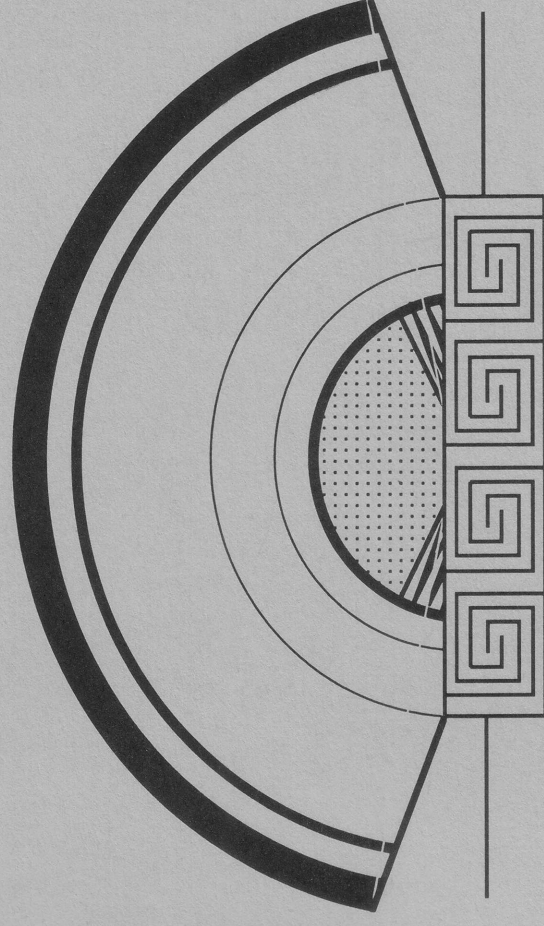


TWELFTH LONDON FESTIVAL OF GREEK DRAMA

8 FEBRUARY – 21 MARCH 1999



Aeschylus' *Choephoroi*
Aeschylus' *Persians*
Aristophanes' *Assembly-Women*
Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*

- live performances • workshops •
- lectures • pre-performance events •

The London Festival of Greek Drama is the only event of its kind in the world: an annual season of live performance, lectures, films and workshops, committed to bringing the experience of ancient Greek drama to the widest possible modern audience. The 1999 Festival celebrates its twelfth year with four major new productions, a host of lectures, and a season of special pre-performance and workshops events. The Twelfth Festival takes as its special themes the powerful tragedies of Aeschylus and the exuberant female comedies of Aristophanes.

Week 1 of our 1999 season sees a joint evening event with the Centre for Hellenic Studies, King's College London. In this opening lecture Dr Fiona Macintosh of Goldsmiths' College, London (author of *Dying Acts – Death in Ancient Greek and Modern Irish Tragic Drama*, Cork University Press 1994, and *Sophocles, Oedipus Rex – a Production History*, CUP, forthcoming, and co-author of the *Hellas Rehearsed*, OUP, also forthcoming) will examine the history of Greek tragedy on the British stage. This lecture precludes our first production at King's College London: Aeschylus' *Choephoroi* or *Libation-Bearers*, where Electra's fervent quest for justice leads to the ultimate act of retribution. The important theme of vengeance in *Choephoroi* is analysed further in Week 2 in a lecture by Professor Richard Janko of University College London (author of many works on Greek texts, Aristotle and the theory of literature).

In Week 3 an illustrated lunch-time workshop at the Institute of Classical Studies will look at the Culture of Masks. Led by Professor David Wiles of Royal Holloway, University of London (author of *The Masks of Menander*, CUP 1991 and *Tragedy in Athens – Performance, Space and Theatrical Meaning*, CUP 1997) this special cross-cultural event will feature presentations by Dr Angela Hobart and Ms Margaret Coldiron, two scholars in the field of Balinese and Indonesian mask culture.

In Week 4 University College London presents Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*: the famous comedy of sexual politics and women's revolution in an ambitious bid to end the Peloponnesian War. In Week 5 a joint lecture with the Hellenic Society welcomes Professor Alan Sommerstein of the University of Nottingham (leading scholar on Aristophanes and the editor of the series of Aris and Phillips Aristophanes texts). This lecture will expand on the Festival's themes of fantasy and female power (*gynaikokratia*) in Aristophanes.

To close the 1999 season, Week 6 sees Chloë Productions of the Institute of Classical Studies present another tragi-comic double-bill at Riverside Studios, Hammersmith and give an outing to two plays again new to the London Festival. Aeschylus' *Persians* is the oldest surviving example of Western drama and unique amongst the Greek dramatic canon as describing historical events in the defeat of the Persians at the Battle of Salamis. This is combined with Aristophanes' *Assembly-Women* – a radical burlesque of gender reversal and the communist Utopia. A series of special workshops illustrated by slides and performance extracts analyses the comic women of Aristophanes and women in Athenian society, and the presentation of Persians and barbarians on the Greek stage. A pre-performance talk programme by guest academic speakers provides insight into the major themes of *Persians* and *Assembly-Women*.

This programme contains full details of all events in the 1999 Festival. If you would like your name to be added to the mailing list for future years, please write to the Festival Coordinator: Mr Russell Shone, London Festival of Greek Drama, Institute of Classical Studies, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU (tel 0181-797 4697) or email rsnone@sas.ac.uk. Details of the Festival can also be found on-line at <http://www.rhbc.ac.uk/Classics/LFGD/festival.html>.

