

Facts About Euripides

- Euripides was born in Athens, Greece in 484 B.C.
- He wrote 90 plays, 19 of which are extant
- Has the most extant plays of any Greek playwright.
- Author of the only extant satyr play.
- He died in Macedonia, Greece in 406 B.C.
- He likely came from a prosperous family
- He reportedly married a woman named Melito and had three sons
- He was the last and potentially most influential of the three major Greek dramatists
- He first entered in a dramatic festival in 455
- He won the festival four separate times with his first victory being in 441
- He owned a large personal library
- He left Athens in 408 because he was invited to Macedonia by the Macedonian king
- He was best known for taking a new approach to traditional myths
- He commonly dwelled on the darker side of existence
- He frequently used deus ex machina
- He is also well known for strong female characters
- He was so popular that he was parodied in other playwrights work such as Aristophanes
- He created the love-drama

- It has been noted that he often sacrificed plot for character which is why he frequently made use of the deus ex machina
- He was ahead of his time in his characterization which could be why he was less popular at the time
- He was awarded first prize posthumously for the Bacchae
- He frequently makes use of a prologue and epilogue
- He began to eliminate the chorus from the dramatic action

Facts about the Play

- Play was first done posthumously; it was brought to the festival by his son and won first prize.
- Unusual in the essence that Dionysus appears not only as a god, but also a man.]
- Play really defined the idea of tragic comedy.
- First production was done in 405 BC at city Dionysia
- Thought to be written between 410 and 405 BC
- Considered one of the most popular plays in Grecian theatre; most quoted.
- Written in Macedonia.
- Considered to be his finest play in terms of structure.
- Had a month and a half long Broadway run in 1980
- Named after the worshippers of the Bacchae.
- Last play he wrote.
- Strange for a Greek play ending because in the end no *anagnorisis* occurs.

- Was performed with Iphigenia at Aulis and Alcmaeon at Corinth (neither are extant)