



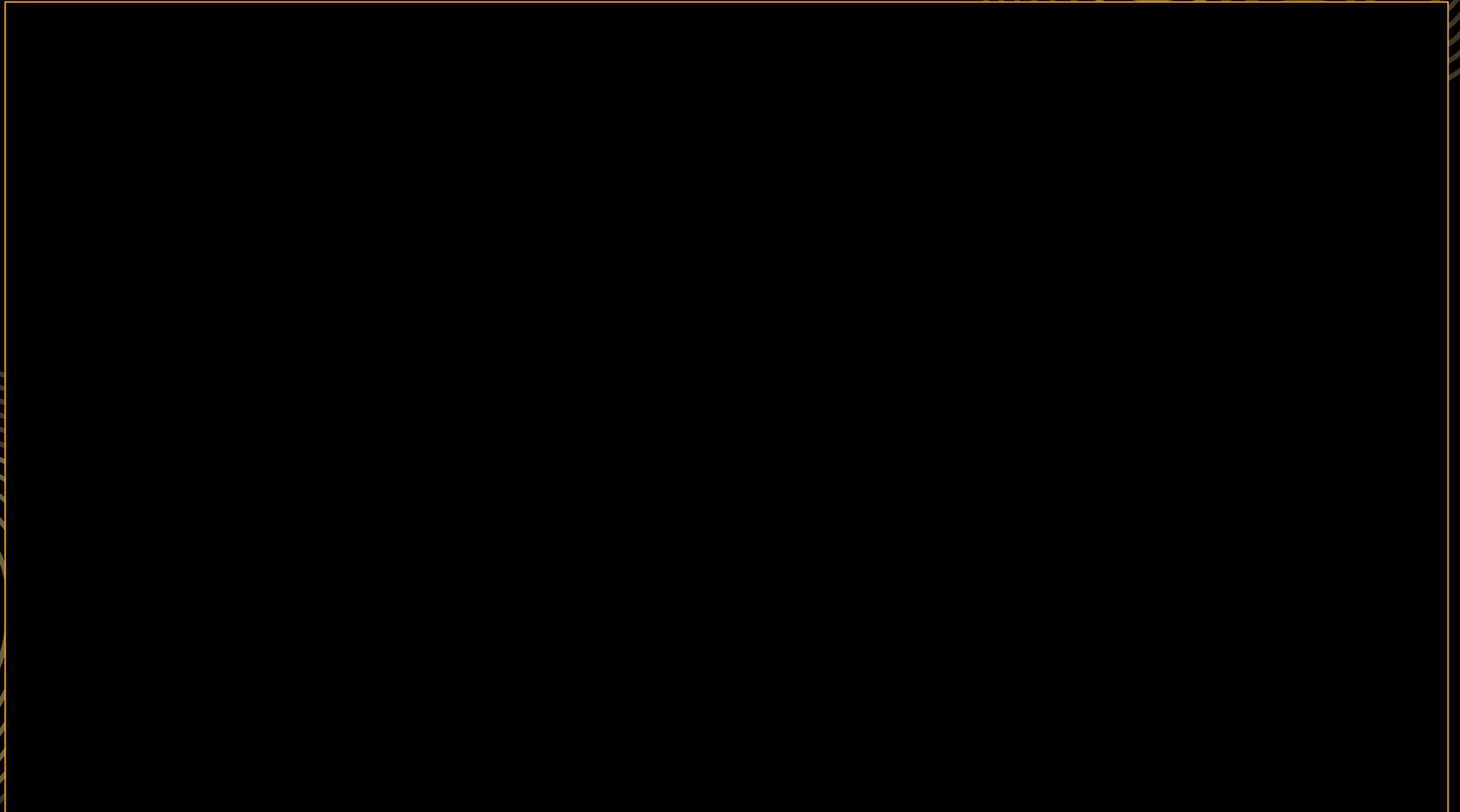
ANCIENT

GREEK

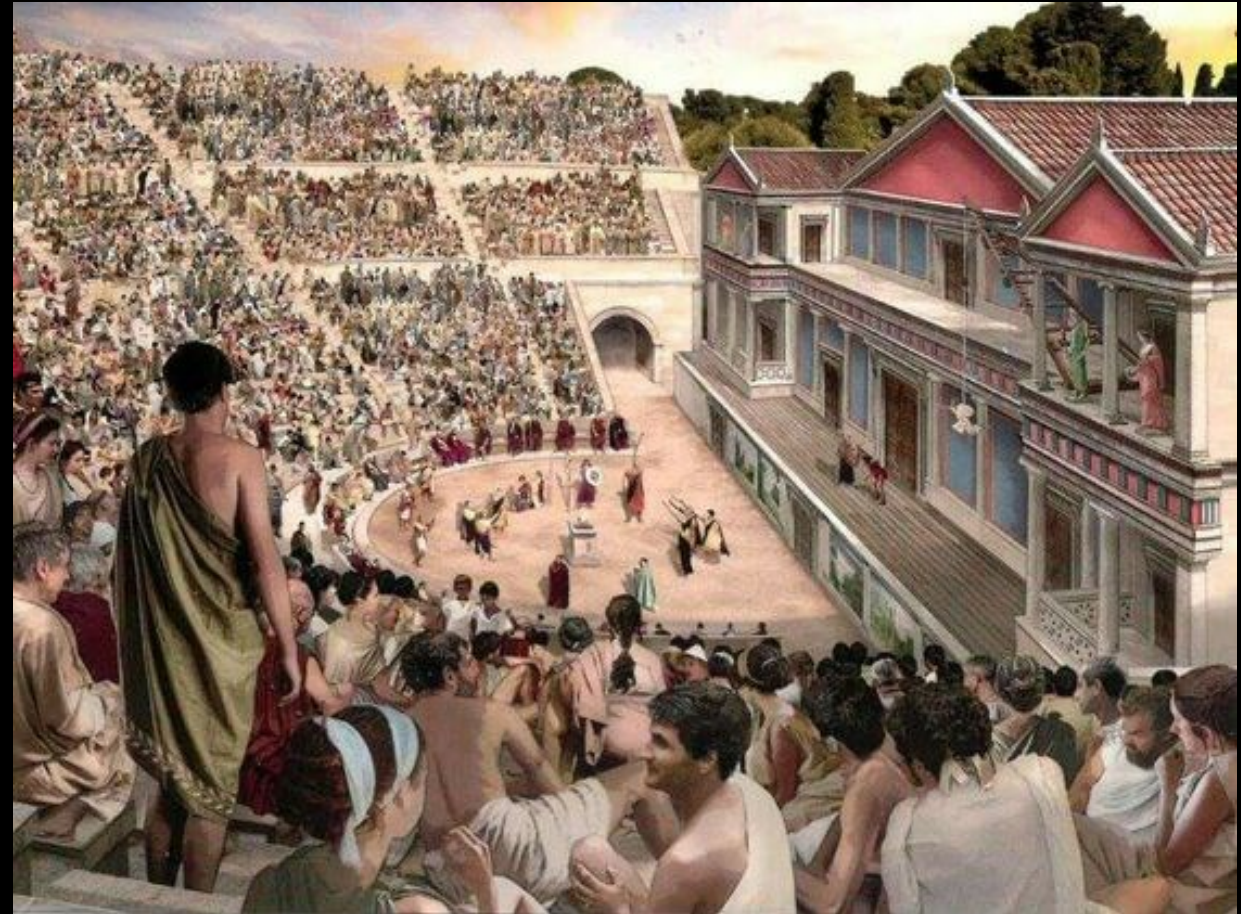
THEATER



Ancient Greek theatre- Preface



The ancient Greek theaters are timeless works created by architectural talent. They were also the holy places where tragedy was at its most powerful. Not only were these theaters places where stories were told, but they also had complex systems that were connected to the very core of Greek society, politics, and religion.



