

dod
actors of olionysus

making magic from myth since 1993...

Reflecting on our Impact





Who We Are

Actors of Dionysus (aod) is the only organisation in the UK dedicated to creating innovative versions of Greek drama and new writing inspired by myth.

We are pioneering theatre charity and touring company dedicated to making Greek drama accessible to all. Specializing in ancient myth and drama, we produce innovative adaptations of Classical plays, offer creative workshops, and specialise in projects that develop skills and confidence in young people, promoting accessibility and opportunity for all.

What We Do

We use performance to stimulate an understanding of, and engagement with Greek myth, revealing the power and relevance of these epic stories to make magic from myth.

Over the past 30 years, we have reached more than 750,000 audience members through our productions and empowered over 15,000 participants through our workshops. Our ethos focuses on preserving cultural heritage while inspiring contemporary relevance and creativity.



Theatrical Productions

We create and tour innovative interpretations of Greek dramas, reimagining ancient stories for contemporary audiences across the UK and internationally



Workshop Programme

We deliver innovative and dynamic workshops in schools across the UK that introduce young people to ancient myth & drama enhance skills, and build confidence.



Community Projects

We collaborate with academics, creatives and local organisations to empower marginalised voices and communities.



External Consultancy

We act as external consultants on projects such as the King's College London annual Greek Play. We are returning to act as Executive Directors for 2025.





Our Ethos

At aod, we believe all young people should be empowered by critical engagement with cultural heritage and the creative arts.

Our core mission is rooted in fostering inclusivity through connecting young people from diverse backgrounds with the transformative power of ancient myth and drama. We are passionate about extending the reach and impact of what we offer, especially to those who have not had access to publicly funded cultural activity, through digital media and collaborative projects.



750,000+
audience members
reached through our
productions

15,000+
workshop
participants

**over
30**
years in
operation

1000+
students participants
in our UK-wide free
workshop series
for state-funded
schools



2,700+ followers on X
and Instagram
enjoying our
award-



1,300+ winning

#MiniMyth
series

3 paid employees

8 expert trustees



What We Did 2023-2024

Wonder Women of the Ancient World - Atalanta



In 2023, we devised and performed 'Atalanta' part of our 'Wonder Women of the Ancient World' series for the Brighton Fringe, and later for the Elderflower Fields Family Festival in the Ashdown Forest, Sussex. The show tells the story of the mythological heroine Atalanta in an immersive, interactive format designed for families and children. The performance highlights female heroism through imaginative storytelling and audience participation, making Classical myth accessible for young audiences.

“Engaging, amusing, enjoyable...a good message for our little girls about female heroes...” Audience Member

Workshop Programme

Throughout 2023-2024, we have continued to run workshops and enrichment days in schools throughout the UK. In June, 2023, we delivered our first Primary school workshop at Aldrington Primary School, Hove. We now deliver workshops for KS1-5 and continue to promote our Free Workshop Campaign which provides free workshops for state-funded schools.



Black Voices in Myth

From Jan- Oct 2023, we developed phase 2 of 'Black Voices in Myth' funded by Arts Council England. The project is part of a series called Interrogating History and explored representation and race in Classical mythology, reappraising traditional narratives to spotlight and empower marginalised voices. This culminated in sharings at Brighton Book Festival and Chickenshed Theatre led by Prof Katherine Harloe and Dr Mai Musié, curated by Leda Douglas, who performed alongside Ben Scheck.



King's College Greek Play

We have acted as Executive Directors of the annual King's College Greek play in 2023 and 2024, mentoring students and helping them achieve their artistic ambitions. We successfully oversaw productions based on the myth of Iphigenia, and on Aristophanes' Lysistrata, and have since commenced rehearsal for the 2025 production, Elektra - a Throne Restored, which you can read more on below.



#MiniMyth

Originally launched as #DailyDose during the 2020 lockdown, this digital series features bite-sized readings of Greek and Roman texts, as well as myth-inspired performances. With contributions from renowned figures like Stephen Fry and Natalie Haynes, the series grew to include various art forms. #MiniMyth continues to provide educational and entertaining content via social media, contributing to our mission of democratizing and diversifying Classics and creative arts for all. The project won a Sussex Enterprise Award and remains a popular digital initiative.



