2019 INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ANCIENT GREEK DRAMA

A diverse and expansive programme, with significant international and national productions has been developed this year by the organisers of the “International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama”: the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute and the Deputy Ministry of Tourism.

Emphasizing on the quality and collaboration with major theatre institutions, and encouraging -for yet another year- local creation, an interesting programme is offered to the spectators, locals and foreigners, with performances of contemporary aesthetic and artistic approach to ancient drama.

52 proposals were submitted to participate at this year's edition, including 8 proposals by Cypriot theatre groups and 44 proposals by theatre groups not-residing in Cyprus, specifically from 24 countries.

Six theatre groups have been selected by the seven-member Selection Committee to participate in the 23rd edition of the “International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama”, presenting performances at Paphos Ancient Odeon, Curium Ancient Theatre and “Skali” Amphitheatre in Aglantzia, from the 28th of June until the 27th of July 2019.

The six productions for this year’s edition
The official opening of this year's edition will take place at Paphos Ancient Odeon on the 28th of June 2019 with the first Slovenian production of Euripides’ tragedy Trojan Women, produced by the Slovene National Theatre Nova Gorica and directed by Jaša Koceli. A performance of the same production will follow on June 30th at “Skali” Amphitheatre.

Following that, the Cypriot theatre company Eros Ammochostos Theatre will present Hecuba by Euripides directed by Giorgos Mouaimis, with Annita Santorineou in the homonymous role. Hecuba performances will be held at Curium Ancient Theatre on July 2nd, at Paphos Ancient Odeon on July 4th and at “Skali” Amphitheatre on July 6th.

The Festival’s programme continues with Hippolytus by Euripides directed by Emilio del Valle, a co-production of Maltravieso Teatro and La Almena Producciones of Spain, in collaboration with the Mérida International Classical Theatre Festival. The Spanish production will be presented at Paphos Ancient Odeon on July 8th and at “Skali” Amphitheatre on July 10th.
The National Institute of Ancient Drama (Fondazione INDA) of the Syracuse Greek Theatre Festival in Italy, returns after 5 years to the Festival presenting Aristophanes’ comedy *Lysistrata* directed by the distinguished Tullio Solenghi, for two performances at Curium Ancient Theatre on July 12th and 13th.

The internationally award-winning Izumi Ashizawa directs the second Cypriot participation in the Festival, *Bacchae* by Euripides, a Belacqua Theatre production. *Bacchae* will be presented at “Skali” Amphitheatre on July 18th, at Curium Ancient Theatre on July 20th and at Paphos Ancient Odeon on July 22nd.

*Iphigenia in Aulis* by Euripides, directed by Ioannis Kalavrianos and produced by the National Theatre of Northern Greece, marks the closing of this year’s Festival programme, with two performances at Curium Ancient Theatre on July 26th and 27th.

For another year, the aim of the organisers, is the continuation of the rising and successful course that the “International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama” already has on its record, the artistic quality assurance of the performances’ programme, the substantial contribution to the international and local cultural landscape and an approach towards all audience genres.

Furthermore, a desire of the organisers has always been the greatest possible attendance of Cypriot and foreign audience, that will result in the upgrade and cultivation of theatrical education, as well as the promotion of cultural tourism, through the provision of surtitles in English for all the Greek-language productions and in both Greek and English for the foreign-language productions.

The seven-member Selection Committee consisted of two representatives of the Cultural Services of the Ministry of Education and Culture: Aristodimos Anastasiades, *Cultural officer A’/ chair of the committee* and Georgia Hoplarou, *Cultural officer*; of two representatives of the Cyprus Centre of International Theatre Institute (CCOITI): Lakis Yenethlis, *Set and costume designer, public relations manager of the Board of Directors of the CCOITI* and Lea Maleni, *Director, actress, member of the Board of Directors of the CCOITI*; of one representative of the Deputy Ministry of Tourism: Irena Epaminondou, *Tourism officer* and of two ex officio members by the Minister of Education and Culture: Antonis Tsakmakis, *Associate Professor at the Department of Classics and Philosophy, University of Cyprus* and Ellada Evangelou, *Theatrologist, dramaturge*. 
PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

Slovene National Theatre Nova Gorica
*The Trojan Women by Euripides*
- Friday, June 28, Paphos Ancient Odeon
- Sunday, June 30 louviou, “Skali” Amphitheatre, Aglantzia
  *With Greek and English surtitles*

Eros Ammochostos Theatre, Cyprus
*Hecuba by Euripides*
- Tuesday, July 2, Curium Ancient Theatre
- Thursday, July 4, Paphos Ancient Odeon
- Saturday, July 6, “Skali” Amphitheatre, Aglantzia
  *With English surtitles*

Maltravieso Teatro and La Almena Producciones, Spain
*Hippolytus by Euripides*
- Monday, July 8, Paphos Ancient Odeon
- Wednesday, July 10, “Skali” Amphitheatre, Aglantzia
  *With Greek and English surtitles*

Fondazione INDA (National Institute of Ancient Drama - Syracuse Greek Theatre Festival), Italy
*Lysistrata by Aristophanes*
- Friday, July 12, Curium Ancient Theatre
- Saturday, July 13, Curium Ancient Theatre
  *With Greek and English surtitles*

Belacqua Theatre, Cyprus
*Bacchae by Euripides*
- Thursday, July 18, “Skali” Amphitheatre, Aglantzia
- Saturday, July 20, Curium Ancient Theatre
- Monday, July 22, Paphos Ancient Odeon
  *With English surtitles*

National Theatre of Northern Greece
*Iphigenia in Aulis by Euripides*
- Friday, July 26, Curium Ancient Theatre
- Saturday, July 27, Curium Ancient Theatre
  *With Greek and English surtitles*
Ticket sale starts on May 10th, 2019 by Sold Out Tickets