

### **Campus in Rome 2017**

#### FROM JULY 17<sup>th</sup> (IN JULY 16<sup>th</sup>) to JULY 21<sup>st</sup> (OUT JULY 22<sup>nd</sup>)

### WORKSHOP

## VERSE, VOICE & THEATRE Led by Tony Harrison and Sian Thomas

Workshops will include readings and performances of both Tony Harrison's poetry and verse drama in a variety of subjects and emotions.

TONY HARRISON was born in Leeds in 1937.

His many collections of poems include THE LOINERS (awarded the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize in 1972); PALLADAS:POEMS (1975) *from THE SCHOOL OF ELOQUENCE* (1981); CONTINUOUS (1981); SELECTED POEMS (Penguin,1984 2nd ed. 1987 3rd ed.1995) v. (Bloodaxe Books,1985 new enlarged ed.1989); THE GAZE OF THE GORGON (Bloodaxe,1992, awarded Whitbread Prize for Poetry 1993) THE SHADOW OF HIROSHIMA & other film poems (Faber,1995 awarded the William Heinemann Prize 1996); LAUREATE'S BLOCK (Penguin,2000) and UNDER THE CLOCK (Penguin, 2005). His COLLECTED POEMS were published by Penguin in 2007.

TONY HARRISON is Britain's leading theatre and film poet. He has written several pieces for the National Theatre including THE MISANTHROPE (1973 & 1989); PHAEDRA BRITANNICA (1975) BOW DOWN (1977) THE ORESTEIA (1981 awarded the European Poetry Translation Prize); THE MYSTERIES (1985 & 2000) and THE PRINCE'S PLAY (1996). He has also both written and directed for the National Theatre, THE TRACKERS OF OXYRHYNCHUS, which had its world premiere in the ancient stadium of Delphi, Greece, and opened in the Olivier, NT, in 1990, SQUARE ROUNDS in 1992 and FRAM in 2008. He has also written and directed plays for unique theatrical spaces, POETRY OR BUST (1993) at Salt's Mill, Saltaire, THE KAISERS OF CARNUNTUM (1995) in a Roman Amphitheatre at Carnuntum on the Danube between Vienna and Bratislava, and THE LABOURERS OF HERAKLES (1995) on a mountainside in Delphi. These plays are published in five volumes Plays 1, Plays 2, Plays 3, Plays 4, Plays 5 (Faber & Faber). All the volumes have introductions either by critics or the poet himself. A more recent work for the stage is Hecuba for the Royal Shakespeare Company, which he also directed for the Kennedy Center, Washington and for the Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York. Hecuba is published by Faber and Faber (2005). He directed his play SQUARE ROUNDS in Russian translation at the Taganka Theatre, Moscow, 2007. He was one of the founders of Theatre Olympics with Heiner Muller, Robert Wilson, Tadashi Suzuki, Yuri Lyubimov, Theodoros Terzopoulos and Nuria Espert.

His play FRAM opened at the National Theatre in April 2008.



TONY HARRISON has also written libretti for opera including *The Bartered Bride* (1978) for the Metropolitan Opera, New York; *Yan TanTethera* (1983) with Harrison Birtwistle and *Medea, a Sexwar Opera*(1985),

TONY HARRISON's television and film poetry include *Arctic Paradise* (1981); the music drama *The Big H* (1984); Channel 4's version of his poem v. (1987 winning the Royal Television Society Award); the BBC 4 part series on death and burial *Loving Memory* (1987) and his film poems, *The Blasphemers' Banquet* (1989); *The Gaze of the Gorgon* (1992)*Black Daisies for the Bride* (1993 awarded the *Prix Italia* 1994 and a *Mental Health Media Award*). He has both written and directed the film-poems A Maybe Day in Kazakhstan (1994), *The Shadow of Hiroshima* (1995) and the feature film *Prometheus* (1999).

The texts of all these film-poems are published by Faber and Faber in Collected Film Poetry (2007)

TONY HARRISON was the recipient of the Northern Rock Foundation's Writer's Award 2004, the Wifred Owen Award for Poetry 2007, and the PEN/Pinter prize in 2009, the European Prize for Literature in 2011, and the David Cohen Prize for Literature in 2015

# SIAN THOMAS

SIAN THOMAS is one of Britain's leading actresses

Her theatre work at the National Theatre in London includes 3 roles in Tony Harrison's verse dramas: Celimene in his modern version of Moliere's *Misanthrope*, the role of Justus von Liebig in *Square Rounds*, and Sybil Thorndyke in FRAM. She also appeared in Pirandello's

I Giganti di Montagna and as Vittoria in Goldoni's La Villegatura.

Her work at the Royal Shakespeare Company includes:

Katherine in The Taming of the Shrew

Elizabeth in 'Richard III'

Goneril in 'King Lear'

Lady Macbeth in 'Macbeth'

She has made numerous appearances in London's West End including

Julia in Edward Albee's 'Delicate Balance' and Esther in Arthur Miller's 'The Price'.

She has been nominated twice for an Olivier Award.

Her recent TV work includes 'Atlantis' (BBC)



Her film work includes 'Vanity Fair' 'Perfume' 'Harry Potter and the Flight of the Phoenix' War Machine (Netflix) and the forthcoming 'Finding Your Feet.'