

Marco Paolini

Odysseus *Filò*

In the Age of Gods

by Marco Paolini e Francesco Niccolini

with [Marco Paolini](#)

and with [Saba Anglana](#) e [Lorenzo Monguzzi](#)

technical manager Piero Chinello

a Michela Signori, Jolefilm e Piccolo Teatro di Milano – Teatro d'Europa production

Odysseus travels incognito, to those who ask who he is, he answers: "I'm a shoemaker". He meets Hermès, disguised as a shepherd. Both camouflaged, both trying to disclose each other's identity. Hermès demands to know from Odysseus the true story of the Odyssey. Odysseus wants to find out what that young man really wants from him. They are also relatives: Hermès is his great-grandfather, but they were divided by the fate. Odysseus is deadly, Hermès is immortal.

While Odysseus is recounting his past, he's aware that he is facing a challenge in his present. What kind of joke gods are still playing at him? Forced to tell only what Hermes likes to hear, Odysseus evokes massacres, shipwrecks, loves, sacrileges, punishments.

The three theatrical elements that give life to the books of Odyssey are singing, dialogues and actions. They are pure invention as well as the language employed, which is a not a traditional one. Theatre demands for synthesis, speed, lightness, combination of comic and tragic.

This is a song. However, it is neither the mermaids' song nor of any other god, monster or superhuman, sung by a clear female voice accompanied by an old Aedo's guitar.

The one who's waving that song is Odysseus, nephew of Hermes, loved and protected by Athena, persecuted by Poseidon, immensely desired by Calypso, coveted by Circe and treated by Nausicaa.

Odysseus *Filò* is a song about immortality and death, about divine whims and human heritage. Amused Gods and suffering mortals: the firsts are comfortably seated while handing their interactive remote controls, the others are war veterans unable to escape from their nightmares; they're castaways persecuted by the ghosts of those who shipwrecked before them.

Odysseus *Filò* is an adaptation in oratory form of the show IN THE AGE OF GODS, Odysseus' shoemaker, produced by Jolefilm and Piccolo Teatro di Milano– Teatro d'Europa (available for next theatrical season 2019/2020).

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