

*The European Network of Research and Documentation of Ancient Greek Drama Performances - Ευρωπαϊκό Δίκτυο Έρευνας και Τεκμηρίωσης Παραστάσεων Αρχαίου Ελληνικού Δράματος* aims to establish an expansion and a re-orientation of the academic community as well as to improve the traditional methods of teaching ancient drama, by creating new activities of an interdisciplinary and comparative nature. The main goal is to promote and carry out scholarly work, by initiating and coordinating comparative analyses, concerning the role and function of ancient drama and theatre in Europe. By analyzing the artistic forms and moral views expressed in editions as well as in public performances of ancient drama and its adaptations, recreations and new versions, the scholars and students in the *Network* will be able to trace, not only the importance of common heritage in the shaping of a European identity, but also the differences between local (national or other geographic cultural areas) cultural identities.

From its original inception to the present day, the *Network* has developed a series of activities, which have aimed to establish a flow of communication among different academic disciplines and interrelated subjects and to design a common plateau in order not only to allow the equal involvement of all members but also to ensure the scientific quality of the ongoing research to the best possible degree.

This endeavour has produced a significant number of positive results and has laid the

foundation for extensive further development. The completion of a mutually devised work-plan and the clarification of the goals of the *Network*, in addition to the creation of a cordial environment and the decision to expand our activities in order to make them accessible to a wider-public, constitute some examples of the above. The *Network's* database, which now includes more than 1000 entries and nearly covers the entirety of the works which are related to the Atreides, has reached a point where it can offer the possibility to access a large amount of information. Moreover, the members of the network have started working closer to-one-another, forming bi-party or multi-party collaborations, while new activities, such as the summer intensive courses at Epidavros in 2002 or the conference and exhibition of *Oresteia* in 2003-2004, have been programmed for the following years.

It is for the above reasons and the interest expressed by a wider public of researchers, academics, graduate students and artists that the publication of this Newsletter was deemed necessary. We hope that this newsletter will form a continuing source of communication and information on the activities of the *Network*, not only among its members but also among those interested in the different aspects of the revival of ancient Greek drama.

Platon Mavromoustakos  
September 2001

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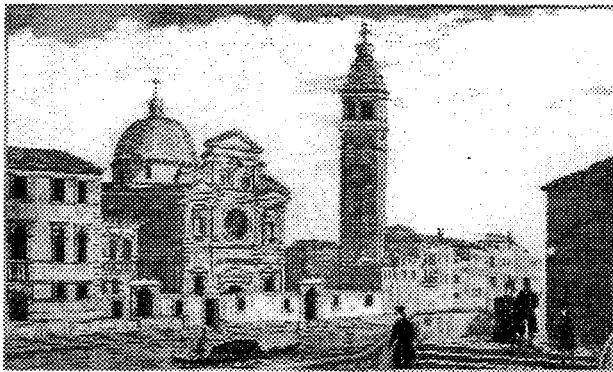
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# The Activities of the Network 1997-2000

## Annual Meetings

Four annual meetings of the members of the *Network* have taken place in Corfu (1997), Athens (1998-1999) and Venice (2000), thanks to the financial support of the Greek Ministry of Culture, the University of Athens, the Greek Institute of Venice and private sponsors. The purpose of these meetings has been to establish the main goals of the *Network* and to organise future projects.



In the course of these meetings members evaluate the past activities of the *Network* and plan the activities for the next year. Discussions focus on subjects related to the performances of Ancient Greek Drama, such as methodological problems concerning the research and the documentation of the information gathered. Furthermore, during the last four years and through these annual meetings, the members have established the form of the database, which has just come out of its pilot phase to acquire its final form.

Finally, the coordination committee, which was established in 1999 and consists of five members (see below), has had two meetings of managerial character in Prague (2000) and Coimbra (2001).

## Conference

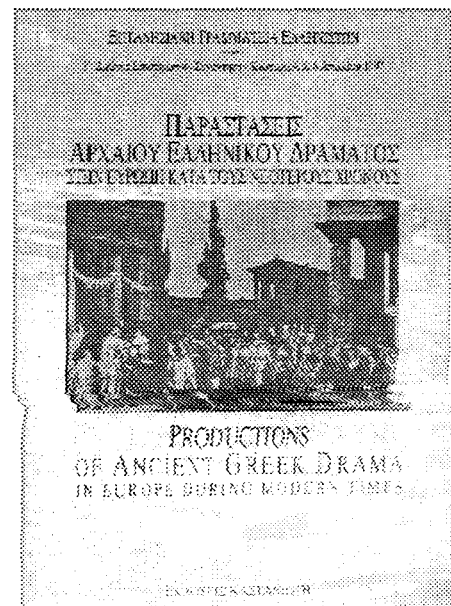
The first international conference on European Performances of Ancient Greek Drama took place in Corfu in April 1997, during the course of the first annual meeting of the members of the *Network*.

