Thucydides Dramaticus: The Theater of War

A scholarly and artistic study of Thucydides’ History of the Peloponnesian War where selected passages are staged and performed by participants in Ancient Theaters in Greece.

About

“Thucydides Dramaticus: The Theater of War” immerses participants in Ancient Greek Theater and introduces them to the study of the Peloponnesian War. The program’s interdisciplinary approach of History, Archaeology, and Theater make for an original and exciting learning experience of Classical Greece. “Theater of War” culminates with an exciting finale of a public performance at an ancient theatrical area in an archaeological site, where students will perform an original play based on Thucydides’ History.

Thucydides Dramaticus builds on its successful 2016 and 2017 productions where Greek, American, and international students performed in the established Aisxylia Festival and the Ancient Theater of Messene. Audiences and critics were enthusiastic, with later, encore performances taking place in theaters, festivals and universities.

Through history and on-site archaeology lectures by leading scholars, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the Peloponnesian War and a clearer sense of its physical and cultural landscape. Coupled with rehearsals alongside leading Greek directors and actors, this knowledge of Thucydides’ world will deepen their artistic vision and prepare them for the exciting finale of “Theater of War”.

On a daily basis the three-week program includes:

- Drama workshops, rehearsals and performances.
- Lectures and classes on the history of the Peloponnesian War.
- Visits and on-site teaching at selected archaeological sites, museums and ancient theaters.
- Artistic activities, open discussions, attending theatrical performances and other cultural experiences.

Highlights

Dates:
June 25 – July 14, 2018

Location:
Greece

Program Size:
Up to 24 participants

Minimum Age:
18

Experience Required:
None but preference will be given to those with a background in Theater, Classics or Ancient History.

Application Deadline:
May 31, 2018

Faculty:

- Prof. Kirk Ormand (Classics, Oberlin College)
- Prof. Adele C. Scafuro (Classics, Brown University)
- Prof. Catherine Diamantakou (Theatrical Studies, University of Athens)
- Dr. Andronike Makres (Epigraphist, Historian, Greek Epigraphical Society, HERC)
- Prof. Emeritus Petros Themelis (Archaeology, Univ. of Crete, Dir. Excavation Messene)
- Dimitris Lignadis (Director, Actor)
- John Lignadis (Classical Philologist, Translator, Playwright)
- John Panagopoulos (Director, Actor)

Visits to Archaeological Sites and Museums:

- Acropolis (Athens)
- Agora (Athens)
- Kerameikos (Athens)
- National Archaeological Museum (Athens)
- Piraeus (Attica)
- Vravron (Attica)
- Sounion (Attica)
- Corinth (Peloponnese)
- Epidaurus (Peloponnese)
- Sparta (Peloponnese)

Visits to Ancient Theaters:

- Dionysus (Athens)
- Piraeus (Attica)
- Thorikos (Attica)
- Ikarion (Attica)
- Epidaurus (Peloponnese)
- Palaia Epidavros (Peloponnese)
- Sparta (Peloponnese)

Program Coordinator:

- Rhea Scourtas (Society of the Athenians, HERC)

Instruction:

- 50 hours of Ancient Greek Theater Workshops, Rehearsals and Performances
- 40 hours on the History and Archaeology of the Peloponnesian War

Visits to Archaeological Sites and Museums:

- Acropolis (Athens)
- Agora (Athens)
- Kerameikos (Athens)
- National Archaeological Museum (Athens)
- Piraeus (Attica)
- Vravron (Attica)
- Sounion (Attica)
- Corinth (Peloponnese)
- Epidaurus (Peloponnese)
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