



Related Event

Why Perform Greek Tragedy Today?

A Conversation with Theater Luminaries Anne Bogart and Tazewell Thompson

Saturday, September 8, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.
The Getty Villa, Auditorium

Plays written 2,500 years ago continue to lure directors and actors to the stage. What is it about these ancient stories that makes them endure? Acclaimed directors Anne Bogart and Tazewell Thompson discuss contemporary reasons for staging Greek tales of war, betrayal, and revenge, the struggle to stay true to the ancient voice, and why Euripides's *Bacchae* pushes the boundaries of Greek tragedy.

About Anne Bogart

Anne Bogart is a renowned director, playwright, essayist, and teacher. Bogart is the artistic director of SITI Company, which she founded with Japanese director Tadashi Suzuki in 1992, and a professor at Columbia University where she runs the Graduate Directing Program. Her works with SITI include *Chess Match No. 5*; *Persians*; *Steel Hammer*; *A Rite*; *Café Variations*; *Trojan Women (After Euripides)*; *American Document*; *Antigone*; and *Under Construction* to name a few. Her latest operas include Handel's *Alcina*, Dvorak's *Dimitrij*, Verdi's *Macbeth*, Bellini's *Norma*, and Bizet's *Carmen*. She is the author of three books of essays on theater making: *A Director Prepares*; *And Then, You Act*; and *What's the Story*. She is a co-author of *The Viewpoints Book*, a "practical guide" to Viewpoints training and devising techniques widely taught at universities and drama schools.

About Tazewell Thompson

Tazewell Thompson is an internationally-acclaimed director of opera and theater with over 85 productions to his credit, many presented at Arena Stage in Washington D.C. where he served for numerous seasons as associate artistic director. Thompson is an award-winning playwright including *Constant Star*; *Jam & Spice*; *The Music of Kurt Weill*; *A Christmas Carol*, and *Mary T. and Lizzy K*. His production of *Porgy & Bess* at New York City Opera and broadcast on PBS' "Live from Lincoln Center" received Emmy nominations for Best Director and Best Classical Production. His upcoming projects include librettist for *Blue*, a world premiere opera with composer Jeanine Tesori and commissioned by Glimmerglass Festival in summer 2019, and an a cappella musical *Jubilee: The Fisk Jubilee Singers*, premiering spring 2019 at Arena Stage.

