

# Greece: The Origin of Theatre!



# Greece: The Origin of Theatre!









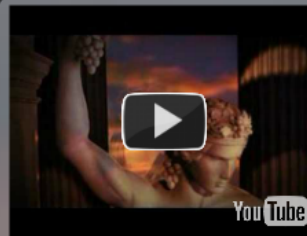
You Tube



## Dionysos



7th Century . . . Dythrambs or hymns were sung and danced in honor of Dionysus



(from w  
the 6th  
reported  
Dionysu  
the orig  
means '



You Tube

# Theatre of Dionysus

The Theatre of Dionysus was purified by the sacrifice of a bull. According to tradition, the first performance of tragedy at the Dionysia was by the playwright and actor Thespis (from whom we take the word "thespian") in the 6th Century (534 BC). His award was reportedly a goat, a common symbol for Dionysus, and this "prize" possibly suggests the origin of the word "tragedy" (which means "goat-song").







# Mr. C at Theatre Dionysus



# City Dionysia/ Great Dionysia

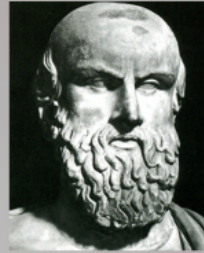
Honored the Greek God Dionysus by holding a contest of tragic and comedic play.

During the fifth century BC, five days of the festival were set aside for performance, though scholars disagree exactly what was presented each day.

At least 3 full days were devoted to tragic plays, and each of the three playwrights presented his trilogy or set of 3 tragedies and his 1 satyr play on the successive days.



# Writers of Tragedy



## Aeschylus

Introduced concept of second actor

Expanded possibilities for plot

Oresteia

Agamemnon

The Libation Bearers

The Eumenides



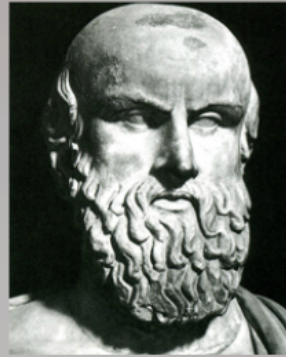
### Sophocles

Innovation of the third actor  
Most famous for Oedipus Rex & Antigone



### Euripides

Innovation of the third actor  
Most famous for Medea & The Trojan Women



# Aeschylus

Introduced concept of second actor

Expanded possibilities for plot

Oresteia

Agamemnon

The Libation Bearers

The Eumenides



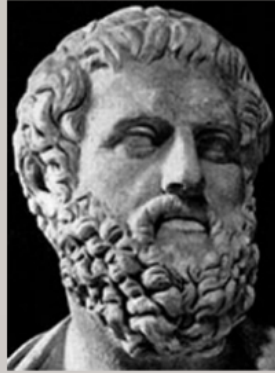
## Sophocles

Innovation of the third actor  
Most famous for Oedipus Rex & Antigone



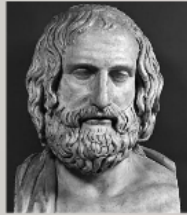
## Euripides

For more realistic and human approach to the gods  
Showed interest in psychology through portraits of women  
Most famous for Medea & Bacchae



# Sophocles

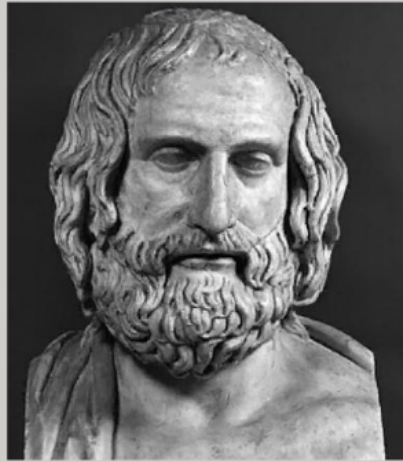
Innovation of the third actor  
Most famous for Oedipus Rex & Antigone



# Euripides

Far more naturalistic or human approach in  
his works  
Showed interest in psychology through  
portraits of women  
Most famous for Medea & Bacchae





