Argonautika

Dramaturgy Overview

Mary Zimmerman

- Based Argonautika off of Apollonius of Rhodes's epic poem
- Known for adapting and directing classical works, such as *Metamorphoses* (2002 Tony Award for Best Direction of a Play), *The Odyssey*, *The Arabian Nights*, *Treasure Island*, mostly with Lookingglass Theatre Company in Chicago
- Currently works as a professor of Performance
 Studies at Northwestern University





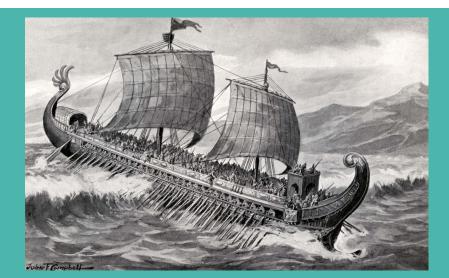
(some original production photos of *Argonautika*)



Notice entrance area for gods, similar to the "heavens" at Shakespeare's Globe

The Argo

- Most likely a Trireme ("three-rower", named for number of oar rows)
- Primary Mediterranean warship from 7th-4th century BCE (used in Persian and Peloponnesian Wars and to build the Athenian Empire)
- Replaced by later quadriremes and quinqueremes





Magic in Greece

 Subtypes include: spells and prayers (epoidai), curse tablets (katadesmoi), drugs and poisons (pharmaka), amulets (periapta), love potions (philtra)

- In Greek society, there was little
 distinction between magic,
 superstition, religion, science (mainly
 math and chemistry), and astrology
- Magic considered "white" or "black" black magic a crime punishable by death
- Governed by Hecate (more associated with demigods) and Circe

Sources

Cartwright, Mark. "Magic in Ancient Greece." *Ancient History Encyclopedia*. Ancient History Encyclopedia, 26 Jul 2016. Web. 18 Oct 2020.

"Trireme." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 1 Oct. 2020, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trireme.

"MARY ZIMMERMAN - ENSEMBLE MEMBER." *Lookingglass Theatre Company*, 2017, lookingglasstheatre.org/people/mary-zimmerman/.

https://lookingglasstheatre.org/event/argonautika/

https://www.didaskalia.net/issues/13/1/

https://www.pinterest.com/pin/164592561359664171/?nic_v2=1a6ekhPjG

https://www.britannica.com/technology/trireme

https://www.modelshipmaster.com/products/ancient/greek%20trireme.htm