Architecture and Acoustics

The architectural design
of Greek theaters
was a testament to the
meticulous craftsmanship
and understanding
of acoustics of the time.

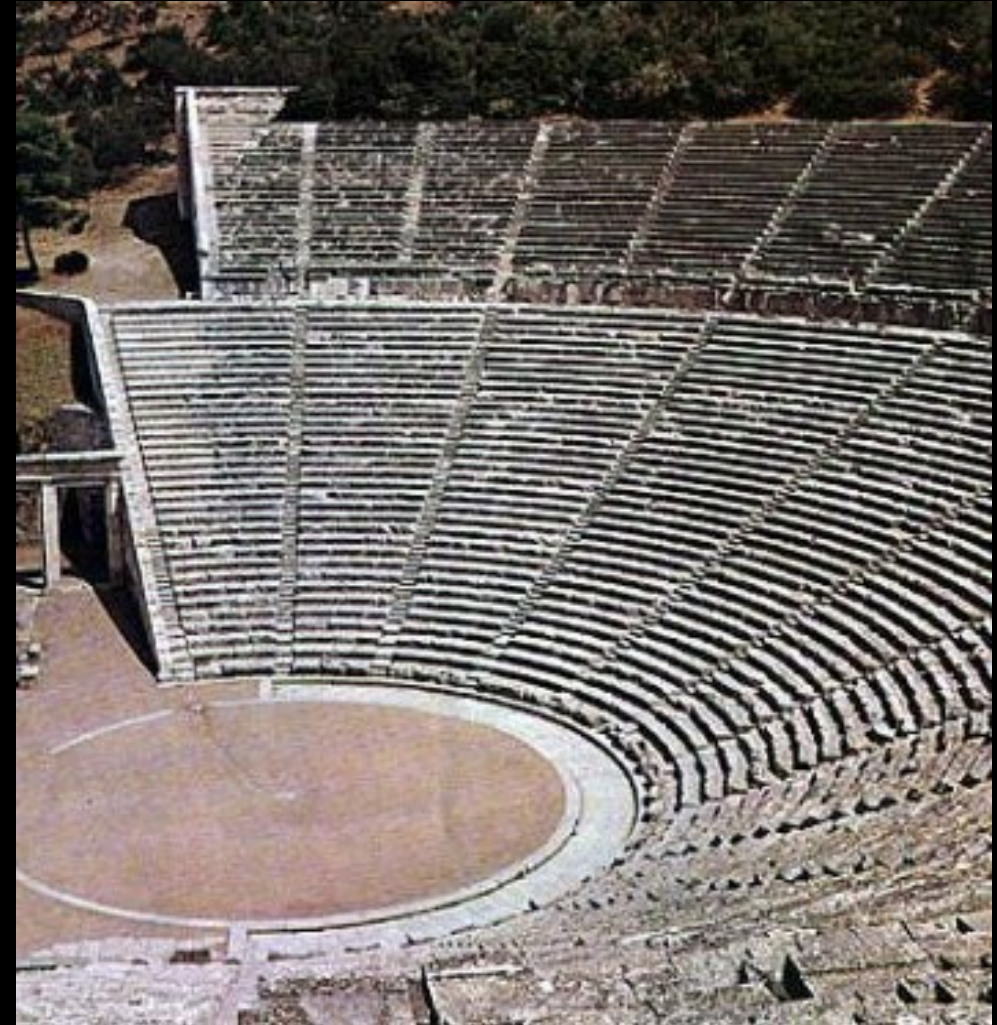
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Orchestra

The orchestra was a circular area at the center of the theater, originally intended for the performance of choral odes and dances.

