDON

The Institute of Classical Studies, London and The Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies are to hold a colloquium on 11-12 March 2004 on the theme of 'Studying the Ancient Greek Theatre'. The purpose of the event is to celebrate the work of the ICS and SPHS, and to 'show-case' current research and research projects based in the UK. Participants will include Chris Carey, Richard Green, Alan Griffiths, Edith Hall, Nick Lowe, Gregory Sifakis, and David Wiles, and there will be space devoted to the work of postgraduates and 'young scholars'. Proposals of 250 words are invited for (a) the two 'young scholars' sessions, one on archaeological, dramatic, and literary themes, and the other on performance, practice, and reception themes; and (b) exhibitions and other visual presentations of graduate work-in-progress. Email hellenic@sas.ac.uk by 15 November 2003.

MORE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

'**The Sacrifice of Iphigenia: A Colloquium**' will take place at the University of Bristol on 14 May 2004. The colloquium is held under the joint auspices of the APGRD and the Centre for the Classical Tradition, Bristol. Speakers will include Helene Foley, Edith Hall, Anna Linton, Fiona Macintosh, Susanna Phillippo, Melissa Sihra, William Vaughan, and Amy Wygant. Contact P.Michelakis@bris.ac.uk for further details.

'**Classics in Post-Colonial Worlds**', an international, interdisciplinary conference is to be held at the Open University in Milton Keynes on 19 and 20 May 2004. The conference will be jointly hosted by The Reception of the Texts and Images of Ancient Greece project, directed by Lorna Hardwick, and the Ferguson Centre for Research into the Cultures of Africa and South Asia, directed by David Richards. Call for Papers: abstracts of 400 words are to be sent to c.a.gillespie@open.ac.uk by 7 November 2003.

'**Classical Subjects and Modern Subjectivities**', a one-day conference on reception, is to be held at the Department of Classics, University of Reading on 25 June 2004. Further information can be obtained from B.E.Goff@rdg.ac.uk.

FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

∞ Music Theatre Wales, in a co-production with l'Opéra National du Rhin and the Berliner Festwochen, will present the first full production of Param Vir's opera *ION*, directed by Michael McCarthy. The première will be in the opera house in Strasbourg on 19 September, with further performances in Colmar, Mulhouse, and Berlin. The UK tour begins on 23 October at the Royal Opera House.

∞ Barrie Rutter is directing Blake Morrison's new version of *Antigone* for Northern Broadsides. The production opens at Salts Mill in Saltaire, Yorkshire at the beginning of October (see www.northern-broadsides.co.uk for the tour schedule and details of the forthcoming publication of Morrison's text of *Oedipus* and *Antigone*).

∞ Thiasos will present *Bacchae* at London's Cockpit Theatre from 27 October to 1 November. The production, directed by M. J. Coldiron and Yana Zarifi, will feature a new translation by Richard Seaford and original music by John White. Farrah, the eminent Algerian designer, is the consultant for set and costume.

∞ Alastair Elliot's translation of *Medea*, under the direction of Ferni Elufowoju, will be performed at the West Yorkshire Playhouse from 14 November 2003.

∞ The Oslo Players will present *Oedipus Rex* at Oslo's Teaterscenen in early December. The production, directed by William Mann, will be in English.

∞ 2004 will see two productions of Walter Braunfels' operatic adaptation of *Birds: Les Oiseaux* at the Grand Théâtre, Geneva in January / February (dir. Iannis Kokkos), and *Die Vögel* at the Volksoper, Vienna in March / April (dir. Birgit Meyer).

CONTACTING THE APGRD

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