The conference took place thanks to the kind support of the University of Athens, the Ionian University, the Municipality of Corfu, the Permanence Helleniste Ionienne, and the Kostopoulos Foundation.

## Publication

The proceedings of the conference were published under the title *Productions of Ancient Greek Drama in Europe during Modern Times* (Editor: Platon Mavromoustakos, texts in Greek, English and French with summaries in English, Kastaniotis Editions), with the financial support of the Greek Ministry of Education, the University of Athens, and Kastaniotis Editions ([www.kastaniotis.com](http://www.kastaniotis.com)).

The publication of this volume is considered to be the first step towards the production of new educational material on Ancient Greek Drama, as well as a means of exchanging information between the participating countries. It is also considered as a first attempt to publicise the activity of the *Network*.



# *The Activities of the Network*

## 2001-2004

### Annual Meetings

Annual meetings of all participating partners have been scheduled in order to continue the exchange of information and the organisation of future projects. The 2001 meeting just took place in Oxford, while Italy, Portugal and Spain are exploring the possibility of hosting meetings during the following years. It has also been proposed to broaden the character of these meetings so as to include presentations by different partners with regard to their work-in-progress.

### Newsletter *Parodos*

This volume is an introductory copy of the eight-page *Network* Newsletter which will be published every six months. *Parodos* will present the activity of the *Network* and its partners, as well as articles related to European performances of Ancient Greek drama. Furthermore, it will include articles on the research of the *Network* partners and presentations of historical performances.

### Conferences

BERLIN 2001

In November 2001, a one-day conference will take place in Berlin - "Performances of Ancient Greek Drama: Greek and German Approaches" - with the financial support of the National Book Centre of Greece (EKEBI). The conference is organised by the Greek and German partners of the *Network* and the speakers will include: Professor Spyros A. Evangelatos, Professor Dr Erika Fischer-Lichte, Professor Dr Theo Girshausen, Dr Ulf Heuner, Mrs Mary Iliadi, Professor Platon Mavromoustakos, Professor Walter Puchner, and Professor Dr Bernd Seidensticker.

ATHENS 2003-2004

In relation to the exhibition "Oresteia" discussed below, we are organising an international conference on the same subject. The papers presented will be related to subjects evolving around Aeschylus' trilogy. The conference will take place in the University of Athens under

the auspices of the Cultural Olympiad 2001-2004.

### Summer Courses

EPIDAVROS 2002

A series of courses is being organised for the summer of 2002 in Epidavros. The courses will last 15 days and will be related to the performances which will be taking place in Epidavros during that time. Students will have a chance to attend lectures by scholars of various European Universities and to come in contact with people related to the performances, such as directors, actors etc.

### Exhibition

ATHENS 2003

The *Network* is organising an exhibition on "Oresteia", in co-operation with the Benaki Museum, Athens. The material presented will include costumes, masks and documents from European productions of the trilogy by Aeschylus. The exhibition catalogue will also include a full list of performances related to the Atrides. The exhibition, as well as the conference, falls under the auspices of the Cultural Olympiad 2001-2004.

### Film festival

Finally, the *Network* is proposing to organise a festival with films related to Ancient Greek Drama, its performances and adaptations.

For further information on the activities of the  
Network contact:  
Mary Iliadi, Vana Diakaki, Marina Yeroulanou

# The Partners of the Network

## CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

Professor Platon Mavromoustakos (Greece)  
 Professor Oliver Taplin (United Kingdom)  
 Professor Maria de Fátima Silva (Portugal)  
 Professor Dr. Henri Schoenmakers (Netherlands)  
 Professor Eva Stehliková (Czech Republic)



## THE PARTNERS

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*Dr. Marina Yeroulanou*  
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*Ms Vana Diakaki*  
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**Slovakia**

University of Bratislava  
*Dr. Daša Čiripová*

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The Archive of Performances of  
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*Professor Oliver Taplin*  
*Professor Edith Hall*  
*Mr Peter Brown*  
*Dr. Fiona Macintosh*  
*Dr. Pantelis Michelakis*  
*Ms Amanda Wrigley*

2. Open University,  
Department of Classical Studies, UK  
*Dr. Lorna Hardwick*

We are also in contact with the following  
countries for future collaboration:  
Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Israel,  
Norway, Romania, Russia, Sweden, Turkey.

**BILATERAL AGREEMENTS**

Within the framework of the educational aspect of the activities of the *European Network of Research and Documentation of Ancient Greek Drama Performances*, bilateral agreements have already been signed between the Department of Theatre Studies of the University of Athens and other Universities belonging to the countries members of the *Network*. These bilateral agreements are funded by the SOCRATES/ERASMUS European Program and aim at the exchanging of students and teaching staff between the Institutions involved.

