

2016
JULY

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ANCIENT GREEK DRAMA

PAPHOS ANCIENT ODEON - CURIUM ANCIENT THEATRE - MAKARIOS III AMPHITHEATRE, NICOSIA



Box File: 3/H/2016

June 7, 2016

Press Release

2016 INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ANCIENT GREEK DRAMA

PERFORMANCES PROGRAMME

Performances of ancient Greek drama will be presented in July, as every year, in the context of the “International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama” that is co organized by the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute (CCOITI) and the Cyprus Tourism Organisation.

A diverse programme has been developed by the organizers, still under the shadow of the economic crisis, focusing on the priority for quality rather than quantity.

From the 3rd until the 30th of July 2016, five theatre groups from Cyprus, Germany, Belgium and Greece will present ancient Greek drama at the Paphos Ancient Odeon, the Curium Ancient Theatre and the Makarios III Amphitheatre in Nicosia.

Limassol Theatre Development Company (ETHAL) will open the 20th edition of the Festival at the Paphos Ancient Odeon on the 3rd of July, presenting *The Poet and the Women (Thesmophoriazousae)* by Aristophanes, directed by Minas Tigkilis, translated by Costis Colotas. The Theatre Krefeld and Mönchengladbach gGmbH, the biggest theatre in the Lower Rhine region in the west of Germany will then present the two parts of Aeschylus’ trilogy *Oresteia, Agamemnon* and *The Libation Bearers (The Choephoroi)*, directed by Matthias Gehrt, translated by Peter Stein. Following these productions, the new Cypriot theatre Group “Ftochologia” will present *Plutus (Wealth)* by Aristophanes, directed by Kostas Silvestros and the theatre company de Roovers will travel from Belgium to present *Oresteia*, based on Aeschylus. The Festival will close with *Antigone* by Sophocles, staged by the 5th Season Art from Greece, directed by Themis Moumoulidis, in a new translation by Panayiota Pandazi.

The last years, the “International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama” is developing significantly and it has been honored with the EFFE Label 2015/2016, as one of the best Festivals in Europe. Each year the Festival broadens its scope, while opening a dialogue with contemporary international and European stages and it has expanded its audiences, local and foreign, by presenting performances with English and Greek surtitles.

Diachronic desire of the organizers is the widest possible attendance of the Cypriot audience, as well as foreign visitors, to the festival’s performances since they offer the

opportunity every year to theatre friends to enjoy spectacular productions from various countries of the world, in low performance ticket prices.

All the performances of the “International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama” are included in the official events program of the Organisation “European Capital of Culture – Pafos2017”, this year also.

The Festival’s Selection and Evaluation Committee is consisted of representatives of the Organizers: Nantia Stylianou, *Senior Cultural Officer*, Aristodimos Anastasiades, *Cultural Officer A’* and Marina Tryfonidou, *Cultural Officer*, Ministry of Education and Culture, Cultural Services, Leandros Taliotis, *Director, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the CCOITI*, Marinos Anogyriatis, *Director, Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the CCOITI*, Giorgos Mouaimis, representing *the CCOITI* and Irena Epaminondou, *Tourism Officer, Cyprus Tourism Organization*.

Organisers:

Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture,
Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute,
Cyprus Tourism Organisation

Sponsor:

Paphos Municipality

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Limassol Municipality

All the performances of the «2016 International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama» are included in the official events program of the Organisation «European Capital of Culture – Pafos2017»

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INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ANCIENT GREEK DRAMA

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PERFORMANCES PROGRAMME

ETHAL (LIMASSOL THEATRE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY), CYPRUS
THE POET AND THE WOMEN (THESMOPHORIAZUSAE) by Aristophanes

- Sunday 3 July, Paphos Ancient Odeon [official opening]
- Saturday 9 July, Curium Ancient Theatre
- Tuesday 11 July, Makarios III Amphitheatre, Nicosia

THEATER KREFELD AND MÖNCHEGLADBACH gGmbH, GERMANY
AGAMEMNON, THE LIBATION BEARERS by Aeschylus

- Tuesday 5 July, Curium Ancient Theatre
- Thursday 7 July, Makarios III Amphitheatre, Nicosia

