Thessaloniki Greek Drama Conference

3rd International Conference for Contemporary Trends in Classical Philology

Η ΣΚΗΝΙΚΗ ΑΠΕΙΚΟΝΙΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΚΡΙΣΗΣ:
ΤΡΑΓΩΔΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΚΩΜΩΔΙΑ ΣΤΗΝ ΑΘΗΝΑ ΤΟΥ ΥΣΤΕΡΟΥ ΠΕΜΠΤΟΥ ΑΙΩΝΑ Π.Χ.

3rd Trends in Classics International Conference

Crisis on Stage:

Tragedy and Comedy in Late Fifth-Century Athens

Θεσσαλονίκη, 3-6 Δεκεμβρίου/ 3-6 December 2009

Αρχαιολογικό Μουσείο/ Archaeological Museum

Τμήμα Φιλολογίας, Αριστοτελείο Πανεπιστήμιο Θεσσαλονίκης

Department of Philology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

&

Τμήμα Κλασικής Φιλολογίας, Πανεπιστήμιο του Freiburg

Department of Classical Philology, University of Freiburg

Οργανωτική Επιτροπή/ Organizing committee:

Antonios Rengakos (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

Bernhard Zimmermann (University of Freiburg)

Poulcheria Kyriakou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

Andreas Markantonatos (University of Peloponnese)
The Department of Classics at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Institut für Klassische Philologie at the University of Freiburg are pleased to announce the organization of the 3rd Trends in Classics International Conference to be held in the Auditorium of the Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki, December 3-6, 2009.

This four-day conference explores the relationships between masterworks of such celebrated Greek dramatists as Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes and critical events of Athenian history, by bringing together international scholars with expertise on different aspects of ancient theatre. We seek to raise questions about how tragic and comic plays composed in late fifth century BCE mirror the acute political and social crisis unfolding in Athens in the wake of the military catastrophe in 413 BCE and the oligarchic revolution in 411 BCE. With events of such magnitude the late fifth century held the potential of vast and fast cultural and intellectual change. In times of severe emergency humans gain a more conscious understanding of their historically shaped presence; this realization often has a welcome effect of offering new perspectives to tackle future challenges. Although the political and social upheavals of post-Periclean Athens and their aftermath seriously undermined the stability of the democracy, it is widely accepted that the corrosive effects of this climate of suspicion and discontent were not powerful enough to destroy the democratic achievement. Despite the absence of efficient leadership throughout the late fifth century BCE, the reconciliation agreement of 403/402 BCE is an undeniable proof that the Athenians had the courage and determination to rise above the degenerative force of circumstances, by looking beyond private concerns and petty self-interest. We believe that theatre showed increased responsiveness to the pressing social and political issues of the day to the benefit of the polis. By regularly promoting examples of public-spirited and capable figures of authority, Greek drama provided the people of Athens with a civic understanding of their own good. This conference therefore seeks to generate significant attention to the pressure of Athenian history within tragic and comic texts of the late fifth century BCE, by considering drama not only as an important cultural and intellectual forum for reflection on new political, social, religious and moral accents consequent to the cataclysmic changes triggered by the Peloponnesian War, but also as a valuable powerhouse constantly offering ethically-relevant considerations and state-saving strategy.

Programme of Events

3 Δεκεμβρίου/ December 3, 2009

17.30-18.30: Υποδοχή-Εγγραφές/ Reception – Registration

18.30-19.00: Χαιρετισμοί/ Opening Ceremony

Opening Keynote Address

19.00-19.30: Bernhard Zimmermann (University of Freiburg)

TRACK A: Tragedy (Focusing on a Single Play)

Session 1: Sophocles

ΠΡΟΕΔΡΙΑ/ PANEL PRESIDER: Antonios Rengakos
19.30-20.00: Ruth Scodel (University of Michigan)

*Philoctetes and Political Nostalgia*

20.00-20.30: Guido Avezzù (University of Verona)

*The Crisis of Political Representation: Sophocles’ Philoctetes*

20.30-21.00: Poulichera Kyriakou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

*Kairos and Kratos: The Chorus of Philoctetes and Present Opportunity*

4 Δεκεμβρίου/ December 4, 2009

**Session 2: Sophocles and Euripides**

ΠΡΟΕΔΡΙΑ/ PANEL PRESIDER: Anton Bierl

10.00-10.30: Suzanne Saïd (Columbia University)

*Athens and Athenian Space in Oedipus at Colonus*

10.30-11.00: Andrea Rodighiero (University of Verona)

*The Sense of Place: Oedipus at Colonus, ‘Political’ Geography and the Defense of a Way of Life*

