



EMORY

MICHAEL C.  
CARLOS  
MUSEUM

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## The 2022 Laszlo-Excalibur Lecture to feature Mary Louise Hart and Mary Zimmerman

[Atlanta, Georgia, March 30, 2022]— On Sunday, April 10, 2022, at 4 p.m., the Carlos Museum will welcome Mary Louise Hart, former curator at the Getty Villa specializing in the art and performance of Ancient Greek drama, and Tony Award-Winning writer-director Mary Zimmerman for a Zoom conversation with Curator of Greek and Roman Art Ruth Allen titled "*It Was Ever Thus: Theater and Adaptation from Classical Antiquity to the Present.*"

This wide-ranging conversation will explore the ways in which adaptation has always played a central role in the theater—whether to make a myth or a play relevant for a particular time, to surprise audiences, or to suit the strengths (or ego) of a particular actor—as well as in the dissemination of theater imagery in ancient material culture.

### More on the Lecturers

MacArthur “genius” grant winner Mary Zimmerman is renowned for her revivals and adaptations of classical and pre-classical literature. She won a 2002 Tony Award for Best Direction for her adaptation of Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*. In February 2020, Zimmerman directed the world premiere of composer Matthew Aucoin and playwright Sarah Ruhl’s production of *Eurydice* at the Los Angeles Opera.

Mary Louise Hart served as the curator of antiquities at the Getty Villa where she also developed their theater program. Hart is the author of the 2010 book, *The Art of Ancient Greek* and coauthor of *Understanding Greek Vases: A Guide to Terms, Styles, and Techniques*.

Click [HERE](#) to register for this Zoom conversation.

The John Laszlo, M.D. Excalibur Lecture was established through the generosity of Dr. Laszlo’s family and friends in honor of his retirement from the American Cancer Society.

### The Related Reinstallation of the Greek Theater Case at the Carlos Museum

This year’s Laszlo-Excalibur Lecture coincides with the reinstallation of the Greek theater case in the Greek and Roman galleries. Exploring the cultural and material significance of theater in both Athens and the Greek colonies of southern Italy, the display will feature objects from the Carlos’ permanent collection alongside three exciting additions.

Two Apulian vessels on long-term loan from the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles demonstrate the importance of tragic and comic drama as it was adopted and adapted in South Italy. These loans include a fragmentary red-figure mixing bowl (calyx-krater) depicting a scene that likely relates to a tragic performance of the myth of the daughters of the Athenian king Kekrops. Also new in the galleries is a Greek terracotta figure of an actor dressed as a bird. This object was one of several donated jointly to the Carlos and the Tampa Museum of Art by William Knight Zewadski, and has been transferred to Atlanta from Florida. It accompanies an Attic red-figure wine container (pelike) also depicting an actor dressed as a bird (Carlos Collection of Ancient Art, 2008.4.1), which together provide rare visual evidence for a tradition of bird-characters in ancient Greek drama.

This case will be on view for the public from April 12 onwards. Plan your visit to the museum to see this new installation by visiting [carlos.emory.edu](http://carlos.emory.edu).

## **About the Michael C. Carlos Museum**

Set in the heart of Emory's campus, the Michael C. Carlos Museum, is a dynamic, interdisciplinary center for study of art and culture, with collections from Africa; ancient Egypt; Nubia, and the Near East; ancient Greece and Rome; the Indigenous Americas; and South Asia; as well as American and European Works on Paper.

Through our permanent collection galleries, engaging special exhibitions, and innovative programs for audiences of all ages, the Carlos Museum connects the past with present and the campus with the community.

The Michael C. Carlos Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m.– 5 p.m.; Sunday: noon–5 p.m. For more information, visit [carlos.emory.edu/visit](https://carlos.emory.edu/visit), call 404.727.4282, or follow @CarlosMuseum on social media.

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