News from the Lionhouse: aod's award-winning Brighton Fringe Venue

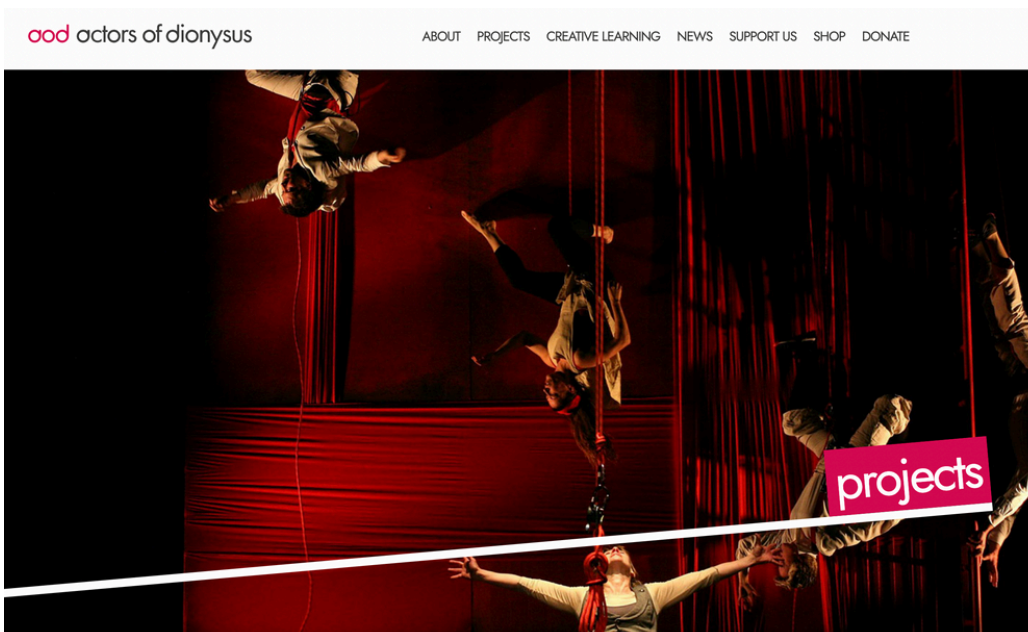
We're very proud to report another successful season for the 'Lionhouse,' aod's very own Brighton Fringe venue! Aside from housing the wonderful, 'Atalanta,' of the 'Wonder Women of the Ancient World' series featured above, the Lionhouse also won an audience choice award for Best Fringe Venue!

This award was made as the result of audiences voting for their favourite venue over the course of the annual festival, so we are particularly proud to have created such a significantly memorable audience experience.



New Website Launch

2024 also marked the launch of our bespoke new website, created and designed by aod trustee, Shelley Warren (@thirteenthfloorprojects) in collaboration with web designer, James Lattimore. Our new website aligns with our updated ethos and branding, and contains a wealth of free resources for educators and students as well as information about our past and present productions.



Projects for 2025



Magic from Myth: Storytelling & Coding Workshop Series

Since Spring of 2024, we have been working on developing and delivering a series of innovative workshops on myth and coding in collaboration with coding experts CoderDojo Brighton and supported by the charity Raspberry Pi Foundation.

The workshops were for young people aged 6-16 in Whitehawk, Portslade and at Community Base, prioritising SEND participants, and were funded by Brighton & Hove City Council and Chalk Cliff Trust. From November 2024 to February 2025, we ran three highly successful workshops.

“It was an adventure of myths and coding!!”

We blended local and transhistorical myths - from Theseus and Atalanta to the fierce ‘Knucker’ monsters of local Sussex folklore - with coding and digital skills in a lively and supportive environment that encouraged young people to get creative and connected whilst boosting employability and long-term confidence.

“My child was very excited to tell the family...”

Parent of November Workshop Participant, The Crew Club, Whitehawk

February Workshop Participant, Community Base



“This was absolutely an autistic happy place. Lots of happy neurospicy faces... my child made new friends!”

Parent of December Workshop Participant, Blast Theory Portslade

After the success of our pilot scheme, we are currently seeking funding to expand our workshop series to additional venues in East and West Sussex. We also see exciting potential to scale the project up nationwide in collaboration with other ‘CoderDojo’s’ across the UK.



supported by
**Brighton & Hove
Careers
Hub**

3 free
bespoke
workshops

In local areas most
affected by the
cost of living crisis



40 +
workshop
participants

27
with SEN(D)
specific needs
including
ADHD,
Dyslexia &
Autism



100 +
expressions of
interest



The Lionhouse, Brighton Fringe 2025

We're hosting a wide variety of performers at the upcoming Brighton Fringe festival, including aod's own Lionhouse Cabaret, local story-tellers, Amelia Ace Armande and Joshua Crisp, performing their acclaimed adaptations of the Dionysus and Heracles myths, and Sarah Cosgrove's experimental and innovative 'Verity'.

We always welcome new performances, and are keen to champion local talent, first time performers and sharings.



King's College Greek Play 2025

After announcing the vision and director for the KCL Greek Play, 2025, *Elektra - A Throne Restored*, directed and conceived by KCL student, Ines Neacsu, we are currently beginning the rehearsal and mentoring process once more.

We enjoy working with young creatives of all levels of experience, to offer advice, support and creative counsel in writing, conceiving and creating what is, for many, their first professional production. This is always a highlight of our yearly calendar, and champions innovative, collaborative and supportive engagement with drama and the ancient world; the beating heart of what we do here at Actors of Dionysus.

Connect With Us

 @aodtheatre

 @actorsofdionysus

actorsofdionysus.com



