

# The Getty Villa

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS

### **CLASSICAL PLAYS, CONCERTS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PROGRAMS WIDEN THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ANCIENT WORLD**

LOS ANGELES—The Getty Villa will offer a wide range of public programs that will help widen the experience of the ancient world. Over the course of the year, visitors will be able to enjoy classical drama, modern plays inspired by ancient themes, musical performances, film screenings, Family Festivals, and other events that complement the J. Paul Getty Museum's antiquities collection and exhibitions. Additionally, lectures and seminars at the Villa will reflect the scholarly activities of the Getty's programs.

The predominant focus of the Villa's public programming is on theater, rooted in the Greek and Roman plays of antiquity, and will be anchored by a major production that will premiere each fall in the Barbara and Lawrence Fleischman Theater. In this dramatic 450-seat outdoor setting, classical drama and contemporary interpretations of ancient works will be staged as they once were, in the open air, with no amplified vocals or music. The inaugural production, scheduled for September 2006, will be a new adaptation of Euripides' *Hippolytos* by Anne Carson, the director of graduate studies, classics, McGill University and internationally acclaimed poet. It will be directed by the award-winning playwright and theater director Stephen Sachs, the managing artistic director of Los Angeles' The Fountain Theater. The play is scheduled to run four weeks, with special matinees for school groups.

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In the winter and spring, the theater program moves indoors to the new Auditorium for the Villa Playreading Series. This series will act as an incubator for the development of new works in the classical canon, giving directors, designers, musicians, and actors room to experiment with different interpretations and incorporate modern staging, design, music, and sound elements into ancient works. The first series of readings at the Villa will take place from March through June 2006. Full productions that evolve from these readings will eventually be presented at the Getty Villa, which will also host performances by touring national and international companies.

In addition to theater, the Villa will feature dance performances and a variety of concerts that complement the exhibitions and collection. The concert program debuts in February 2006 when the renowned Baroque orchestra and chamber choir group Tafelmusik performs a special presentation, *From Myth to Music*. Another highlight is a summer concert series that will feature classically influenced compositions and period music presented in the Barbara and Lawrence Fleischman Theater. The Villa's programming will also include film screenings, beginning in June 2006 with Greek director Michael Cacoyannis hosting a weekend series of some of his most seminal films. Events designed specially for families will include kid-friendly concerts.

To support the Villa's research mission, scholarly events will be organized, including lectures, seminars, symposia, and conferences. Leading up to the beginning of the first official academic year at the Villa in September 2006 will be approximately seven public lectures, many related to the three inaugural exhibitions *Antiquity & Photography: Early Views of Ancient Mediterranean Sites*, *The Getty Villa Reimagined*, and *Molten Color: Glassmaking in Antiquity*. Also scheduled are two seminars and three colloquia, including one co-hosted by the Comité International d'Histoire de l'Art Colloquium, one of the leading organizations focused on art history. There will also be a three-day international symposium on historic suburban villas in April, with special discussions on the first-century Villa dei Papiri, on which the Getty Villa is modeled.

See the "Public Programming at the Getty Villa" release for a list of events at the Getty Villa through June 2006.

The public can get programming updates and more information by going to the calendar of events at [www.getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu). They can also sign up to receive free event highlights via e-mail by subscribing to e-Getty at [www.getty.edu/subscribe](http://www.getty.edu/subscribe).

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**The J. Paul Getty Trust** is an international cultural and philanthropic institution devoted to the visual arts that features the Getty Conservation Institute, the Getty Foundation, the J. Paul Getty Museum, and the Getty Research Institute. The J. Paul Getty Trust and Getty programs serve a varied audience from two locations: the Getty Center in Los Angeles and the Getty Villa in Malibu.

**Visiting the Getty Villa**

The Getty Villa is open Thursday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed Tuesday and Wednesday, and major holidays. Admission to the Getty Villa is always free. Advance, timed tickets are required for each individual. Tickets can be obtained online at [www.getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu) or by phone at 310-440-7300. Parking is \$7 per car. Groups of nine or more must make reservations by phone. For more information, call 310-440-7300 (English or Spanish); 310-440-7305 (TTY line for the deaf or hearing impaired).

**Additional information is available at [www.getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu).**

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