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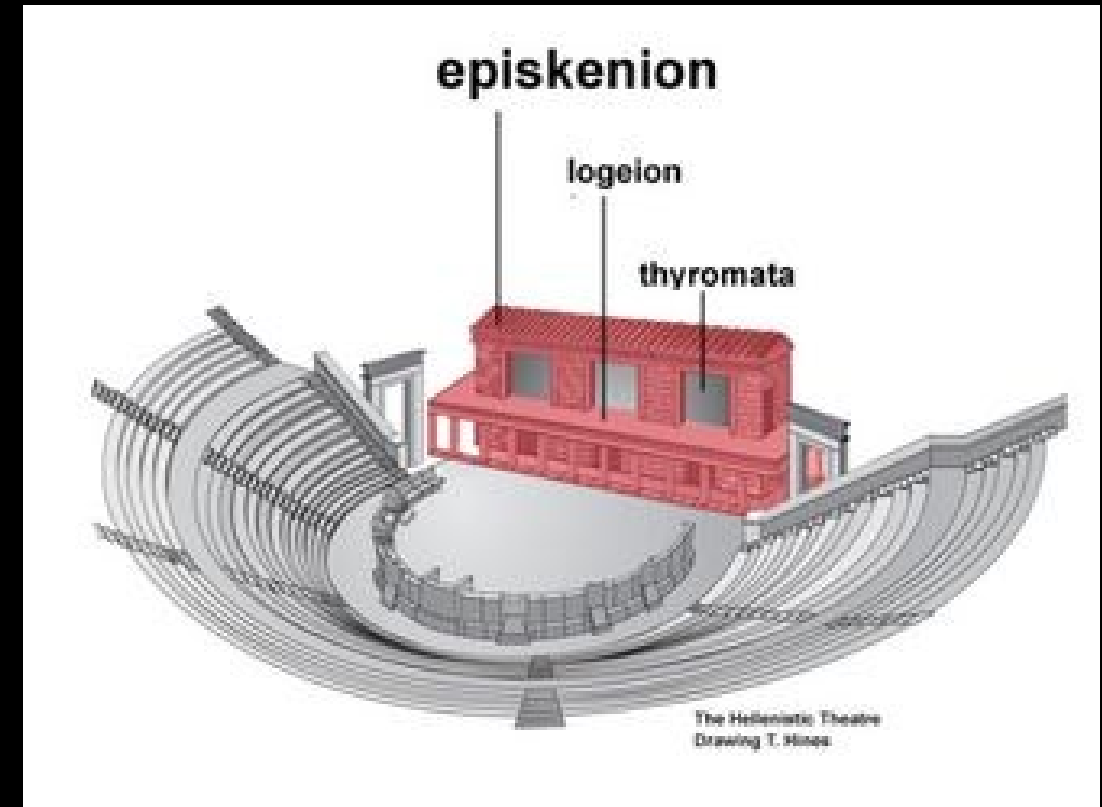


The kilon comprised the seating area for the audience, arranged in a semi-circular or horseshoe-shaped fashion around the orchestra.



The skene

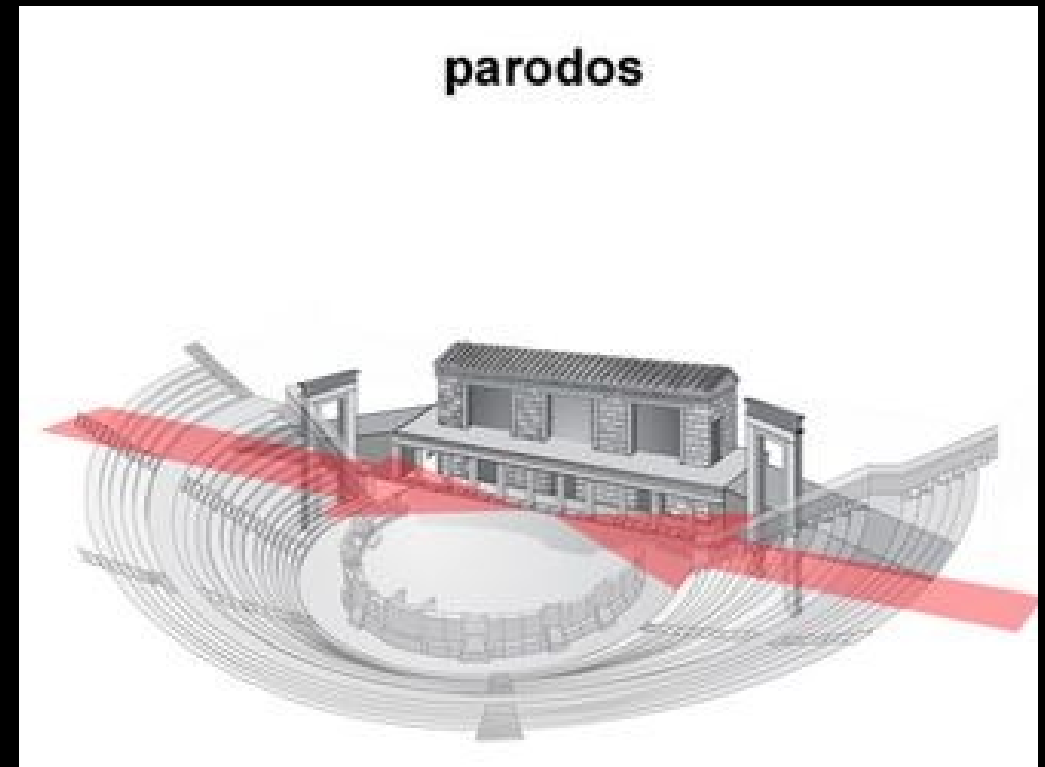
The skene was a building located behind the orchestra and served as a backdrop for the performance. It featured a raised platform, known as the proskenion, where the actors performed their roles. The skene also housed the dressing rooms for the actors and provided entrances and exits through its doors, which were often used for dramatic effect.