FTOCHOLOGIA THEATRE GROUP, CYPRUS
PLUTUS by Aristophanes

- Tuesday 19 July, Makarios III Amphitheatre, Nicosia
- Friday 22 July, Paphos Ancient Odeon
- Saturday 23 July, Curium Ancient Theatre

DE ROOVERS, BELGIUM
ORESTEIA based on Aeschylus

- Monday 25 July, Paphos Ancient Odeon
- Wednesday 27 July, Makarios III Amphitheatre, Nicosia

5TH SEASON ART, GREECE
ANTIGONE by Sophocles

- Friday 29 July, Curium Ancient Theatre
- Saturday 30 July, Curium Ancient Theatre

Info

Tickets sales at:

SOEASY Kiosks in all cities
Musical Paradise shops
TIME OUT Kiosk in Paphos
In N Out Kiosk in Paralimni

and online at www.SoldoutTickets.com.cy

**Presale begins in 7th of July, 2016*

Tickets prices:

€10 | €5 (Students, Senior Citizens, National Guard, Citizens with unemployment benefits)

Free admission to persons with disabilities. Please show proof at ticket gate.

Performances start at 21:00 | Please arrive at the theatre before 20:45

Info: 7000 2414 | www.greekdramafest.com

Greek language performances will be presented with English surtitles and foreign performances with Greek and English surtitles. The performance *The Poet and the Women* will be also subtitled in Russian.

To facilitate the public in Nicosia, free shuttle transport from Nicosia to Curium will be offered, for the two performances of *Antigone* at the Curium Ancient Theatre, in 29th and 30th of July.

- Departure: 18:30 (parking opposite the Handicraft Centre in Athalassa Avenue)
- Reservations are obligatory on 7000 2414, until the 25rd of July, 2016

Spectators attending performances at Curium Ancient Theatre are advised to arrive at **least** 45 minutes before the performance. Cars must be parked at St. Hermogenes and spectators will be transported to the theatre by buses. The last bus route from St. Hermogenes to the theatre departs at 20:45

Organisers



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE
CULTURAL SERVICES



CYPRUS CENTRE
OF THE INTERNATIONAL THEATRE INSTITUTE



CYPRUS
TOURISM ORGANISATION

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PAFOS2017



ETHAL (LIMASSOL THEATRE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY), CYPRUS

THE POET AND THE WOMEN (THESMOPHORIAZUSAE) by Aristophanes

- **Sunday, 3 July** | Paphos Ancient Odeon [official opening]
- **Saturday, 9 July** | Curium Ancient Theatre
- **Tuesday, 11 July** | Makarios III Amphitheatre, Nicosia

ETHAL opens this year's International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama with Aristophanes' multifaceted comedy, *The Poet and the Women*. The women wish to get rid of Euripides, who in their opinion is a misogynist, feeling insulted by the way he abuses them in his tragedies. They take advantage of the Festival of Demeter, Thesmophoria and decide to set in motion a plan to destroy him. As his only way out, Euripides sends his friend Mnesilochus, dressed as a woman, to go to the celebration that is strictly forbidden for men, in order to defend him. Mnesilochus accepts this difficult task. However, in his over eager attempt to justify Euripides, he betrays his sex and things get complicated.

In *The Poet and the Women*, which is one of the three "female" comedies of Aristophanes that have survived, human weakness is outlined with a charming sense of humour and scathing irony.

- *With English and Russian surtitles*

Translated by **Costis Colotas**

Directed by **Minas Tigkilis**

Set/Costume design: **Lakis Genethlis**

Lighting Design: **Panayiotis Manousis**

Music: **Dimitris Zachariou**

Choreography: **Lambros Lambrou**

Assistant to the Director: **Theodora Vicha**

Assistant to the Choreographer: **Elena Gavriel**

Cast:

Costas Vichas (Mnesilochus), **Panayiotis Larkou** (Euripides), **Filippos Sofianos** (Agathon), **Eftychios Poullaides** (Cleisthenes), **Marinos Calotychos** (Servant of Agathon, a Scythian Policeman), **Melanie Steliou** (Herald), **Paola Hadjilambri** (Women A,B,C), **Ivie Nicolaidou** (Women A,B,C), **Themis Ppolou** (Women A,B,C), **Mikaella Theodoulidou** (Deer A), **Elena Hileti** (Deer B), **Varvara Christofi** (Deer C), **Elena Gavriel**, **Stefanie Mavrokordatou**

