

Workshops



Actors of Dionysus (aod) are “arguably the UK’s best interpreters” of Greek drama and have earned a long-standing reputation for “keeping the Classics alive”. We regularly run workshops and Classics Days across the UK, benefitting students of all ages. Our workshops are particularly beneficial for KS4 and 5 students who are studying ancient texts, although we tailor workshops to meet a variety of age groups and subjects such as Drama, Classical Civilisation, English and History.

We offer a wealth of experience and a deep understanding of Ancient Greek drama, which our workshops allow your students to share. Different groups have their own specific needs, so we’ve devised a workshop programme which covers the areas most commonly requested:

- **from text to performance** - How to take a play off the page and approach it as a theatrical experience, a process which in turn enhances subsequent readings of other theatre texts.

Questions of choice in staging and characterisation are addressed, and, with the help of company Actors or our Education Officer, students themselves direct and perform an extract from the play.

- **a chorus of approval** - Looking at the many roles that the chorus can play and exploring ways in which modern interpreters can use the chorus as a creative theatrical tool.

Drawing on the group's own particular skills and talents, this workshop combines improvisation, tableaux and ensemble exercises culminating in a physical performance of a passage from the play.

- Our new **devising workshop** examines what dramatic devices and theatrical tools can be used to devise contemporary versions of ancient text and how myth shapes our lives today.
- **Antigone** - A comprehensive workshop exploring Sophocles' masterpiece, focusing on key themes and questions of staging and interpretation.

This workshop culminates with students working in focused groups toward a final short performance and post-showing discussion.

- **classics days** - Specially curated events which involve both academic and practical exploration of multiple texts, offering larger groups the opportunity to take part over a longer period of time.

Classics Days are run by 2 or 3 practitioners and give students a fuller understanding of the context and conventions of Greek drama. Events may involve a dynamic powerpoint presentation, an imaginative lecture, discussion groups, practical workshops and short performances/performed readings from **aod**.

Within this framework, workshops can be customised to suit the experience and requirements of the group and questions of interpretation, characterisation and the concept of the tragic hero may also be explored as well as ensemble exercises exploring ritual and sacred objects. The maximum size of workshop groups is around 25, and the fee for a 2 hour workshop begins at around £250.

For further information and for booking, contact Mark Katz, Education Officer, at mark@actorsofdionysus.com | 01273 673 691