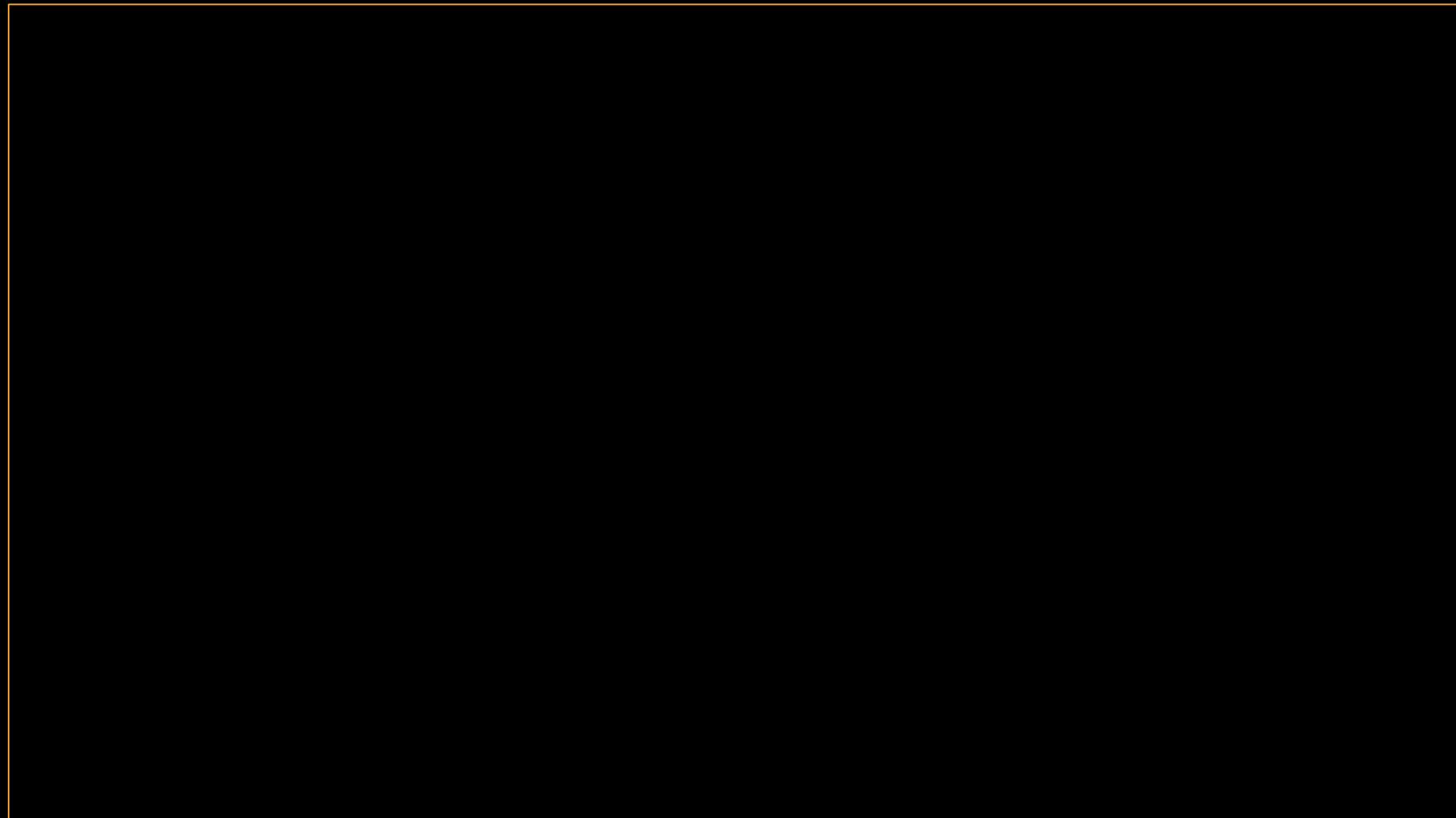
Parodos

Parodos was a crucial architectural feature that served as the entrance and exit for the chorus and actors. Positioned at either side of the skene, the parodoi provided a direct route from the orchestra to backstage areas, allowing performers to enter and exit the stage

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**The
parts
& structure
of Ancient
Greek
theater**



