

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The original production of *Trackers* was staged in the stadium at Delphi. While our venue isn't quite that venerable, the Old Quad's neo-Gothic stonework does lend a certain gravitas to some otherwise frivolous proceedings. Harrison's play rips the pants off the Establishment and turns P.Oxy. IX1174 into a rollicking stab at academic pretensions. So what better location for it, we thought, than these solemn, prestigious cloisters that get trotted out every time the University of Melbourne wants to appear photogenic? Time they saw some proper action...

Trackers is not narrowly political, and nor is our production (although in the current climate of cutbacks and controversy this is hard to avoid). Its interrogation goes deeper than that: what is the real cost of scholarship and fine art? Who pays? Do these things even have value? Are they a debt owed to the dead? Or an idle privilege? As Sophocles' satyrs fill our exclusive "palaces of culture" with resounding howls of "Fuck the papyrus!", you find y[our]self being fdrawn† into the hid[den] spaces between [...]s brackets, and [... text corrupt ...] -Helen Slaney

CAST



NICHOLAS KATO as Bernard Grenfell/Apollo
In Nicholas's second performance for Omniprop, he hopes to move past his D.O.M. (dirty old man) tag and prove to the audience he is a calm, well adjusted and mentally stable performer. He likes discipline, farm animals, the sound of his own voice and marble.



SEAMUS MAGEE as Arthur Hunt/Silenus
Seamus has acted, directed, produced and translated for Omniprop since before time began... He's also done physical theatre in un-conventional spaces before (such as in car parks and up trees). But nothing quite like this before... Enjoy!



OLYMPIA BOWMAN-DERRICK as Kyllene
Olympia is studying music in classical voice at the University of Melbourne. She enjoys the thrill of the theatre.



JAMES O'MALEY as Hermes
Since 2004 James has played a number of characters with absolutely no intelligence whatsoever with Omniprop (eg. Menelaus and Strepsiadēs). He feels gratified to be playing his most intelligent character yet: a 5 day old baby.



JULIA BOURKE as Fellaheen Chorus/Satyr
Julia devised and co-directed 'Diminishing Julius Caesar' for MUSC Shakespearefest 2009 and is playing Desdemona in their upcoming production of *Othello*. This is her first play with Omniprop.



SARAH de GARIS as Fellaheen Chorus/Satyr
Sarah has been part of Omniprop since the very beginning, when she sported a giant pink balloon phallus and an unconvincing Russian accent to play a sexually frustrated Spartan herald in Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*. She is looking forward to again donning a (slightly more realistic) phallus in the name of low art.



ELISE KENDALL as Fellaheen Chorus/Satyr
Elise has acted in several plays and short films. *Trackers* is both her second Omniprop show, and MudFest show. When not acting or making websites at her grown-up-person job, Elise enjoys walking stupidly long distances and making webcomics. Elise does not like weather.



WILL MORRIS as Fellaheen Chorus/Satyr
Due to lack of space, Will chooses to simply offer the following cautionary advice: bushes are a fully satyr-approved location for sleep.



JONATHAN PECK as Fellaheen Chorus/Satyr
His name is Johnathan Peck and when he is not sailing the seven seas he is running about in less-than-appropriate stage attire, but at least he is not alone! Accompanied by the rest of the Satyr team, mayhem and havoc shall reign upon the stage of *The Trackers of Oxyrhynchus*.



TSE-YEE TEH as Fellaheen Chorus/Satyr
Yee is from Sydney and arrived in Melbourne via a 4 year stop over in Canberra. She has been loitering around theatres since being cast as the granddaughter in *How the Birds got their Colours*. Being a Satyr has opened up a whole new sexuality, which she hopes to keep in a box somewhere for a rainy day.

CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR	Helen Slaney
WRITER	Tony Harrison
PRODUCER	Christina Curtain
STAGE MANAGERS	Sharon Flynn & James O'Maley
ASS. STAGE MANAGER	Rachel Kenny
SOUND DESIGN	John Kelly & Michael Pearson
MUSICIAN	Shayne Joseph
COSTUMES/PROPS	Andrea Sinclair
PUBLICITY	Seamus Magee
PROGRAM DESIGN	
& SATYR EARS	Tse-Yee Teh

Omniprop would like to thank Mudfest, University of Melbourne Student Union, Morganna Magee, "M" the anonymous donor, Tony Harrison, and the friends and family of cast and crew for their endless support.

This play is performed by kind permission of Gordon Dickerson Agents.

OMNIPROP PRODUCTIONS

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Omniprop was originally started to give a handful of Melbourne Uni Classics students the opportunity to indulge their histrionic ambitions, and actually muck about with some Greek and Roman plays instead of writing obsequious essays on them.

For information on the company please see www.omniprop.org, or contact us: enquiries@omniprop.org.

PRESENTS

THE TRACKERS OF OXYRHYNGHUS

WRITTEN BY
TONY HARRISON

ABOUT THE WRITER



Tony Harrison is Britain's leading theatre and film poet. He has written several pieces for the National Theatre including *Phaedra Britannica* (1975), *Bow Down* (1977) and *The Oresteia* (1981, awarded the European Poetry

Translation Prize). He has also written and directed plays for unique theatrical spaces, such as *The Kaisers of Carnutum* (1995) in a Roman amphitheatre on the Danube, and *The Labours of Herakles* (1995) on a mountainside in Delphi. His *Medea: a sex war opera* was produced in 1985 while his more recent work for the stage includes *Hecuba* (2005, for the RSC). He has both written and directed the film-poems *A Maybe Day in Kazakhstan* (1994), *The Shadow of Hiroshima* (1995) and the feature film *Prometheus* (1999). Channel 4's version of his poem *v.* won the Royal Television Society Award in 1987. His most recent film-poem is *Crossings* (2002) for LWT.

Harrison's many collections of poems include *The Loiners* (awarded the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize in 1972); *Palladas: Poems* (1975); *Continuous* (1981); *The Gaze of the Gorgon* (1992, awarded Whitbread Prize for Poetry); and *Under the Clock* (2005). Harrison has received the Northern Rock Foundation's Writer's Award (2004) and the Wilfred Owen Award for Poetry (2007).



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