The London Festival of Greek Drama gratefully acknowledges sponsorship from the Hellenic Society, the Classical Association, the Institute of Classical Studies and The Embassy of Greece.

MONDAY 8 FEBRUARY

OPENING LECTURE

Dr Fiona Macintosh

"King's College London's First Libation-Bearers and London's Greek Plays in the 1880s"
5.30pm in the Great Hall, King's College London. Admission free.

Joint Lecture with the Centre for Hellenic Studies, King's College London

WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY TO SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY

PERFORMANCE

AESCHYLUS' CHOEPHORI
in the original Greek

Presented by the Department of Classics, King's College London, in the New Theatre, King's College London.

Performances: Wednesday 10 February 2.30pm & 7.30pm
Thursday 11 February 7.30pm
Friday 12 February 2.30pm & 7.30pm
Saturday 13 February 5.00pm

Tickets £5.00 (price includes programme) from the Business Manager, Department of Classics, King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS; tel 0171-873 2399 (24-hour direct line)
email address: greekplay@kcl.ac.uk. Please make cheques payable to "King's College Greek Play".

TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY

LECTURE

Professor Richard Janko

"The Vengeful Dead in Aeschylus' Libation-Bearers"

1.10pm in Lecture Room 329/330, Institute of Classical Studies, Senate House, Malet Street.
Admission free.

Joint Lecture with the Institute of Classical Studies

TUESDAY 23 FEBRUARY

WORKSHOP

The Culture of Masks

led by Professor David Wiles, with Ms Margaret Coldiron and Dr Angela Hobart
examining mask culture in the Greek and Indonesian/Balinese traditions

1.10pm in Lecture Room 329/330, Institute of Classical Studies, Senate House, Malet Street.
Admission free.

Joint Event with the Institute of Classical Studies

WEDNESDAY 3 MARCH TO SATURDAY 6 MARCH

PERFORMANCE

ARISTOPHANES' LYSISTRATA
in a new English translation

Presented by the University College London Classical Society, at the Bloomsbury Theatre.

Performances: Wednesday 3 March 1.30pm & 7.30pm
Thursday 4 March 1.30pm & 7.30pm
Friday 5 March 1.30pm & 7.30pm
Saturday 6 March 7.30pm

Tickets £6.50 (£4.00 children & concessions), available from the Bloomsbury Theatre, 15 Gordon Street, London WC1H 0AH; tel 0171-388 8822 (box office open 10.00am-6.00pm);
website <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/BloomsburyTheatre/> email: c.play@ucl.ac.uk Please make cheques payable to "Bloomsbury Theatre".

THURSDAY 11 MARCH

LECTURE

Professor Alan Sommerstein

"Nudity, Obscenity & Power: Modes of Female Assertiveness in Aristophanes"
5.30pm in Lecture Room 329/330, Institute of Classical Studies, Senate House, Malet Street.
Admission free.

Joint Lecture with the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies

TUESDAY 16 MARCH TO SUNDAY 21 MARCH

PERFORMANCE | WORKSHOP | LECTURE

AESCHYLUS' PERSIANS & ARISTOPHANES' ASSEMBLY-WOMEN

in new English translations

Presented by Chloë Productions in Studio 3, Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, London W6.

PERFORMANCES

Assembly Women

Tuesday 16 March at 3.00pm
Wednesday 17 March at 7.45pm
Thursday 18 March at 3.00pm
Friday 19 March at 7.45pm
Saturday 20 March at 7.45pm
Sunday 21 March at 3.00pm

Persians

Tuesday 16 March at 7.45pm
Wednesday 17 March at 3.00pm
Thursday 18 March at 7.45pm
Saturday 20 March at 3.00pm
Sunday 21 March at 7.45pm

WORKSHOPS – in Studio 3

Fantasy Females:

Aristophanes & his Comic Women

Tuesday 16 March at 1.30pm
Thursday 18 March at 1.30pm
Friday 19 March at 6.00pm
Saturday 20 March at 6.00pm

The Greeks & Barbarians
on the Ancient Stage

Wednesday 17 March at 1.30pm
Sunday 21 March at 6.00pm

PRE-PERFORMANCE TALKS – in Studio 3

Tuesday 16 March at 6.00pm

Professor David Wiles

"Acting the Persians
in 472 BC"

Thursday 18 March at 6.00pm

Dr Christopher Pelling

"Tragedy & History: The Persians"

Sunday 21 March at 1.30pm

Mr Russell Shone

"Women in Government: or a Vote for Viagra?"

Tickets: single play £6.00 (£5.00 concessions); double-bill £10.00 (£9.00 concessions); workshops £2.00; pre-performance talks £1.00. (Riverside Studios also offer a free ticket with every ten.) *Greek Drama Day* – tickets for a whole day (two performances, a workshop and a pre-performance talk) are £13 (£12 concessions)! All tickets available from the Box Office, tel 0181-237 1111, 12 noon – 7.00pm every day, at Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, London W6 9RL. Please make cheques payable to "Riverside Trust".