The machinery of Ancient Greek theater

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The mechane

The ekyklema

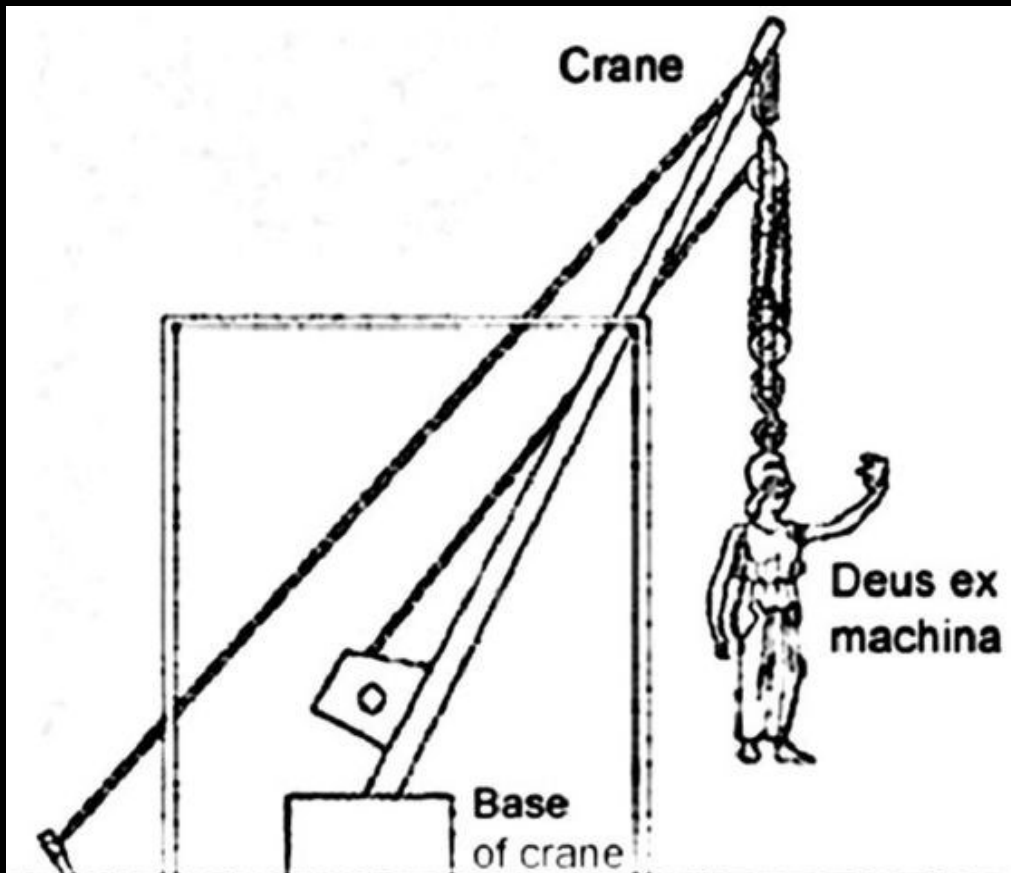
The periaktos

Trap doors and elevators

Thunders and lighting effect

Masks and costumes





The Mechane

The Mechanē, also known as the crane or "deus ex machina," (Means the "the GOD FROM THE MACHINE") was a remarkable mechanical device used in ancient Greek theater to lower actors portraying gods onto the stage

