

Born in Athens, I grew up in **Cairo**, Egypt.

Languages: fluent English. French and Greek and basic Italian and Egyptian Arabic. Learning Polish.

- **BA Honours degree, in Sociology and Social Anthropology from the London School of Economics.**
- **MA in Classics at University College London**
- **Getty Visiting Scholar at the Getty Research Institute and Villa of Antiquities in Los Angeles, 2006-2007.**
- **1996-to date: Artistic Director and founder of Thiasos**, an international theatre company based in London which reaffirms the centrality of the chorus in Greek theatre performance. (Please see separate sheet for the list of the Thiasos productions I directed). Long standing collaboration with Farrah, the Algerian designer, now deceased.
- **Hon. Research Associate** Royal Holloway University of London and the Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama (APGRD) Oxford University.
- **Academic consultant/researcher** for the Staniewski European Centre for Theatre Practices at Gardzienice.

Publications: ‘Chorus and Dance in the Ancient World’ **Cambridge Companion to Greek and Roman Theatre** (eds. J.M. Walton and M. McDonald) –Cambridge University Press 2007.

‘Epiphany’ in **The Promised Theatre—30 years of Gardzienice**, (eds. W. Dudzik and Z. Taranienko)—Warsaw 2008.

Staniewski’s Alphabet of Gestures—Body and Metaphysics, in **The Ancient Dancer in the Modern World** (ed. Fiona Macintosh) –in Oxford University Press 2010.

Some lectures and performances 2004-2013:

- ‘*Wisdom and Prophecy and Divine Inspiration: a Delphic Journey*’ for Mantic Perspectives Symposium at the **European Centre of Theatre Practices in Gardzienice**, 26-29 September, 2013.
- Illustrated lecture ‘*Hierarchy and the Body: setting ancient Greek choral lyrics to South Indian classical dance*’ with performance from Euripides’ Medea, by Ash Mukherjee, for **APGRD** and **CSSD** symposium on Hierarchy/ies in the Theory and Practice of Greek and Roman Drama, London, June 19th 2012.
- ‘*Reflections of Colour in the Presocratics*’ for **Saturated Space III, Ade and Abet Gallery**, Cambridge, June 23rd 2012.
- ‘*Coincidence or Convergence? Artemis and the Black Madonna of Czestochowa in Staniewski’s Iphigenia in T...*’, posted on www.gardzienice.org and www.thiasos.co.uk in 2012.
- Guest lecture on ‘*Ritual and Theatre*’ with reference to Gardzienice ECT, at **East 15, University of Essex**, May 25th 2012
- Lecture demo :‘*Lamentation in Aeschylus’ Persians*’ at **Institute of Historical Research, Department of Greek and Roman Antiquity, National Research Foundation, Athens**, November, 2011.
- ‘*Checks and Balances in a Greek-Balinese Merger*’ for the **Asian Performing Arts Forum at Royal Holloway University**, May 2011.
- ‘*The Chorus and Consistency of Character - Two Staged Examples from Euripides’ Hippolytos and Bacchae*’ for the **11th International Symposium on Ancient Greek**

