

1st Hellenic Theatre Festival of Switzerland April 24-25th 2015

As a tribute to Hellenic Art we are proud to bring to the heart of Europe two theater plays featuring renowned Greek artists. The 1st Hellenic Theatre Festival of Switzerland, is a collaborative attempt to disseminate an artistic theatrical exchange between Greece and Switzerland to raise cultural awareness, diversity in theater as well as enhance ethics through theater and stage art. The festival is supported by the Swiss Association of Greek Academics in Switzerland, the Embassy of Greece in Switzerland, and the quickly uprising Sinnbild Verein, and issues the following high profile productions of recognized outstanding Greek artists and theater ensemble: "Oresteia" & "Interview" In Greek with English subtitles.

Friday, April 24th 2015 @8pm "I N T E R V I E W" a Black Comedy by Christos Thanos & Omada "ΕΜΕΙΣ"

Greece in the middle of a financial crisis with unemployment at over 50% among young people, pressure for exhausting austerity measures, threats about exiting the EUROZONE. But the Greeks don't lose their humor!

Christos Thanos and Christos Papamihail present you a sociopolitical black comedy that has been playing with great success for three years in Athens. A play which has received honors by Unesco and is designed from young people for everyone who feels (for) young people. The dialogues have developed to their perfection through a fun process of rehearsals and performances for the last three years!

What is it about? An interview for a job. A voice—the employer—four candidates and a sequence of questions and challenges take the audience in a voyage where tragedy and comedy are combined in a perfect marriage, through the cynical pen of the very people that experience the unimaginably difficult job market in a country fighting for its financial survival. The interview starts in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Candidates relax and leave their weaknesses to manifest. The voice slowly begins to manipulate them, subjecting them into senseless questions and forcing them to

unbelievable challenges. The candidates led by their despair and competition for the single job indulge in comic dialogues and embarrassing situations.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jH95zqaF5zc>

Saturday, April 25th 2015 @8pm "Aeschylus' O R E S T E I A" an ancient Greek Tragedy by Lucas Thanos

Who has not heard of this famous ancient Greek tragedy? Brought to modern theater by the world renowned theater director, composer, and choreographer Lucas Thanos, the Oresteia tells the story of the house of Atreus. The first play, Agamemnon portrays the victorious return of that king from the Trojan War and his murder by his wife, Clytemnestra, and her lover, Aegisthus. At the play's end Clytemnestra and her lover rule Argos. The second play details the revenge of Agamemnon's daughter Electra and his son, Orestes. The siblings together invoke the aid of the dead Agamemnon in their plans. Orestes then slays Aegisthus and his mother and he flees, guilt-wracked, maddened, and pursued by the female incarnations of his mother's curse, the Furies (Erinyes). The third play, Eumenides, opens at the shrine of Apollo at Delphi where Orestes has taken sanctuary from the Furies. At the command of the Delphic oracle, Orestes journeys to Athens to stand trial for his matricide. There the goddess Athena organizes a trial with a jury of citizens. The Furies are his accusers, Apollo his advocate. The jury is evenly divided in its vote, and Athena casts the tie-breaking vote for Orestes acquittal. The Furies then turn their vengeful resentment against the city itself. The work has extraordinary, sustained dramatic and poetic power. Particularly notable are the fascinating richness of Clytemnestra's deceitful words and the striking choral songs, which raise in metaphorical and often enigmatic terms the major themes of theology, politics, and blood relationships that are elaborated throughout the trilogy.

Lucas Thanos studied Theatre, Music, Dance and Philosophy in Athens, Rome and New York. He researched for many years the dance philosophy of Isadora Duncan, serving as adviser of her family as well as reviver and Artistic director of the "Isadora Duncan Center for the Studies of Dance" Besides being a composer and explorer of Contemporary Choreography Lucas Thanos is also a persistent scholar of Ancient Greek Tragedy. In the last few years he has devoted himself to the study of

Aeschylus, to rhythmic physical movement, to the Ancient tragic word, to the root of the collective experience. At the same time, he seems to be drawn to symbolist hypothesis, to psychoanalytic interpretation, to the anthropological dimension of these Ancient texts. Having considerable experience in dance and theatre, he relied on his musical and dance praxis in his quest to decipher and analyze in depth the musicality and the internal rhythm of the dramatic poetry of Aeschylus. By translating all of the Aeschylus' known plays to the contemporary Greek and English language, his focal point is to bring out the rhythm and the musicality of the great dramatist word.

Produced by Joanna J. Gioka

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