



WELCOME TO THE APGRD!



Pantelis Michelakis receiving his APGRD leaving gift from Fiona Macintosh in 2004



is an expert in Greek tragedy and literature, media studies and literary theory. We look forward with great enthusiasm to his leadership of the APGRD and wish Fiona a long and happy retirement (although we expect her to continue to be active as Member of the APGRD's International Advisory Board and as a doctoral supervisor in the Classics Faculty).



Fiona Macintosh at her retirement celebration

Welcome to **Leo Kershaw, our new Archive Assistant**, who has very recently completed his doctoral thesis on *Medea* in South Africa. Leo was an undergraduate in Classics at Oxford and has seriously been working on reception since his undergraduate thesis (on the reception of Prometheus) and an MSt Dissertation on Byron's receptions of classical masculinity. Leo teaches widely in the Classics Faculty and has been a member of the APGRD/London's Postgraduate Symposium Steering Committee for a number of years.



New APGRD International Advisory Board Members:

During this past year, we welcomed three new Advisory Board Members:



Professor **Mark Fleishman** (Cape Town University and Artistic Director of Magnet Theatre Company, *left*), who for the past five years has been Principal Investigator for the [Reimagining Tragedy from Africa and the Global South Project](#) (ReTAGS); and Professor **Matthias Warstat** (*right*) of the [Institut für Theaterwissenschaft](#) at Freie Universität Berlin, where he specialises in contemporary theatre and society, the theatricality of politics, and the historiography



of modern European theatre. Matthias joins the APGRD Advisory Board following the retirement of Erika Fischer-Lichte, whose unfailing support of the APGRD since its inception



has proved invaluable. We also welcome Dr **Lucy Jackson** (*left*), [Associate Professor in Classics at Durham University](#) who researches ancient performance culture, in particular choral song and dance performances and their receptions.

DAT Project and New Website

We are delighted, thanks to private sponsorship, to have been able to keep **Mike Kelly**, our Senior Software Developer, for longer than initially planned. We will be unveiling the new DAT@apgrd database of recordings, as well as the new-look APGRD website, and upgraded modern productions database, before the end of Mike’s contract in December.



APGRD RECENT EVENTS

Penelope’s Web AHRC Network



Following the success of the APGRD’s TORCH-funded 3-day residency in April 2022 with composer Cheryl Frances-Hoad (*left*) and librettist/director Jeanne Pansard Besson (*right*) to develop their [new opera based on Atwood’s *The Penelopiad*](#), Fiona Macintosh was delighted to join Emily Pillinger (KCL) as Co-Investigator in the AHRC Network, *Penelope’s Web* to continue with this development work. The first week-long workshop for the new project, [Penelope’s Web: The Opera](#),



took place in the JdP at St Hilda’s in April, and again involved Oxford and KCL academics as well as students from Cheney School and young singers from Frideswide Voices. The [second workshop](#), with academic partners from the US as well as locally, took place in London in June with members of KCL’s choir.

BADA’s Greek Theatre Summer School Program at APGRD 2024

Program Director, Paul O’Mahony brought 18 students to Oxford this year, Monday 24 to Thursday 27 of June for the final week of their Summer School. Both Fiona Macintosh and Marcus Bell met the students during their first week in London before their two-week stay in Greece. In Oxford, they received talks from APGRD researchers on current projects and participated in the first day of our Postgraduate Symposium. They had one morning exploring the archive collections and an evening joining the audience of Creation’s rehearsed reading of a new play, *Daedalus* by Jonathan Henry Brook, directed by Helen Eastman. We look forward very much to welcoming BADA students back next year.



Postgraduate Symposium, ‘Bodies and Voices’, 2024

The Oxford organisers this year were Leo Kershaw and Daniel Whittle, supported by Zoë Jennings, Alex Silverman and Claire Barnes (Oxford), Despoina Christianoudi and Tom Barrett (RHUL), and Lucy Ruddiman (Bristol). Next year’s Symposium, marking 25 years since its inauguration, will be themed around Futures and Ecologies, and will take place on Thursday 3 July (Oxford) and Friday 4 July (Royal Holloway, Egham) 2025.