THEATER KREFELD AND MÖNCHENGLADBACH gGmbH, GERMANY

AGAMEMNON, THE LIBATION BEARERS by Aeschylus

- **Tuesday, 5 July** | Curium Ancient Theatre
- **Thursday, 7 July** | Makarios III Amphitheatre, Nicosia

The Krefeld and Mönchengladbach Theatre gGmbH, the biggest theatre in the Lower Rhine region in the west of Germany, presents the two tragedies of Aeschylus' trilogy *Oresteia*, *Agamemnon* and *The Libation Bearers* (*The Choephoroi*), translated by Peter Stein and directed by Matthias Gehrt.

Agamemnon, the victor of the ten year war of Troy, returns to Argos. There his wife Clytemnestra, mother of Orestes and lover of Aegisthus welcomes him as a victor and murders him shortly after he has entered the palace, without any qualms, as a revenge for the sacrifice of their daughter Iphigenia. At the same time she assists Aegisthus to become King of Argos. In the second part of the trilogy, *The Libation Bearers*, the exiled Orestes returns home to take revenge for his father's murder.

Aeschylus decodes profound realities of the human soul and thought.

- *With Greek and English surtitles*

Translated by **Peter Stein**

Directed by **Matthias Gehrt**

Stage Designer: **Gabriele Trinczek**

Costume Designer: **Sibylle Gädecke**

Music: **Jörg Ostermayer**

Choreographer: **Robert North**

Dramaturge, Production Manager: **Martin Vöhringer**

Stage Manager: **Petra Hackbarth**

Assistant to the Director: **Sascha Mey**

Cast:

Eva Spott (Clytemnestra), **Joachim Henschke** (Agamemnon, Choir of elders of Argos), **Helen Wendt** (Cassandra, Choir of slave women), **Bruno Winzen** (Aegisthus, Choir of elders of Argos), **Cornelius Gebert** (Orestes, Choir of elders of Argos), **Esther Keil** (Electra, Servant), **Ronny Tomiska** (Pylades, Choir of elders of Argos), **Jonathan Hutter** (Choir of elders of Argos), **Adrian Linke** (Choir of elders of Argos), **Paul Steinbach** (Choir of elders of Argos), **Christopher Wintgens** (Messenger, Choir of elders of Argos), **Lena Eikenbusch** (Servant, Choir of slave women, Nurse), **Paula Emmrich** (Choir of slave women)

Organisers



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE
CULTURAL SERVICES



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EUROPE FOR FESTIVALS
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FTOCHOLOGIA THEATRE GROUP, CYPRUS

PLUTUS by Aristophanes

- **Tuesday, 19 July** | Makarios III Amphitheatre, Nicosia
- **Friday, 22 July** | Paphos Ancient Odeon
- **Saturday, 23 July** | Curium Ancient Theatre

A new theatre group “Ftochologia” presents the last comedy of Aristophanes that survived to us, a scathing critique on the human dream for wealth. Chremylus, swamped in debt, goes to Delphi to ask the oracle whether he should bring up his son as an honest man or as a rascal. On his way back he meets Plutus, who was blinded by Zeus so he would be unable to distinguish between the just and the unjust and would randomly distribute wealth. With the help of Chremylus and his slave Carion, Plutus’ sight is restored at the temple of Asklepios and he decides to bring back justice to society. While everybody is trying to benefit from this new situation, Poverty appears, in an effort to persuade them that wealth never brings happiness.

In *Plutus (Wealth)*, Aristophanes comments on the diachronically timely social injustices and ridicules the unfair distribution of wealth, but also corruption.

