

# CLAS100

## LECTURE 17-18

October 26-28, 2015

### **Legends of the Bronze Age:**

- Mycenae and Troy, Agamemnon and Achilles were warrior heroes
- Poetry, memory, and a pre-literate culture
- Rhythm(meter)-how a poem is told based on who it was written for
- Bards(pro story tellers) and extempore performance

### **Homer**

- Reinvented writing in the 8th century BC
- Composed the Iliad and the Odyssey

### **Epic Poetry**

- Lengthy narrative - gods, heroes, and war
- Dactylic hexameter(heroic hexameter)
- Stock Scenes

### **The Iliad**

- Setting: Troy in the ninth year of the war
- time frame: a few weeks
- The players: Greeks and Trojans and the Gods
- Anger of Achilles
- Apollo and the plague
- Quarrel between Achilles and Agamemnon
- Heroic excellence
- Diomedes and Hektor

- Odysseus was the Hero of the Odyssey
- Agamemnon's apology which Achilles rejected
- Patroklos goes to battle as Achilles and is killed by Hektor
- Heroism: The individual vs the society
- The effects of one mans selfishness

### **Sophocles**

- 495-406 BC
- Wrote 123 plays
- 7 still run to date
- 30 Competitions (Lenaea, Dionysia)
- no placement below 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **Oedipus the Kind(429)**

- King Laius + Queen Jacosta of Thebes
- Oedipus goes to the Oracle
- Avoid homeland
- Flees to Thebes
- Solves the Sphinx's riddle
- Marries Queen Jocasta
- Catch the one who is both father and brother to his own children
- Jocasta suicide
- Oedipus goes to exile and Creon takes throne of Thebes
- Divine Will and Human Responsibility

### **Hamartia:**

- An offence committed in ignorance of the material facts
- Oedipus: insistent on knowing

### **Pathei Mathon**

- all the characters
- knowledge of the human condition