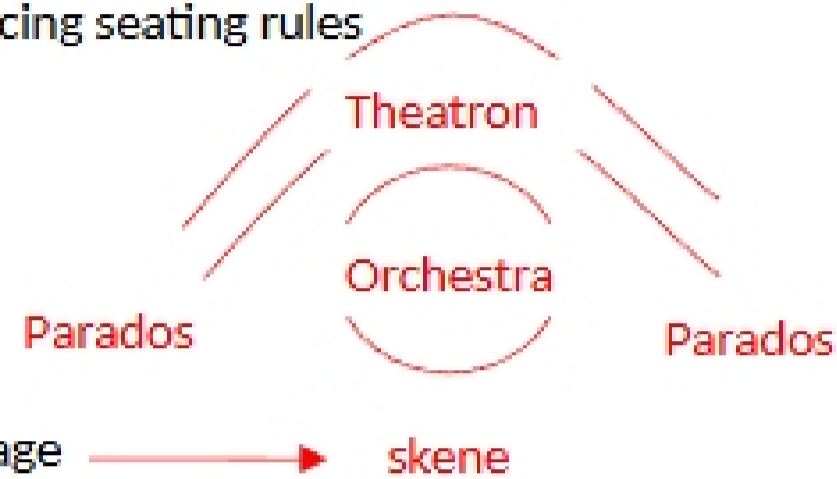


Theatre History:

- Extant: still in existence
- Sources about Greek theatre
 - Extant plays
 - Archeological remains
 - Visual art – primarily vase painting
 - Firsthand accounts
- **Greece:**
 - Competition, religious, ritual
 - Sparta = war fighting
 - Athens = philosophy, art , literature
 - Delphi = magic, oracles, religious
 - Shared characteristics
 - Language (Greek)
 - Competition
 - Polytheistic
 - Humanism
 - Valued control of a trained mind and fit body
 - Snobs
 - Men:
 - Citizen- adult, free, native- born, male, land owner
 - Hold political office
 - Best love is brotherly love between soldiers
 - Away at war
 - Women:
 - Promiscuous and passionate
 - Produce children and run the household
 - Supposed to stay home
 - Poor women worked the market, wealthy women shopped
 - Participated in some religious festivals
 - Courtesans attended man parties
 - Could not be a citizen but could pass on citizenship to her son(s)
 - City of Dionysia:
 - Religious festival
 - Every March in Athens
 - Celebrates God Dionysia (wine, parties, ferity, theatre)
 - Featured dithyramb contests (troop of 50, music- chanting- dancing)
 - All extant plays were meant for the City of Dionysia contest
 - Archon:
 - Government official
 - Selects plays, sponsors and judges
 - Hands out awards
 - Choregous:

- Wealthy citizen
- Trains chorus
- Civic duty
- Theatreones
 - Managed the physical theatre
 - In charge of tickets, enforcing seating rules
- Physical Shape:
 - More rectangular
 - Wooden benches
 - Hillside
 - Skene:
 - o Structure, backstage → skene
- Special Affects:
 - Ekkylema- hidden platform
 - Mechane - crane standing behind the skene - gave us the concept 'deus ex machina'
- Costumes:
 - Masks: actors playing multiple characters, gender, races
 - Incorporates body language
 - Shoes: soft boots for dancing and platform sandals (nobility, tragedy)



o Dithyrambs:

- Coral hymns with dancing and chanting
- Performed by troops of 50 men or boys
- Early Dionysia contests

o Thespis:

- A dithyramb singer, steps out of chorus
- First actor

o Plays:

▪ Tragedy

- Historical, mythic or heroic stories
- Kings, queens, warriors
- Hero- tragic flaw leads to downfall
- Katharsis- teach audience a lesson
- "tragodos" - goat song
- 1-3 actors
- 12-50 chorus
- 5 parts

o Prologus - prologue

o Parados - parade (chorus)

o Epeisodic - episode (talk to each other)

o Stasima - choral performance

o Exodes - exit

- 4Clothing: robes

Go back and forth [time to change]

- Comedy
 - Everyday people
 - Happy idea
 - Humor from sex jokes, scatological (potty) jokes
 - Komodia - revel song
 - Arstospannes - only example of Comedy
 - Clothing: padded body suits- males wore phallus (birds)
 - Satyr play
 - Part man, part goat
 - Attendant to Pionysus (loves wine)
 - Written to accompany tragedies (same playwright)
 - Parodied mythical stories
 - One extant satyr play (Cyclops)
 - Clothing: padded body suits- males wore phallus (birds)
- o Playwrights
 - Upper class men
 - Well educated
 - Not making money
 - Tragic authors submitted three tragedies plus one comedy
 - 3 playwrights
 - Aeschylus- 1st tragedy - 2nd actor
 - Sophocles- hired someone else to act - less formal language - hubris (pride)- 3rd actor
 - Euripides - become disillusioned- violent plots - believed man is in control of his own destiny
- o Actors:
 - Always men
 - Played multiple characters
 - Chorus:
 - Always amateurs
 - Clothing: All costumed alike- may be human or mythical animal
- **Rome**
 - o Philosophy, rhetoric
 - o Entertainment
 - o Para Theatricals:
 - Mimes, gladiatorial combats, Bestiarii, Naumachia
 - o Christians fed to the lions
 - Had unmasked and women actors - in public sphere women played prostitutes
 - Anti- theatrical prejudice in Rome
 - Writings encouraging people not go
 - Tertullians' *De Spactaculis* - read bible if want blood 196-212 AD
 - o Medieval Period
 - Approx. 500 years without (record of) theater - CC said no, dominant rule