

# PROMETHEUS BOUND

## PERFORMANCE AT THE GETTY VILLA

The Getty Villa's public programming enhances the experience of the ancient world by offering a diverse schedule of events anchored by an innovative theater program. Live performances of classical drama offer insight into the social, cultural, and political realities of life in ancient Greece and Rome; the J. Paul Getty Museum's permanent collection of antiquities, alongside its changing exhibitions, strengthens the connection between modern audiences and the stories enacted in the tragedies and comedies onstage.

Classical dramatists explored basic, human stories that often parallel our contemporary experiences. Ancient plays are ever powerful and resonant, continuing to inspire reinterpretation. The **Villa Theater Lab** series, presented throughout the year in the Auditorium, fosters experimental and modern approaches to ancient stories. The Auditorium's technology enables directors, designers, musicians, playwrights, and actors freely to incorporate advanced stage, sound, and visual elements into productions developed in residence at the Villa.

Each September, a major production is commissioned and presented in the **Barbara and Lawrence Fleischman Theater**, an outdoor performance space based on ancient prototypes. In recent years, the outdoor classical theater has been the setting for Euripides's *Hippolytos*, Plautus's *Tug of War*, the *Agamemnon* of



Aeschylus, Aristophanes's *Peace* (via Culture Clash), Sophokles's *Elektra*, SITl Company's original adaptation of *Trojan Women*, and the Playwrights's Arena production of *Helen*. These performances have become a much-anticipated end-of-summer tradition for Museum audiences, and plans are already well underway for Aeschylus's *The Persians*.

The Villa's public programming also includes performances of music and dance, film screenings, and Family Festivals. To view our seasonal calendar of events, visit the Museum's website at [www.getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu), or subscribe online to the monthly e-Getty newsletter to receive free programming highlights by e-mail.