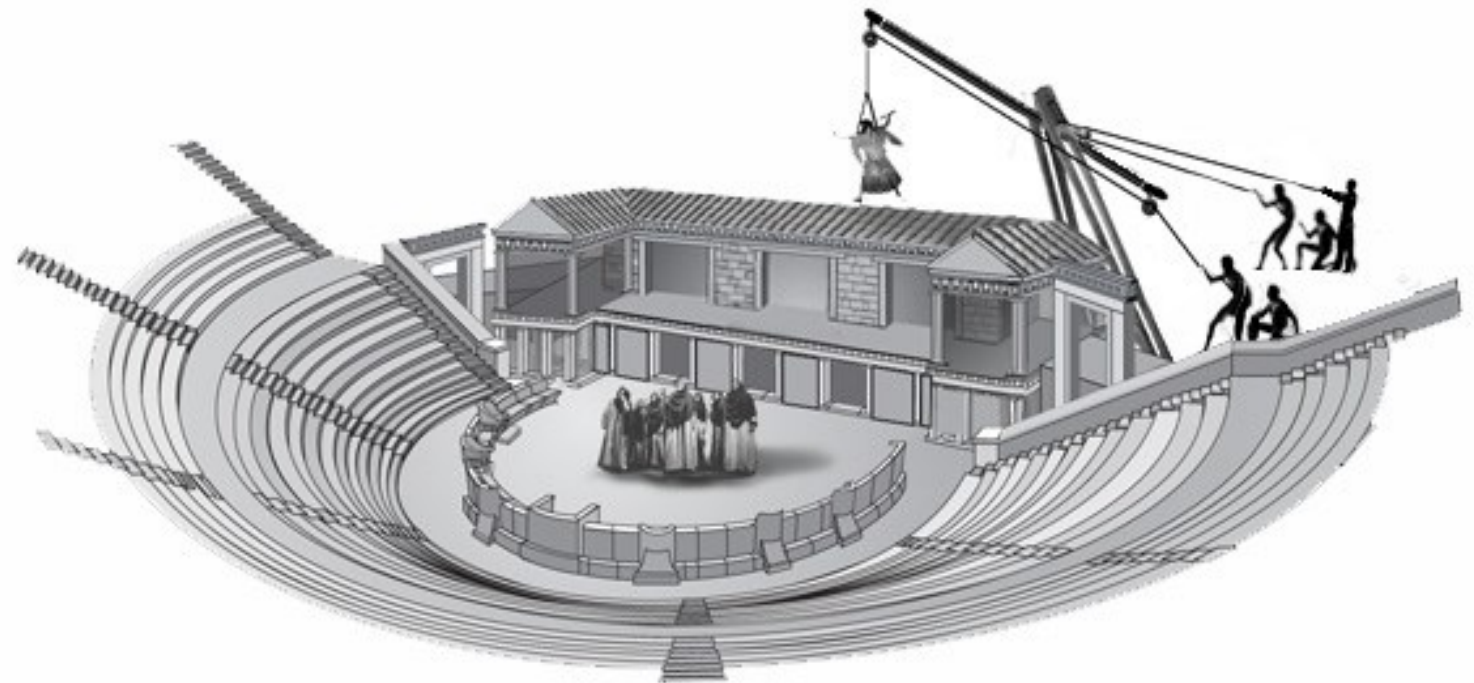
The machinery of Ancient Greek theater

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The Mechane

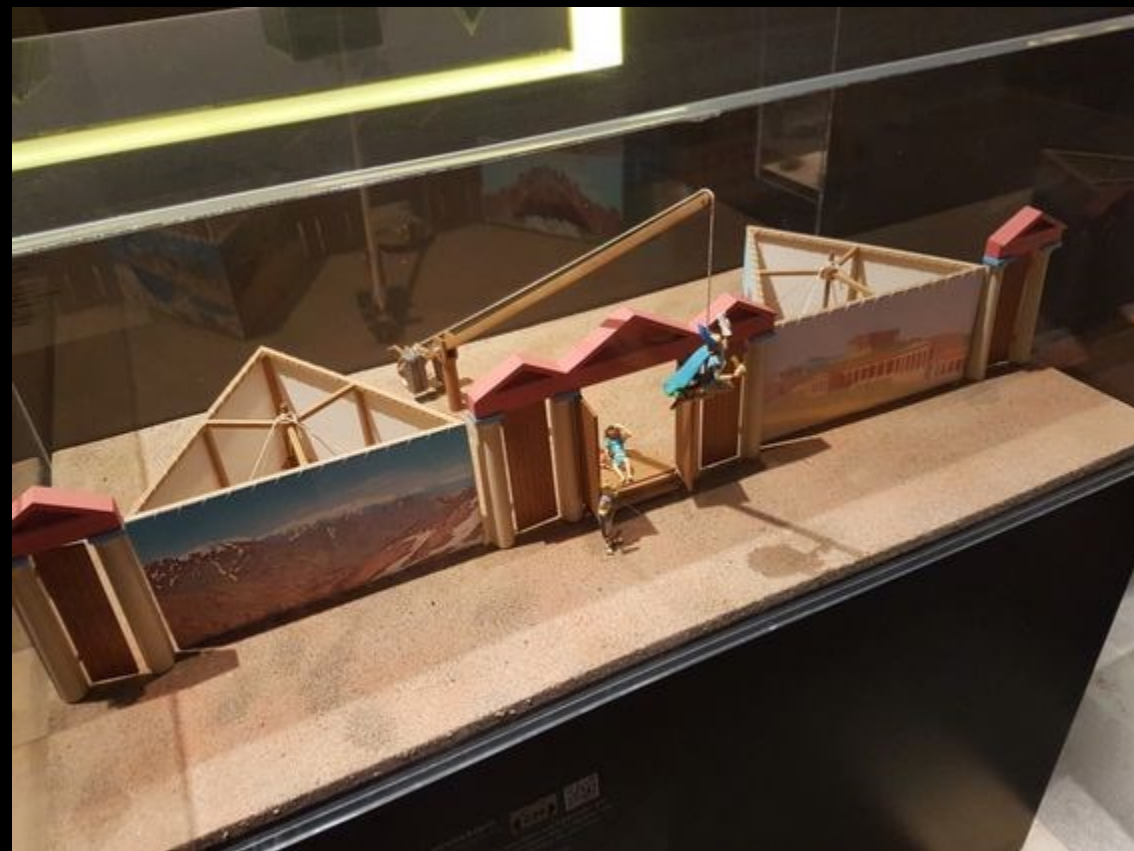
consisted of a large wooden
beam or arm, typically
positioned behind the skene,
the building serving as the
backdrop for the performance

deus ex machina



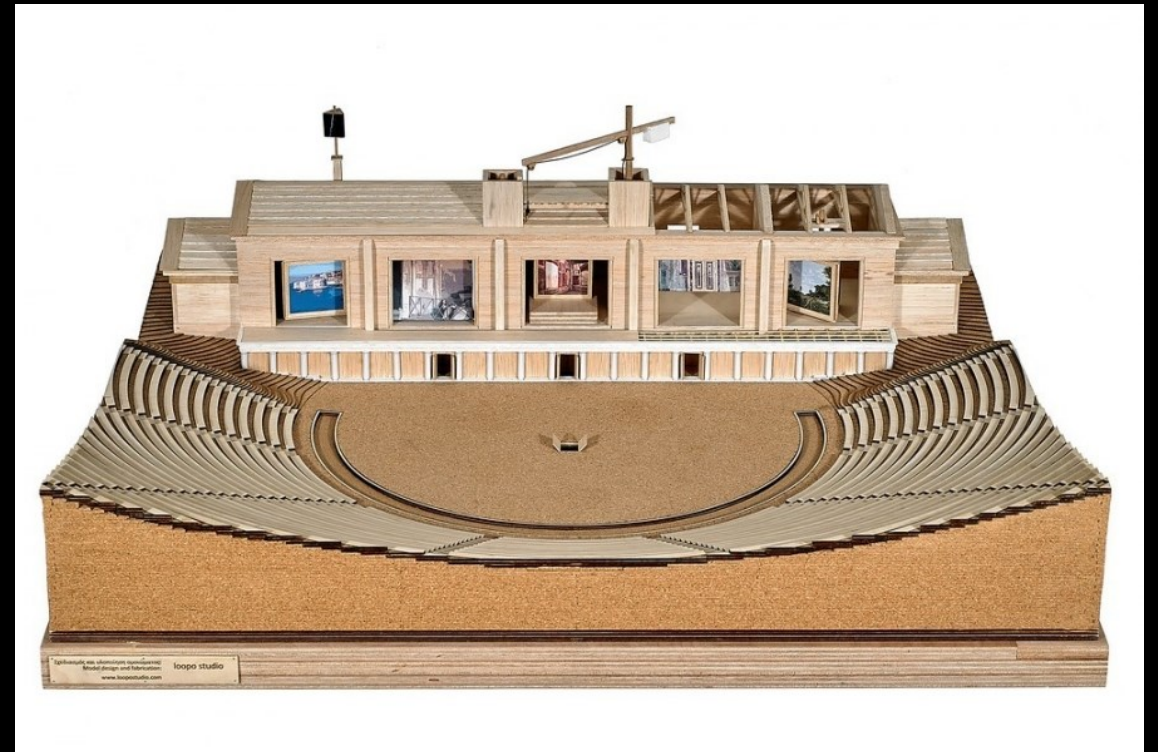
The periaktos

The periaktos was a triangular or prismatic column with different scenic backdrops painted on each of its three sides. These columns could be rotated to change the backdrop, allowing for quick scene changes and the depiction of various settings within the same performance.

