

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.

‘**Wisdom and Prophecy and Divine Inspiration: a Delphic Journey**’ in **Mantic Perspectives** (eds

**Some lectures and performances 2004-2018:**

- Lecture/demonstrations for ‘**Narratives in Motion. The Art of Dancing Stories--an Interdisciplinary Symposium at the University of Vienna / Department of Classics, 22-23 June, 2018:**
  - *Synergies—cross-cultural perspectives: choreographing and re-choreographing the Hippolytos*
  - *Essay in Maenadic Dance—the Bacchae parodos performed by Shelby Lynn Gilliam.*
- “*Medea—a Dance*” in the Chapel in the King’s Building with Ash Mukherjee, and lecture *Ode to Eros from Euripides’ Medea in Bharatanatyam dance*, Ancient Greek Theatre in the Black Sea Conference **King’s College London**, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- *Ancient Dance Re-Imagined* for India India Symposium at the **European Centre of Theatre Practices in Gardzienice**, lecture demo with Joanna Holcgreber, Agnieszka Me ....and Ash Mukherjee, 2014.
- ‘*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](http://www.gardzienice.org) and [www.thiasos.co.uk](http://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 **11<sup>th</sup> 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 **14<sup>th</sup> 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
  - 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 Bharatanatyam Indian classical dance. **London Festival of Greek Drama, King's College London** (1997)



Directed with **MJ. Coldiron** and adapted with **Jamie Masters**, **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)**. **Cockpit Theatre** (24-27 February, *London 2016*) including post-show talks, **Gardzienice ECTP** 14 May , **Warsaw's Teatr Polski im Arnold Szyfman** 17-18 May (**Poland 2016**).



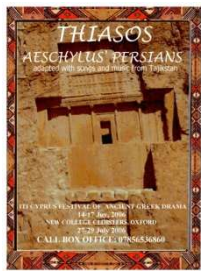
Directed **Aristophanes' *Wealth*** done in the style of Karaghiozi—a traditional comic shadow-puppet character popular in Greece since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. **Reed Hall, Exeter** (1999) **Hellenic Centre, London** (1999), **University of Texas, Austin** & **Road to Riches, BBC2 TV** (2000).



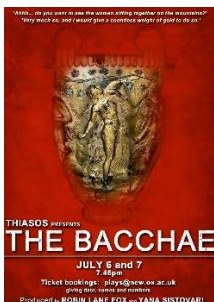
Directed **Aristophanes' *Peace*** with songs and dance inspired by folk traditions of modern Greece with a chorus of students from the **University of Texas, Austin** (2000) and with professional actors at the **Cockpit Theatre London** (2001)



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 2007**.



Directed with **M.J. Coldiron** a new version of **Euripides' *Bacchae*** in **New College Gardens, Oxford** (July 2017) and in **Gardzienice Centre of Theatre Practices (Poland 2018)**