

# The Poets and the Philosopher Exile and Metamorphosis

## The Producer and Playwright

### Dr Edward H Spence



Edward is an Associate at the University of Sydney, Charles Sturt University and the 4TU Centre for Ethics and Technology, The Netherlands. He is the founder and producer of the *Philosophy Plays* project (1997-present). He has written several philosophy plays and has produced 100 philosophy performances at Steki Taverna. His plays have also been performed at Arts Festivals including the Adelaide Fringe, the Sydney Fringe, The Hellenic Festival of Adelaide and the Greek Festival of Sydney, as well as in the USA.

## Exile and Metamorphosis

This Philosophy Play explores through drama the notion of exile and metamorphosis prevalent throughout Greco-Roman History and Culture.

It comprises talk by Dr Edward Spence on exile and metamorphosis, followed by performance of an illustrative play, by Edward Spence, of a chance meeting of two poets and a philosopher: the Roman Poet Ovid exiled from Rome by the Emperor Augustus; the Greco-Roman Philosopher Epictetus exiled from Rome by the Emperor Domitian to ancient Nicopolis (Preveza); and the Poet Kostas Karyotakis who though a citizen of Greece saw Preveza as his own exile.

There will be a short interval after the first act.

## Audience Participation

As per tradition there will be an opportunity to ask questions and make comments about the philosophy, the performance and the application to daily living, in facilitated discussion for approximately 30 minutes. Please use the microphone for your questions.

## Production Team

Director: Nino Lo Giudice

Program Manager: Kaye Spence AM

Sound and lights: Tim Edmonds

Videographer: Ian Hobbs Media

## The Performers

### Nino Lo Giudice as Ovid

Nino graduated from the University of Sydney with an honours degree in Ancient History, his thesis on the influence of Hellenistic philosophy on Rome. He has been a regular performer for Philosophy Nights at the Steki Taverna, and other theatrical venues across Australia.



### Werrdan Khoury as Epictetus

Werrdan is Sydney's finest lawyer with a passion for philosophy and performance. Werrdan has performed in the Philosophy Plays at Steki Taverna.



### Leonidas Ellinas as Kostas Karyotakis

Leonidas is a professional actor and has performed in many plays at the Hellenic Art Theatre in Marrickville. Some of these performances were for the Greek Festival of Sydney.



### Nabeelah Khan as Maria Polydouri

Nabeelah is an actress from Auckland, New Zealand. Professor Edward Spence met her during a chance encounter when she was waitressing in a cafe over the summer in Brighton Le Sands, Sydney. She is a Journalism student at Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand.



### Miriam Khoury as the Muse

Miriam is an educator with a Bachelor of Education (Primary) from ACU and a Diploma in Speech & Drama and Communications Skills from Trinity College London. She is currently the Coordinator for Speech & Drama at Ascham School. Miriam has performed in the Philosophy Plays at Steki Taverna.

