

## Oxford Theater Podcast: Character Motivations Continuity Between *The Suppliant Maidens* and *Big Love*

In this podcast, I am challenging the way modern audiences approach understanding character motivations of antiquated theater by comparing *The Suppliant Maidens* written by Aeschylus around 470 BCE and *Big Love* by Charles Mee written a little before 2000, and in their comparison, finding how the character motivations remain the same between each show despite their huge time gap. Ancient Greek theater can seem intimidating to both the reader/audience and the actor due to its language and contrasting societal beliefs, but the basic themes of the time and desires of the people aren't all that different from today, and that is what I want listeners to take away from this podcast. The podcast will include a reading from each play performed by the Oxford Theater. *Big Love* is a modern adaptation of *Suppliant Maidens*, the scenes will be approximately the same exchange between the Suppliant Maidens/Three Women and the King of Argos/Piero. This podcast is focused to an audience interested in Ancient Greek theater and its role in modern society, as well as, the actor's relationship to understanding it as it relates to modern theater, and their ability to portray characters in both. It will give readers a deeper understanding of the motivations for character actions/decision making in these plays which will allow the audience to more easily make connections and find motivations in the text of plays without having prior knowledge of the exact situation of a character. This podcast should be informative, entertaining, and thought provoking for an audience with a general interest in theater and an applicable need for their acting career/study.

## Works Cited

Aeschylus. "The Internet Classics Archive | The Suppliants by Aeschylus." *The Internet Classics Archive | The Suppliants by Aeschylus*. Daniel C. Stevenson, n.d. Web. 14 Mar. 2017.

Mee, Charles . "Big Love." *Charles Mee | the (re)making project | The Plays | Big Love*. Charles Mee, n.d. Web. 14 Mar. 2017.

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