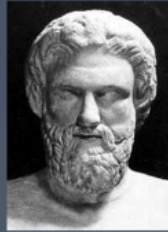
## **Euripides**

Far more naturalistic or human approach in  
his works

Showed interest in psychology through  
portraits of women

Most famous for *Medea* & *Bacchae*

# Writers of Comedy



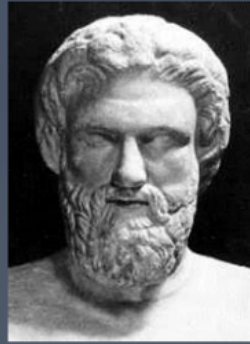
## Aristophanes

Was considered a writer of "old" comedy.  
Addressed serious political and social issues in direct ways, including  
mocking members of the audience.  
Wrote *Lysistrata*, in which the women withheld sex in order to stop  
men from going to war.



**Menandar**

Wrote "new" comedy in 4th century.  
Focused on humor found in the daily life of  
Athenians (primarily because freedom of  
speech was reduced).  
Introduced stock characters.



# Aristophanes

Was considered a writer of “old” comedy.  
Addressed serious political and social issues in direct ways, including  
mocking members of the audience.  
Wrote *Lysistrata*, in which the women withheld sex in order to stop  
men from going to war.



**Menandar**

Wrote “new” comedy in 4th century.  
Focused on humor found in the daily life of  
Athenians (primarily because freedom of  
speech was reduced).  
Introduced stock characters.



## **Menandar**

Wrote “new” comedy in 4th century.  
Focused on humor found in the daily life of Athenians (primarily because freedom of speech was reduced).  
Introduced stock characters.



# Greek Chorus

Groups of 12-50 men who would join their voices together in song and poetry. (No women performed)

They were selected from the community and trained for approximately six months to a year in movement, speaking, singing, and playing instruments.

## Greek Chorus (Continued)

Two Main Functions:

1. Provided background information and commented on events through the choral odes.
2. They played occasional roles during scenes.

### ACTORS

There was the maximum number of actors.

All actors were male.

Actors were paid professionals who were known for their great vocal skills and athletic movement.

# Greek Chorus (Continued)

Two Main Functions:

1. Provided background information and commented on events through the choral odes.
2. They played occasional roles during scenes.

## ACTORS

Three was the maximum number of actors.

All actors were male.

Actors were paid professionals who were known for their great vocal skills and stylistic movement.

# ACTORS

Three was the maximum number of actors.

All actors were male.

Actors were paid professionals who were known for their great vocal skills and stylistic movement.

# Costumes/Masks

Chorus'/Actors dressed in elaborate, bright colored costumes with masks that would represent characters and show emotions.

The mask would be carved out of wood and had a large mouth with a megaphone-like piece that would amplify the voice.



## Costumes/Masks

Costumes included chitons (both long and short tunics) and cloaks called himations. To add height, a thick-soled, soft shoe called a cothurnis was worn.





## Costumes/Masks

Costumes included chitons (both long and short tunics) and cloaks called himations. To add height, a thick-soled, soft shoe called a cothurnis was worn.