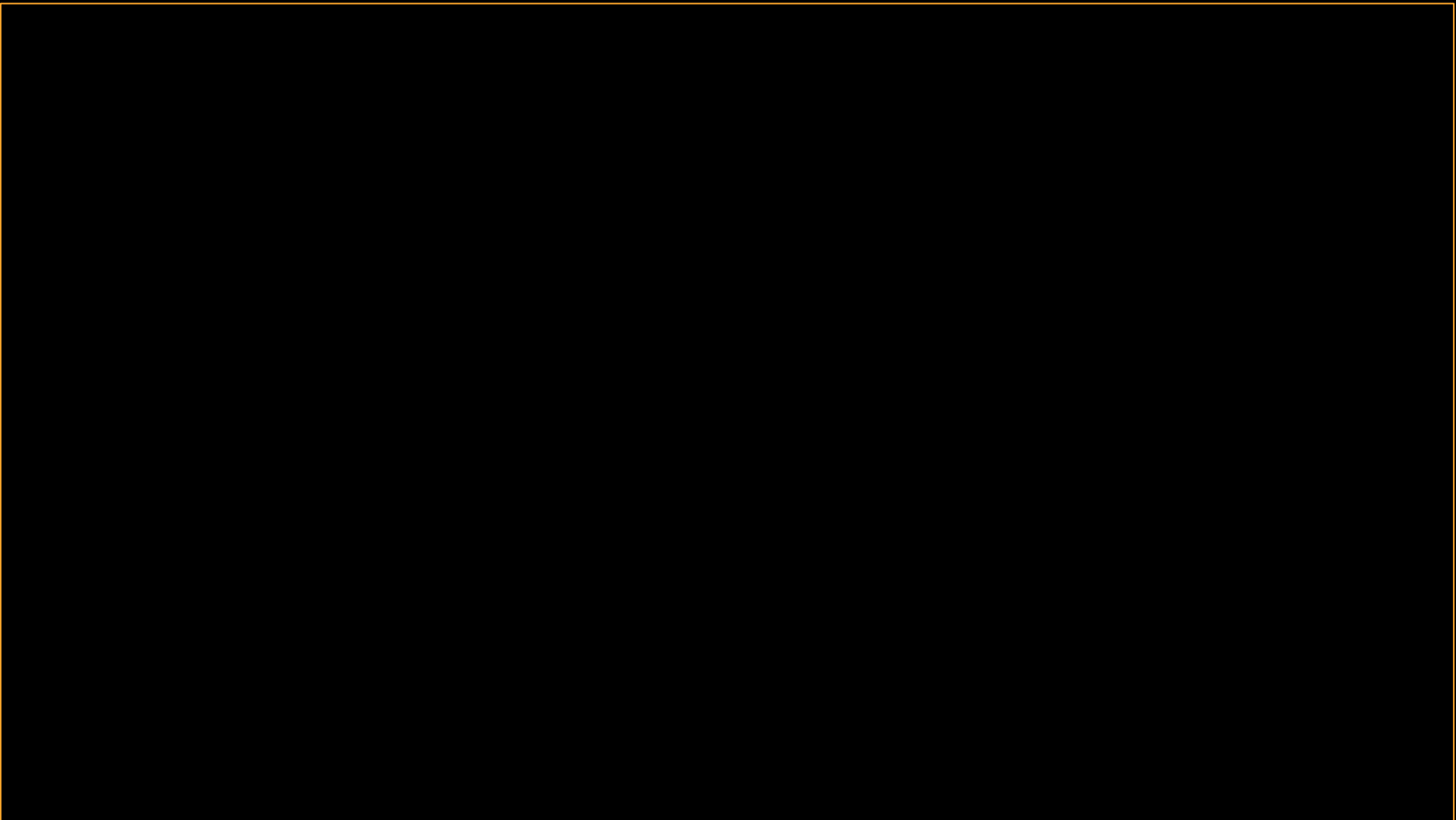


Trap Doors or anapiesma

Trap doors and elevators were built into the stage floor to facilitate the entrance and exit of characters, as well as to create dramatic effects such as characters rising from or descending into the underworld. These mechanisms were operated by stagehands hidden beneath the stage or within the skene.

