

Katy Cawkwell and Lucy Lill took their new spoken word show *Wild Visions, Untamed Myth* (www.wildvisions.org) on tour earlier this year, delighting adult audiences in theatres up and down the country with their take on the mythology around Artemis and Cassandra. While on their travels, they made time to perform and run workshops in eleven schools: six of the visits to state schools were made possible by the generous support of The Hellenic Society.

Lucy and Katy brought to life the stories of *How Zeus Became King of the Gods*, *Theseus & The Minotaur*, *Jason & The Argonauts*, *Odysseus & Penelope* and *The Tale of Troy*, choosing material to suit the age of the students (ranging from year 4 to year 13) and what they were studying. For some, it was their first encounter with Greek mythology and they were full of enthusiasm: “I liked how she didn’t just do it all herself and how she let us join in” and “I loved it when she did the actions when the father was eating the children because it was like seeing adjectives in real life” (year 5 pupils in Arbourthorne Primary School, Sheffield). For others, it was a chance to hear a classical text they’d been studying, brought to life in a storytelling performance which enabled them to reflect on how these tales might have originally been shared. Head of Classics at Richmond College in North Yorkshire: “It was really useful for the students to think about the tales in a different way and to understand the powerful nature of the stories when they are told, rather than read! We plough through the long texts in lessons and it was lovely to be able to enjoy them as they were meant to be enjoyed.”

Katy and Lucy hope the sessions will have a lasting impact on the pupils and will maybe inspire some teachers to make more use of this material in the classroom, as the teacher from Forest Fields Primary School in Nottingham wrote afterwards, “Thank you for your enthralling storytelling session. Our children were left marvelled by the Greek Myths and have not stopped talking about your visit! The workshop helped to ignite a newfound enthusiasm towards old stories and old-fashioned storytelling both among the pupils and staff.”