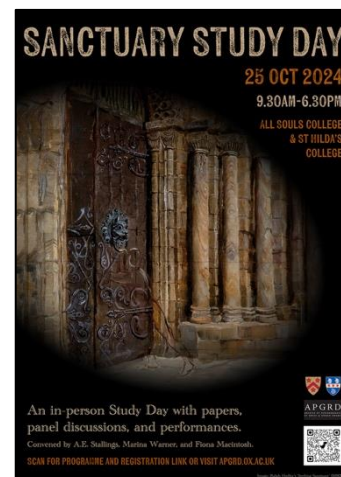
APGRD UPCOMING EVENTS

The Ancient Wrath of Ares: Studies in Euripides' *Phoenician Women*

The APGRD is proud to support the online conference on Euripides' *Phoenician Women*, convened by Edith Hall (Durham), Vayos Liapis (Open University of Cyprus) and Rosie Wyles (Durham) on the 17 and 18 of October.

Sanctuary Study Day – Friday 25 October from 9.30am-6.30pm Old Library, All Souls College and Jacqueline du Pré Music Building, St Hilda's College, Oxford

An in-person study day on the theme of Sanctuary, co-organised by Fiona Macintosh, Marina Warner, and A.E. Stallings, combining academic papers, a panel discussion, and live performances. Speakers include Oliver Taplin (Oxford), David Greig (playwright), Anthony Bale (Cambridge), A.E. Stallings (Oxford Professor of Poetry), and Elena Isayev (Exeter). Helen Mountfield (Principal of Mansfield College), will chair a panel on 'How can sanctuary work today?', with Nadina Christopoulou (co-founder of the Melissa Network), Clelia Bartoli (Palermo), Esa Aldegheer (Glasgow) and David Herd (Kent), with a response from Mark Goldring (Asylum Welcome). The above sessions will take place at All Souls, and from 3.45pm at St Hilda's there will be a series of performances, including a workshop led by Dine Diallo (Giocherenda, Palermo), a reading by A.E. Stallings, a scene from Dan Byam Shaw's *Asylum Seekers*; and an ode from *Oedipus at Colonus*, directed by Alex Silverman. Due to limited capacity at All Souls, booking is required to attend the papers and panel discussion; all are welcome to attend the performances at St Hilda's.



'Inclusive Theatre, Community-Building, and Aristophanes' Monday 4 November at 2pm

Lecture Theatre, Ioannou Centre, Oxford

Join us for an in-conversation between Dave Carey (Creative Producer of Chickenshed), Marco Martinelli (Theatre Director of Albe-Ravenna Teatro), and Giovanna Di Martino (UCL/APGRD). This event is free and open to all, with no booking required.



Alexander Zeldin in conversation

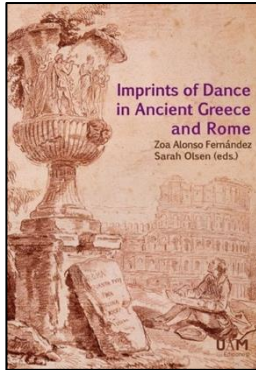
Monday 11 November at 2pm

Lecture Theatre, Ioannou Centre, Oxford

Discussing his new version of *Antigone*, entitled *The Other Place* (National Theatre, London, 2024), playwright Alexander Zeldin will appear in conversation with Fiona Macintosh and Laura Swift (Oxford). This event is free and open to all, with no booking required.

Conor Hanratty in conversation – 2 December at 2pm
Lecture Theatre, Ioannou Centre, Oxford

Theatre Director, Conor Hanratty, will discuss his Irish-language version of Aeschylus' *Persians*, *Na Peirsigh*, performed at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, March-April 2024, with Edith Hall (Durham). This event is free and open to all, with no booking required.



Book launch: *Imprints of Dance in Ancient Greece and Rome*
Monday 25 November at 5pm

We will be celebrating the launch of a [new volume](#) (Madrid 2024) edited by Zoa Alonso Fernández (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid) and Sarah Olsen (Williams College), with guest responses from Sue Jones (Oxford) and Tom Sapsford (Boston College). The book explores the many traces of ancient Greek and Roman dance, the impressions, reimaginings, and imprints of bodily movement and choreography evident in the literary, visual, and material sources of Greek and Roman antiquity. The launch will take place on Zoom.

THANK YOU

The work of the APGRD during the course of the past academic year would not have been possible without the extraordinary commitment of the APGRD Advisory Board, an ever-growing team of researchers (early career, postdoctoral and doctoral students – local, national and international), and the ongoing support of the following individuals, in particular: Marcus Bell, Zoë Jennings, Claire Barnes, Daniel Whittle, Leo Kershaw, Alex Silverman, Shreya Dua, Milly Cox, and Izzy Levy.

With all best wishes from all of us at the APGRD!

@APGRD



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Archive of Performances of Greek & Roman Drama

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