- *With English surtitles*

Adaptation/Dramaturgy/Direction: **Kostas Silvestros**

Set/Costume Design: **Marina Hadjilouca**

Musicians on stage: **Gav the band**

Choreography: **Eva Kalomiri**

Lighting Design: **Vasilis Petinaris**

Assistant to the Director: **Elena Georgiadou**

Assistant to the Set Designer: **Sosanna Tomazou**

Photographs: **Michael Georgiades**

Cast:

Demetris Antoniou (Chremylus), **Yiannis Minos** (Carion), **Marina Vrondi** (Poverty), **Valentinus Kokkinos** (Plutus), **Vasilis Charalambous** (Blepsidemus, Informer, Old Woman, Hermes), **Herodotos Miltiadous** (Wife to Chremylus, Just Man, Young Man, Priest), **Georgina Tatsi** (Chorus)

DE ROOVERS, BELGIUM

ORESTEIA based on Aeschylus

- **Monday, 25 July** | Paphos Ancient Odeon
- **Wednesday, 27 July** | Makarios III Amphitheatre, Nicosia

The Belgian theatre company de Roovers participates for the first time in the Festival, presenting the production *Oresteia*, based on Aeschylus. The trilogy *Oresteia*, the last and greatest work by Aeschylus, has been characterized as “the greatest achievement of human thought”. Three murders, three culprits; their demons, their fate and their moral dilemmas constitute the vicious circle of revenge that is interrupted by the new order of things. The principle of “an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth” is replaced by a different form of justice, the court. The de Roovers group based their performance on the trilogy by Aeschylus, translated into English by the outstanding poet Ted Hughes and into Dutch by Berard Dewulf. The original text is preserved, punctuated with excerpts from contemporary writers.

- *With Greek and English surtitles*

Translated into English by **Ted Hughes**

Translated into Dutch by **Bernard Dewulf**

Adaptation/Direction: **de Roovers**

Music composition/ Musical direction: **Peter Spaepen**

Scenography/Photography: **Stef Stessel**

Costumes: **Pynoo**

Lights: **Bert Vermeulen, Stef Stessel**

Soundscape: **Eric Engels**

Video technology: **Guy Vandebril**

Light, sound and video engineers: **Frank Haesevoets, Ben Bonner, Wim Bernaers**

Cast:

Robby Cleiren (Agamemnon, Apollo), **Sara De Bosschere** (Cassandra, Electra, Athene), **Luc Nuyens** (Herald, Aegisthus, Furies), **Sofie Sente** (Chorus), **Ilse Uitterlinden** (Clytemnestra, Furies), **Jeroen Vander Ven** (Watchman, Orestes)

Singing/choir: **Kurt Beheydt, Peter Pype, Eva Tulkens, Iris Berardocco, Fré Madou, Sara Raes, Valerie Mertens, Floris Lammens, Astrid Annicaert**

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5TH SEASON ART, GREECE

ANTIGONE by Sophocles

- **Friday, 29 July** | Curium Ancient Theatre
- **Saturday, 30 July** | Curium Ancient Theatre

5th Season Art presents Sophocles' *Antigone*, a diachronic criticism on the arrogance of power, directed by Themis Moumoulidis, using a new translation by Panayiota Pandazi. It is a contemporary approach to the masterly tragedy presented in a poetic visual environment, complemented with contemporary music by Stavros Gasparatos.

In *Antigone*, a deeply political text, the need of the free man to live in accordance with his personal value system, clashes with the attempted dominance of an arbitrary and arrogant power. However, is it possible for one to represent the whole of society, and therefore claim universal legitimacy and acceptance of his authority? Antigone decides to bury her brother, convinced that the unwritten law of the heart is above human law.

- *With English surtitles*

Translated by **Panayiota Pandazi**

Directed by **Themis Moumoulidis**

Set/Costume Design: **Panayiota Kokkorou**

Music: **Stavros Gasparatos**

Movement: **Elena Gerodimou**

Sound director: **Yiannis Lambropoulos**

Cast:

Ioanna Pappa (Antigone), **Nikitas Tsakiroglou** (Creon), **Eleni Zarafidou** (Ismene, Theban Citizen), **Stavros Zalmas** (Guard, First Messenger), **Giorgos Papapavlou** (Haemon, Theban Citizen), **Nikos Arvanitis** (Teiresias), **Marouska Panayiotopoulou** (Eurydice, Theban Citizen), **Kostas Falelakis** (Second Messenger, Theban Citizen), **Costas Velentzas**, **Manos Karatziyiannis**, **Giorgos Nouis** (Theban Citizens)

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