**‘Survival and Disobedience in the Theory and Practice of Greek and Roman Drama.’**

**22nd Annual APGRD / University of London Joint Postgraduate Symposium on Ancient Drama, 30th June and 1st July 2022.**

The Postgraduate Classics Symposium, ‘Survival and Disobedience in the Theory and Practice of Greek and Roman Drama’, ran between the 30th of June and 1st of June 2022. It was co-organised by David Bullen (academic at Royal Holloway), Zoë Jennings, Claire Barnes, Leo Kershaw and Daniel Whittle (PhD students at the University of Oxford). The symposium was fortunate to receive funding from The Hellenic Society and The Classical Association.

The Symposium focused on the reception of Greek and Roman tragedy, comedy, epic, and lyric in performance, exploring their afterlives through re-workings by both writers and practitioners across all genres and periods. This year’s focus on ‘Survival and Disobedience’ took as its starting point the question of what ‘surviving’ might mean in the context of the reception of the ancient past. We invited participants to consider what constitutes survival, and what power structures enable it or hinder it; how ‘what survives’ differs from ‘what remains’ materially; whether in performance survival must be held in binary opposition with the ephemeral; what the relationship between survival and haunting might be; what happens when survival is figured as an act of ‘disobedience’; and how generic transgressions, counter readings, and other moments of ‘disobedience’ themselves might enact survival.

During the course of the two-day symposium, we enjoyed a rich array of thought-provoking student presentations; demonstrations of performance-based research; dramatic performances by students and young professionals; a keynote lecture from Dr Margherita Laera (University of Kent); and guest responses from Dr Emma Cole (University of Bristol) and Professor Olga Taxidou (University of Edinburg and New York University).

The funding received from The Hellenic Society and The Classical Association enabled participants from across Europe and the USA to attend the event in person at the University of Oxford and Royal Holloway. Most of our speakers travelled from abroad, and we are grateful to have received funding in order to offer bursaries towards the cost of their travel. The opportunity to hold this symposium in person certainly enriched the experience of the attendees.

**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

**Day 1: Thursday 30 June**

Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St. Giles’, Oxford, OX1 3LU

*11.00-11.30 Registration and welcome*

**11.30-12.15 Panel 1: Comedic survivals**

Orlando Gibbs (University of Cambridge) – ‘Reading Plautine Adaptation as Survival’

Joshua Streeter (The Ohio State University) – ‘The Haunted *Skene*: A Practice-as-Research Case Study of Nikokhares’ Fragmentary *Herakles Khoregus*’

*12.15-12.30 Break*

**12.30-13.30 Panel 2: Women, survival and afterlife**

Lena Grimm (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) – ‘Barbara Köhler’s “Elektra. Mirrorings” and the Poetics of Survival’

Vasiliki Avramidi (University of Bologna) – ‘The Afterlife in Margaret Atwood’s *Penelopiad*: a gendered space for creation’

Cecilia Burattin (University of Milan) – ‘*Iphigenia in Tauris*: finding survival in ritual disobedience’

*13.30-15.00 Lunch*

**15.00-15.30 – Dramatic Presentation by British American Drama Academy**

**15.30-16.15 Panel 4: Survival and trauma**

Matteo Barbiero (University of Southern California) – ‘Surviving *Antigone* in *We are not Princesses* (2018)’

Chelsea R. Stolt (University of Maryland) – ‘Euripides’ Refugee Theater: Text Worlds Theory and the Reception of *Trojan Women*’

*16.15-16.30 Break*

**16.30-17.30 Lecture by Dr Margherita Laera (University of Kent)**

*17.30-18.00 Break*

**18.00-19.15 Performance: *Le Tigre Bleu de l’Euphrate* by Laurent Gaudé**

Directed by Dr Estelle Baudou (APGRD)

Performed by James Aldred and Fanny Bloc

Music by Alex Silverman; performed by Edwin Hughes

Translated by Claire Barnes, Estelle Baudou and Zoë Jennings

*19.15 Informal supper*

**Day 2: Friday 1 July**

Royal Holloway University of London, Egham, Surrey, TW20 0EX

**11.00-11.30 Response to Day One: Dr Emma Cole (University of Bristol)**

*11.30-11.45 Break*

**11.45-12.45 Panel 4: Survival of fragments, survival in fragmentation**

Lucy Ruddiman (University College London) – ‘*Sparagmos* as a starting point: fragmentation as a mode of engagement with extant Greek tragedy’

Menelaos Karantzas (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) – ‘The world of sounds and music that emerges from the surviving fragments of Sophocles’ *Ichneutai*’

Amanda Kubic (The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) – ‘Sapphic Survival and Queer/Crip Performance in Olga Broumas and T. Begley’s *Sappho’s Gymnasium*’

*12.45-14.15 Lunch*

**14.15-15.45 Panel 5: Bodies on stage**

Martino Parra (University of Bologna/Oxford) – ‘Dramaturgical considerations on Euripides’ *Bacchae* ending in comparison with Italian contemporary practice: who – and what – remains onstage?’

Francesca Ginevra Beretta (Yale University) – ‘Martha Graham and the Haunting Survival of Aeschylus’ Furies’

Johanna Hörmann (Paris-Lodron Universität Salzburg) and Tomaz Simatovic – ‘Performative Approaches to the Satyr as a Contemporary Research Figure’

*15.45-16.00 Break*

**16.00-17.00 Response to Day Two: Prof. Olga Taxidou (University of Edinburgh/New York University) by video conference followed by Plenary**