- Drama, Nicosia, Cyprus**, on “*Scripted Pathos – Staged Ethos. Moral Character and Role Construction in Ancient Greek Drama, Text and Performance*,” 2-5 July 2010.
- ‘**Re-animating Antiquity: Staniewski’s Dance Alphabet**’ for the **Open University International Research Conference**, ‘*Classics in the Modern World—a Democratic Turn?*’ Milton Keynes 18-20th June, 2010.
 - ‘**For whom do the Chorus weep? A response to the Greek-Barbarian polarity in Aeschylus’ Persians by Thiasos Theatre Company**’. Lecture and publication for the 14th **International Meeting on Ancient Greek Drama, Cyprus**, July 2009.
 - ‘**Greek Satyr Dances: Ancient and Modern**’ for The Body and the Mask conference at **Kings College London**, 5-6th May 2008.
 - ‘**Death Ritual in Shi’ism and in Ancient Greek Tragedy: funeral processions and lamentation**’ at **Royal Holloway University of London**, February 2008
 - ‘Aeschylus’ *Persae* and ‘Orientalism’ Lecture in Tehran, in conference of Drama & Religion, January 2007 on
 - lecture with demonstration on **ancient Greek dance** at **Magdalen College Oxford APGRD** in July 2006
 - ‘**Ancient Greek Satyrs and the Skiros Goat Dance**’ for the **Early Dance Circle at St. Bride’s Institute** in February 2006
 - ‘**Indonesian Theatrical Traditions**’ **University of Patras Theatre Department**, May 2005.
 - Series of lectures and performances given at **Dartmouth College (USA)** for the Classics and Theatre Departments on the **Hippolytos and Javanese Dance**, and on the **Bacchae and Greek Religion** at **Dartmouth** and **Hampshire College (USA)** in 2004.
 - ‘**Thiasos’ adaptation of a Greek tragedy as dance-drama**’. Lecture with demonstration at **SOAS** for the AHRB Centre for Cross-Cultural Music and Dance Seminar in November 2004.
 - **Annual lectures from 2001 to 2005** accompanied by demonstrations and an **exhibition** for the postgraduate symposia of the **Drama Department of RHUL** (Royal Holloway University of London) and **APGRD** (Oxford Archive for the Performance of Greek and Roman Drama)
 - Lecture, ‘**A Peaceful Demonstration: Problems of Choral Identity and Location in Aristophanes’ Peace**’, with demonstration, at **Magdalen College, Oxford**, 2004.
 - ‘**Ecstatic Initiation in Euripides’ Bacchae**’, **Royal Holloway University of London**, June 26th, 2002.

Residencies at the **University of Texas in Austin** in the course of which I produced and directed Aristophanes’ *Peace* (2001) and *Wealth* (2000) with professional Thiasos actors and US students.

Workshops for schools and universities:

Recently in association with the London Ancient Greek Theatre Festival at the Bloomsbury Theatre, for JACT’s ‘Breakfast Club’, at the Godolphin and Latimer School and at Henrietta Barnett .

Curator with Krzysztof Bielawski of Symposium on *Mantic Perspectives: Oracles, Prophecy and Performance* and Farrah Costume Exhibition at the Opening Festival of the Staniewski European Centre for Theatre Practices in Gardzienice, Poland.



Directed and set the chorus of **Euripides' *Medea*** in Bharatanyata Indian classical dance. London Festival of Greek Drama, King's college London (1997)



Directed and adapted **Euripides' *Hippolytos*** as Indonesian dance-drama, Cambridge Classics Triennial at the Faculty of Music Concert Hall (Cambridge 1998) at the Interface Festival of Intercultural Arts (London 1998), Handa Noh Studio Theatre, (RHUL, Surrey 1999), International Festival of Ancient Greek Drama at the Paphos Odeion, (Cyprus 2001), Shaw Theatre (London 2004), Bentley Theatre, Lincoln Arts Centre (Dartmouth College, USA, 2004).



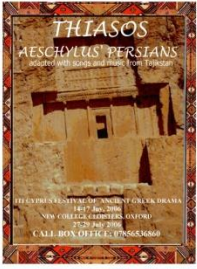
Directed **Aristophanes' *Wealth*** done in the style of Karaghiozi—a traditional comic shadow-puppet character popular in Greece since the 19th century. Reed Hall, Exeter (1999) Hellenic Centre, London (1999), Univeristy of Texas, Austin & *Road to Riches*, BBC2 TV (2000).



Directed **Aristophanes' *Peace*** with songs and dance inspired by folk traditions of modern Greece with a chorus of students from the University of Texas, Austin (2000) and with professional actors at the Cockpit Theatre London (2001)



Directed **Euripides' *Bacchae***, workshop performances in 2003 at the Boilerhouse International Theatre Research at RHUL Surrey and in 2004 at Dartmouth College, USA and at Hampshire College, Amherst, USA. Directed the full performance for a run at the Cockpit Theatre (London 2003) which included a performance with a symposium for the British Association of Psychotherapists. Directed the play again at the Ancient Greek Drama Festival at the Paphos Odeion and Kourion Ancient Theatre (Cyprus 2004).



Directed **Aeschylus' *Persae* St Stephen's Church, London**, Ancient Greek Drama Festival at the Paphos Odeion & Kourion Ancient Theatre (Cyprus 2006) & Oxford New College Gardens in 2006.