Bilateral agreements for the academic years 2001/2002, 2002/2003 and 2003/2004 still exist between the University of Athens and the following Universities:

Oxford University, Open University, University of Coimbra, University of Leipzig, University of Utrecht, University of Warsaw, University of Palermo, University of Berlin, University of Dublin, University of Cyprus, University of Helsinki.

## The Database project

As the first necessary step for supporting the comparative analyses in the future, the members of the *Network* have been building the *Network Database*. The database already includes 1062 records, including performances of the following plays: *Aias*, *Dyskolos*, *Euripides' Electra*, *Sophokles' Electra*, *Epitrepontes*, *Epta epi Thivas*, *Aischylos' Hiketides*, *Iphigeneia he en Aulidi*, *Iphigeneia he en Taurois*, *Medeia*, *Oresteia* (as a trilogy or separate plays), *Ornithes*, *Persai*, *Philoktetes*, *Ploutos*, and *Samia*. The aim of the project is to document for publication rather than just to establish an archive on the performance histories of ancient drama in the different geographic areas.

The Database will eventually store and recover all data provided by the partners of the *Network*. We have tried to form a consistent way of analysing and categorising every important datum of an ancient Greek drama performance into special fields. Thus, we have reached the point of dividing the information, provided for a specific performance, into 10 different sections. Each of these sections contains a number of fields that conceptually belong to the same category of information.

Section 1 includes the basic information on a performance. It contains fields for the original title of the performance, the name of the company, the place and date of the first performance (exact date and year) and others.

In Section 2 the "Major Contributors" of the performance are recorded. Fields for the director and the translator of the performance, for the stage designer or the composer give the basic information on the contributors to each production.

In Section 3 the names of the actors/actresses (roles) and the alterations in the cast are recorded, while in Section 4 there is information on the chorus leader and the chorus members of the production.

Section 5 includes the available sources, documents and other material which are available for further research. Special fields on primary and secondary sources, on materials for the

specific performance etc. have been included.

Some general information on the political and cultural interest of the performance, on its aesthetic conventions and on critic and audience responses are provided in Sections 6, 7 and 8 respectively.

Section 9 is the "Appendix". This is an open field where any other information or bibliographical documentation can be stored.

Finally, Section 10 is the Multimedia Library of the Database. This includes a collection of documents as well as available audio and/or video recordings of the performance.

The form of the records of the Database is the result of the work of all partners of the *Network* and was established during the annual meetings that have taken place to date. However, while creating the database, it became necessary to add some more fields in order to prevent eventual loss of interesting information. These changes are still of minor importance.

We have tried to make things easy. We thought it would be convenient if a choice concerning the database environment was available to the partners. For this reason, we have created three similar (and compatible) databases, whose main structure is similar to one-another. Every database can export its data to other databases. Therefore, it is actually of no importance which database one will finally choose to enter data, as we can always be transferred to other environments.

One can now choose between writing, under FileMaker Environment, QuerySys environment or under Access Environment (recommended). Moreover, it is possible to enter data in Word forms, and shortly the *Network* will provide a Web Form to be filled in, through its own WebSite.

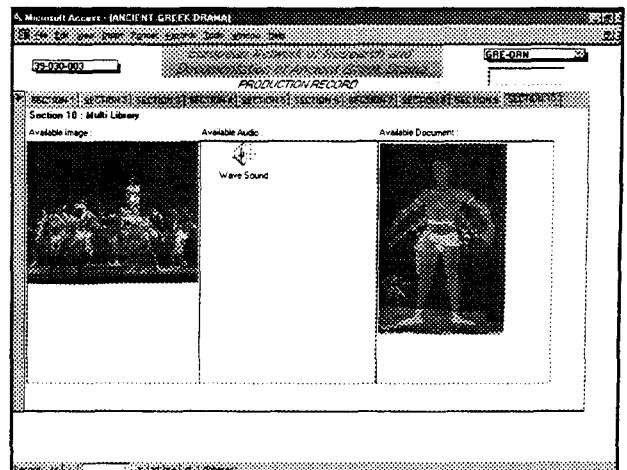
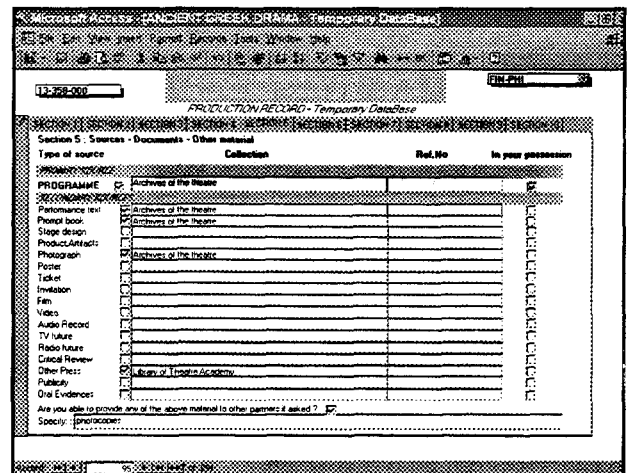
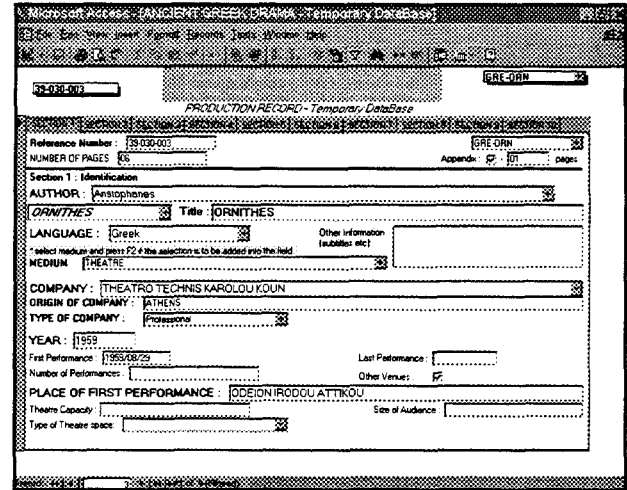
Word forms have been designed in order to facilitate partners who are unfamiliar with database programs. Moreover, these word forms were the *Network's* first attempt to create a well-built tool in order to collect, categorise and store data related to a wide range of performing material.