**Skene**

**Theatron**

**Parodos**

**Proskenion**

**Chorus**

**Altar**

**Orchestra**

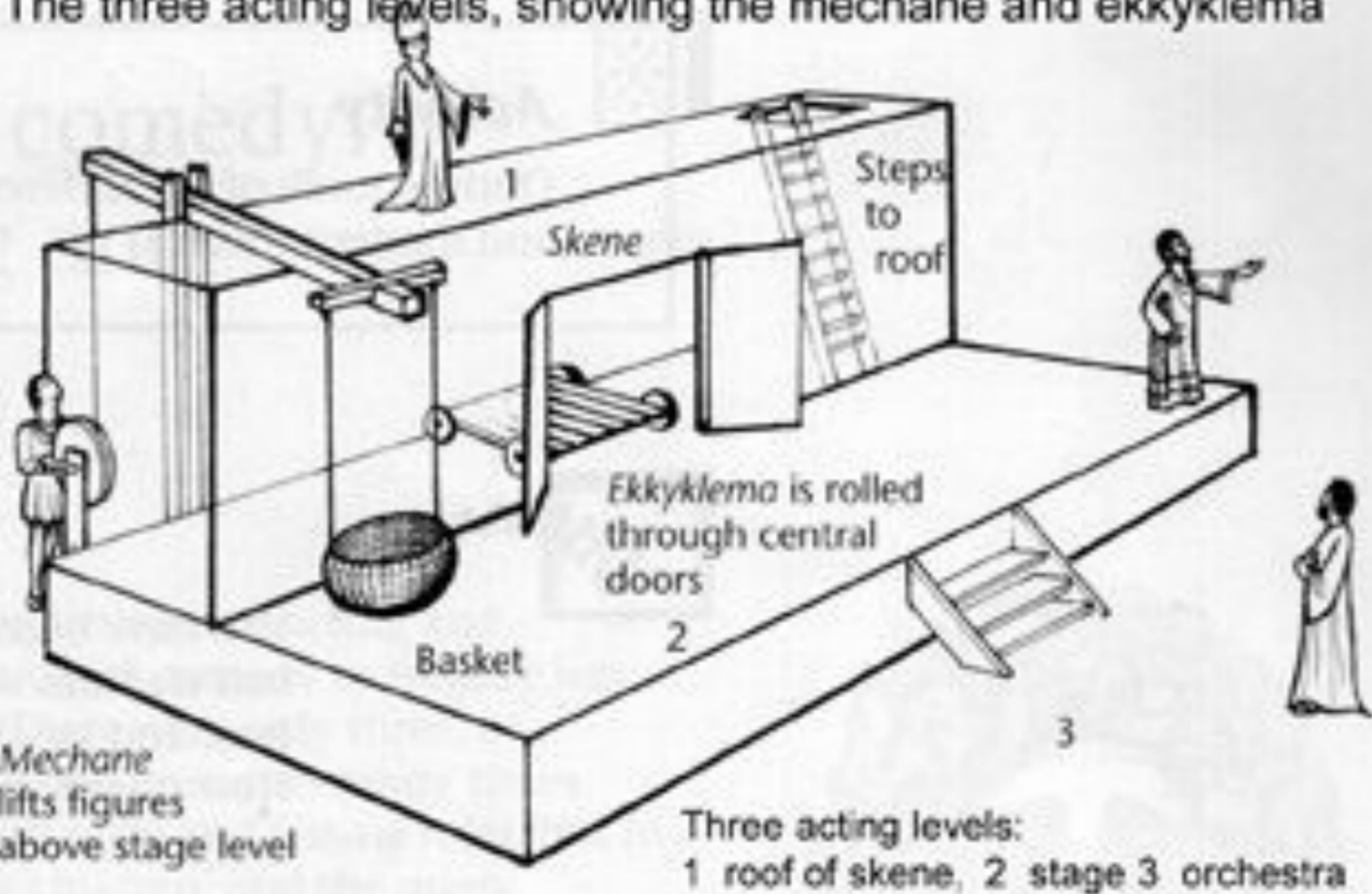


1. Κοίλο
2. Ορχήστρα
3. Περιμετρικός αποχετευτικός αγωγός
4. Πάροδος
5. Κτίριο σκηνής
6. Προσκήνιο
7. Λογείο
8. Παρασκήνιο
9. Βασίλειος θύρα
10. Θύρα

11. Περίακτος
12. Θεολογείο - Διστεγία - Σκοπή
13. Μηχανή - Γέρανος
14. Αιώρα
15. Αυλαία
16. Χαρώνεια κλίμακα
17. Θύρα προσκηνίου
18. Πινακίδες ή καταβλήματα
19. Κεραυνοσκοπείο
20. Στοά



The three acting levels, showing the mechane and ekkyklema





# Greek Week!

Design your toga to represent YOU as an artist!

Color your toga with a color that describes YOU!

Have at least 4 things that showcases YOU!

Include interests, hobby's, fears, loves, dreams, wishes, talents, etc...

# Greece: The Origin of Theatre!