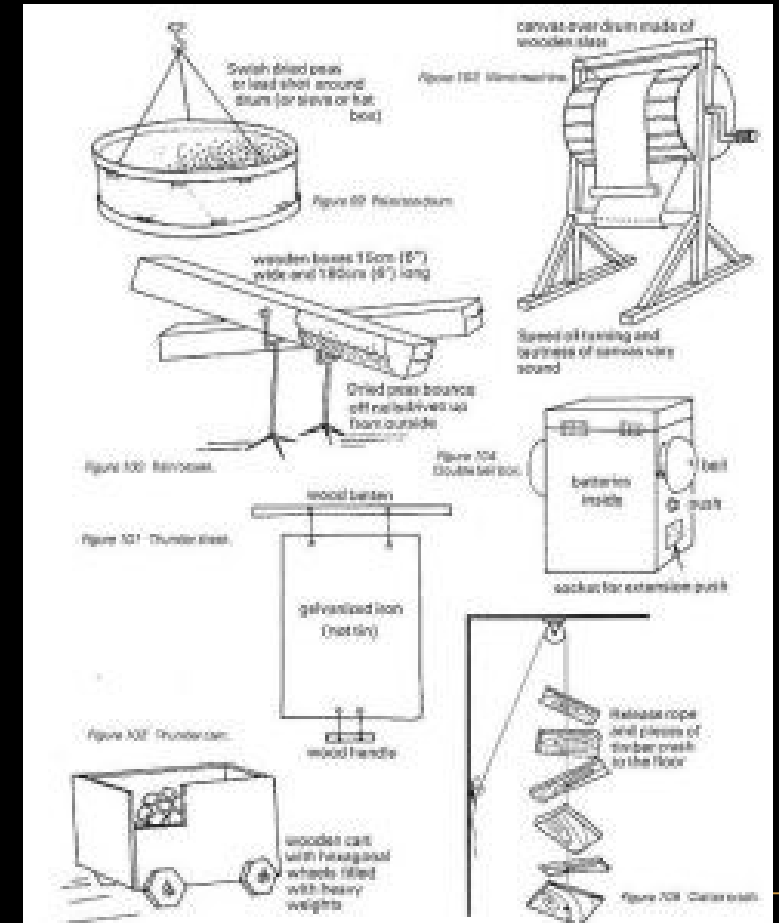


**The
machinery
of Greek
Ancient
theater**



vronteio and keravnoskopeion

In ancient Greek drama, weather changes often symbolized the mood of the gods and goddesses. Tragedians would employ two devices to mimic the sounds and lightnings of a stormy weather: vronteio and keravnoskopeion. The first was a metal box full of rocks that was shaken to produce loud noises. The second was a type of periaktos that had a side with a mirroring effect. It was used to reflect the sunlight in a way that resembled a lightning.



Masks



Masks were a vital part of ancient Greek theater, serving several purposes.

Made from perishable materials like linen, leather, cork, or wood, no actual masks from ancient Greek theater have survived

Character Representation

Amplified Voice

Emotional Expression

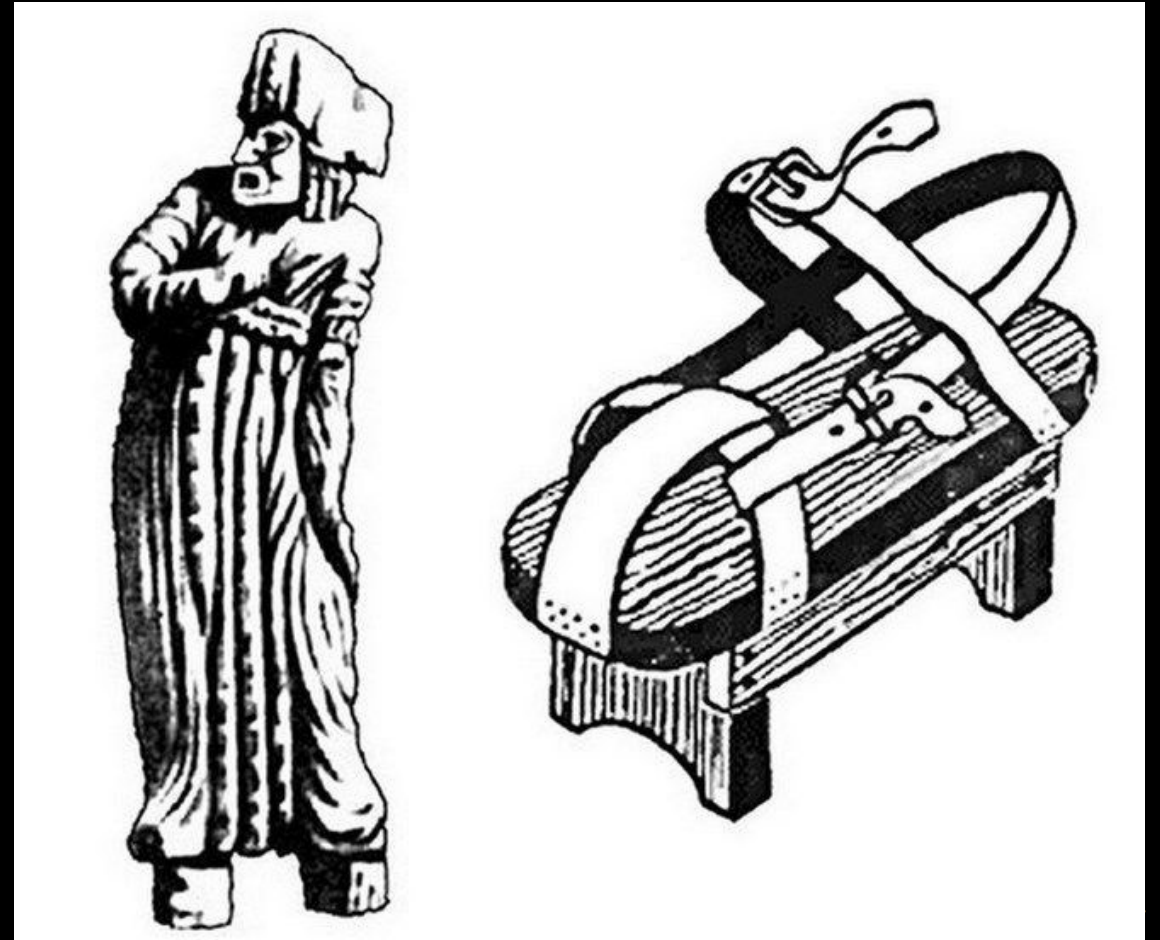




A simple Masks construction

Cothurnus means shoes

In ancient Greek theater, footwear choices depended on the type of play and the role an actor was portraying.





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Aeschylus

Agamemnon

Directed

by Peter Hall



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Aeschylus

Agamemnon

Directed

by Arian

Mnouchkin

Theatre

du Soleil

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Uyoul7BUsl>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdv3vkECqXA>

Peter Hall

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzZbWe4fs3U&t=32s>

by Peter Stein

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fjPiUNbyVsM&t=444s>

by ARIAN MNOUCHKINE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LU_UQKKR9Gc

by OLIVIE Py and Peter stein

