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**GETTY VILLA PRESENTS A FREE PLAY-READING PERFORMANCE
INSPIRED BY EURIPIDES'S LOST PLAY PROTESILAOS**

The Laodamiad

At the Getty Villa

Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4, 3:00 p.m.



Poster design: Kat LiBretto

LOS ANGELES - Inspired by the handful of surviving lines from Euripides's lost play *Protesilaos*, *The Laodamiad* explores love, war, and loss with a staged reading and music at the Getty Villa on June 3 and 4. Written by New York-based playwright Chas LiBretto, directed by Hunter Bird, with music by Kim Sherman, *The Laodamiad* is part of the Getty Villa's play-reading series, which presents on occasion script-in-hand renditions of lesser-known ancient plays.

News of the Trojan War reaches Laodamia's ears on the day of her wedding to Iolaus, a shepherd from Phylace. As the nation mobilizes for war, she desperately tries to keep her new husband safe at home with her, but inadvertently exposes him to a wider world of politics and power. A nightmarish prophecy ensures that the charismatic General Odysseus assigns Iolaus to the front and when he is killed in combat, Laodamia becomes the war's first widow. How she deals with her grief has echoed for millennia through history and myth.

Mary Louise Hart, Associate Curator of Antiquities at the Getty Villa, will present a brief historical introduction of the play prior to each performance. All performances take place in the Auditorium at the Getty Villa. A free ticket is required and can be reserved by calling 310-440-7300 or at [getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu). Parking is \$15; \$10 after 3:00 p.m.

http://www.getty.edu/museum/programs/performances/playreading_series.html

About Chas LiBretto

Chas LiBretto is a playwright and performer from NYC. He is the co-founder of Psittacus Productions, a theatre company dedicated to exploring modern interpretations of classical material. His plays and musicals include *The Laodamiad* (dramaturgy and mentorship by Oskar Eustis), *The Royal Pyrate: A Musical* (developed at Ars Nova Uncharted), *Song of Rage*, *Wolfram & Kyot*, *Grim-All-Day*, *A Cure in the House*, *The True History of Lucian of Samosata and His Experiences During the Moon Wars of the Second Century* (Vineyard Theatre), *Helen and Her Double: A Musical* and the Pulitzer Jury Nominee *Cyclops: A Rock Opera* (NYMF, Ars Nova). His work has been developed by Ars Nova, Roundabout Theatre, Lincoln Center Education, Theater Masters, Vineyard Theatre, NYMF, Pasadena Playhouse, Alabama Shakespeare, Signature Theatre, and the Paideia Institute. He is an alum of Ars Nova Uncharted, Theater Masters and is a Center for Hellenic Studies Fellow and a Brightheart Fellow at the Paideia Institute for Humanistic Study. He holds a BA in Drama from Washington College and an MFA in Playwriting from Columbia University, where his thesis play was mentored by Oskar Eustis. He is represented by Katie Gamelli at Abrams Artists Agency. He is currently collaborating on new musicals with Zoe Sarnak and Scotty Arnold. www.chaslibretto.com

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The J. Paul Getty Museum collects Greek and Roman antiquities, European paintings, drawings, manuscripts, sculpture and decorative arts to 1900, as well as photographs from around the world to the present day. The Museum's mission is to display and interpret its collections, and present important loan exhibitions and publications for the enjoyment and education of visitors locally and internationally. This is supported by an active program of research, conservation, and public programs that seek to deepen our knowledge of and connection to works of art.

Visiting the Getty Villa

From May 28-August 26, 2017, the Getty Villa is open Wednesday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Saturday until 9:00 p.m. It is closed Tuesday and most major holidays. The Villa will be open on Monday, May 29, Memorial Day, and closed on Tuesday, July 4, Independence Day.

Admission to the Getty Villa is always free, but a ticket is required for admission. Tickets can be ordered in advance, or on the day of your visit, at www.getty.edu/visit or at (310) 440-7300. Parking is \$15 per car, but reduced to \$10 after 3 p.m. Groups of 15 or more must make reservations by phone. For more information, call (310) 440-7300 (English or Spanish); (310) 440-7305 (TTY line for the deaf or hearing impaired). The Getty Villa is at 17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades, California.

Same-day parking at both Museum locations (Getty Center and Getty Villa) is available for \$15 through the Getty's Pay Once, Park Twice program.

Additional information is available at www.getty.edu.

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