FileMaker Pro is considered to be the most user-friendly application of all. The FileMaker forms are similar to the ones in Word. Still, in order for someone to use FileMaker, the environment must have been installed in his/her computer. FileMaker is particularly recommended to those who use the Macintosh System. QuerySys is a comparatively new database environment. It may seem to be quite complicated in using, but it is considered to be the best in sorting and/or searching data. As in the case of FileMaker, those who decide to use QuerySys must have in mind that a version of QuerySys environment has to be installed in their PCs before using the specific database application.

The fourth choice is using Access. Strong efforts have been made in order to make the application in Access as friendly as possible. Moreover, a great advantage in using Access is that it is probably the most widespread of the three environments.

During continuous usage, we have reached some first conclusions which have eventually led us to improve the database utility with new versions. Now, most of the partners use the Access Database, while there are still some who prefer the FileMaker or Word forms. The ones who use Access have in hand a much more friendly version of the first database. In the future we are planning to improve the *Network* database by adding some useful utilities. We have already integrated a computing system that will be able to automatically transliterate a language to its Latin transcription; the software is already operational for the Greek language. With this utility, we hope to be able to provide a bi-lingual database for each country, containing data both in its own country script and in its Latin transcription.

Finally, we have also integrated the Web database. With this facility partners will be able to transfer their data through the Net. Full access to the Web Database will be limited to *Network* members.



For more information contact:  
 Gregory Ioannidis, George Karakitsos

## The Founding of the Network

The project of creating the *European Network of Research and Documentation of Ancient Greek Drama Performances* started in 1995 under the coordination of Professor Oliver Taplin, Magdalen College, Oxford University (UK) and Professor Platon Mavromoustakos, Department of Theatre Studies, University of Athens (GR), who had already been involved in the following separate projects:

### Performance History in Greece



Michalis Bakirtzis of EPIKAIROTITA editions and Platon Mavromoustakos should be credited with the original idea to document the performance histories of Ancient Greek Drama in Greece. In order to document all Greek productions to date, a research group was formed in the end of 1990, consisting of Pl. Mavromoustakos, Agnes Mouzenidou, Mirka Theodoropoulou, Mary Iliadi and Evangelia Andritsanou. Nikos Karanastasis and Josef Vivilakis worked with the group on the performances on specific plays by Euripides and Aristophanes, and Chirstina Simvoulidou joined the group at a later date. The work of each of these members was essential for the original comprehensive documentation of the information, the processing of the material and the final form of the published performance histories.

For orders contact:  
Epikairotita Editions,  
Mavromihali 60, 106 80 Athens, GR

### The Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama



The *Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama*, University of Oxford was founded in 1996 by Edith Hall and Oliver Taplin in response to the need for a coordinated research effort devoted to the international production and reception of classical drama since the Renaissance. They included within its scope revivals and adaptations on stage and film, and in opera and dance. The purpose of the *Archive* is both to serve as a repository of physical materials relating to the stage history of the works in performance, such a playbills, programmes, reviews, drawings, photographs and audio-visual recordings, and also to compile a comprehensive production history of ancient drama on the modern stage in the form of a fully searchable relational database.

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For further information visit our website:  
[www.cc.uoa.gr/drama/network](http://www.cc.uoa.gr/drama/network)  
or ask for our demo CDROM

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