11.00-11.30: Richard Hunter (University of Cambridge)

*Euripides’ Ion: Nothing to Do with Nietzsche?*

11.30-12.00: Claude Calame (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris)

*Myth and Performance on the Attic Stage: Praxithea, Erechtheus, their Daughters and the Aetiology of Athenian Authochthony*

12.00-12.30: ΔΙΑΛΕΙΜΜΑ/ COFFEE BREAK

12.30-13.00: Marco Fantuzzi (University of Macerata)

*The Dream of the Charioteer (728-803) in the Rhesus Ascribed to Euripides*

13.00-13.30: Konstantina Gakopoulou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

*Euripides’ Bakchen: Ende einer Epoche oder Beginn einer neuen?*

13.30-14.00: Horst-Dieter Blume (University of Münster)

*Euripides’ Iphigenia at Aulis*
14.00-14.30 Andreas Markantonatos (University of Peloponnese)

_Leadership in Action: Wise Policy and Firm Resolve in Euripides’ Iphigenia at Aulis_

14.30-16.30: ΓΕΥΜΑ/ LUNCH

5 Δεκεμβρίου/ December 5, 2009

TRACK B: Tragedy (Unearthing Hidden Connections between Plays)

Session 3: Society, Religion and Politics

ΠΡΟΕΔΡΙΑ/ PANEL PRESIDER: Richard Hunter

10.30-11.00: Alan Sommerstein (University of Nottingham)

_Problem Kids: Young Males and Society from Electra to Bacchae_

11.00-11.30: Georgia Xanthakis-Karamanos (University of Peloponnese)

_The ‘Dionysiac’ Plays of Aeschylus and Euripides’ Bacchae: Re-Affirming Traditional Cult in Late Fifth-Century BC_

11.30-12.00: Daniel Iakov (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

_Fragmenting the Self: Society and Psychology in Euripides’ Electra and Ion_

12.00-12.30: ΔΙΑΛΕΙΜΜΑ/ COFFEE BREAK

12.30-13.00: Francis Dunn (University of California, Santa Barbara)

_Transcending Crisis: Metadrama and Metaphysics in Bacchant Women and Oedipus at Colonus_

13.00-13.30: Anton Bierl (University of Basel)

_Women on the Acropolis: Comic Body-Politics, Ritual and Metaphor in Aristophanes’ Lysistrata_

14.00-15.30: ΓΕΥΜΑ/ LUNCH

Session 4: Myth, History and Tragic Character

ΠΡΟΕΔΡΙΑ/ PANEL PRESIDER: Ian Storey

15.30-16.00: Patrick Finglass (University of Nottingham)

_Sophocles’ Theseus_

16.00-16.30: Sophie Mills (University of North Carolina at Asheville)
16.30-17.00: Ioanna Karamanou (University of Peloponnese)

Euripides’ ‘Family Reunion Plays’ and their Possible Socio-Political Affiliations

17.00-17.30: ΔΙΑΛΕΙΜΜΑ/ COFFEE BREAK

17.30-18.00: Roberto Nicolai (University of Rome, La Sapienza)

I Paradigmi Mitici in Euripide: La Crisi del Mito

18.00-18.30: Thalia Papadopoulou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

Altruism, Sovereignty, and the Degeneration of Imperial Hegemony in Greek Tragedy and Thucydides

18.30-19.00: Anna Lamari (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

The Return of the Father: Euripides’ Antiope, Hypsipyle and Phoenissae

20.30: ΔΕΙΠΝΟ/ CONFERENCE DINNER

6 Δεκεμβρίου/ December 6, 2009

TRACK C: Comedy

Session 5: Political Crisis and Comic Laughter

ΠΡΟΕΔΡΙΑ/ PANEL PRESIDER: Sophie Mills

10.30-11.00: Antonis Tsakmakis (University of Cyprus)

Persians, Oligarchs and Festivals: The Date of Lysistrata and Thesmophoriazusae

11.00-11.30: Ian Storey (Trent University)

Comedy and Crises

Καταληκτήρια Ομιλία/ Closing Keynote Speech

11.30-12.00: David Rosenbloom (Victoria University of Wellington)

The Subversive Stage: Democracy and its Discontents in Late Fifth-Century Drama

12.30-15.00: ΓΕΥΜΑ/ LUNCH
Χορηγοί /Sponsored by

ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ, ΔΙΑ ΒΙΟΥ ΜΑΘΗΣΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΩΝ
ΑΡΙΣΤΟΤΕΛΕΙΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ
ΕΚΔΟΣΕΙΣ Δ.Ν. ΠΑΠΑΔΗΜΑ
UNIVERSITY STUDIO PRESS