



Australian
National
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Humanities
Research
Centre

TUESDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2024



WORK IN PROGRESS SEMINAR SERIES

The psychological work of ancient Greek tragedy beyond Oedipus and the individual

10:15am
Tues 27
February

Baldessin Bld
Room W1.08
(Ground Floor)

Ancient Greek tragedy has long provided potent material for psychoanalysts to use in illuminating how the human mind works and interacts with the world. Yet an ongoing preoccupation with the individual hero, and the analytic encounter between two individuals (therapist/patient) misses one crucial element that was present in every single ancient Greek drama - the chorus. In this seminar I ask how the psychoanalyst Wilfred Bion's ideas of 'Container and Contained' might be used to unsettle entrenched conceptions of the function of the ancient Greek chorus. In doing so we can appreciate the value in the chorus' blurred, non-linear, paradoxical, plural view of time, place, and the world.



Dr Lucy Jackson

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Lucy C. M. M. Jackson is Associate Professor in Classics (Greek Literature) at Durham University. Her research interests include Greek drama in the classical period, particularly Greek tragedy and Greek choral performance. Her most recent book is *The Chorus of Drama in the Fourth Century BCE* (2020, Oxford University Press)

HRC 2024 Annual Theme – Time, Place, *Everywhen*

2024 marks the 50th year of the ANU Humanities Research Centre (HRC). To celebrate, the HRC is supporting research into different ideas of time and place and paying respect to Indigenous people through the theme of 'everywhen'.

