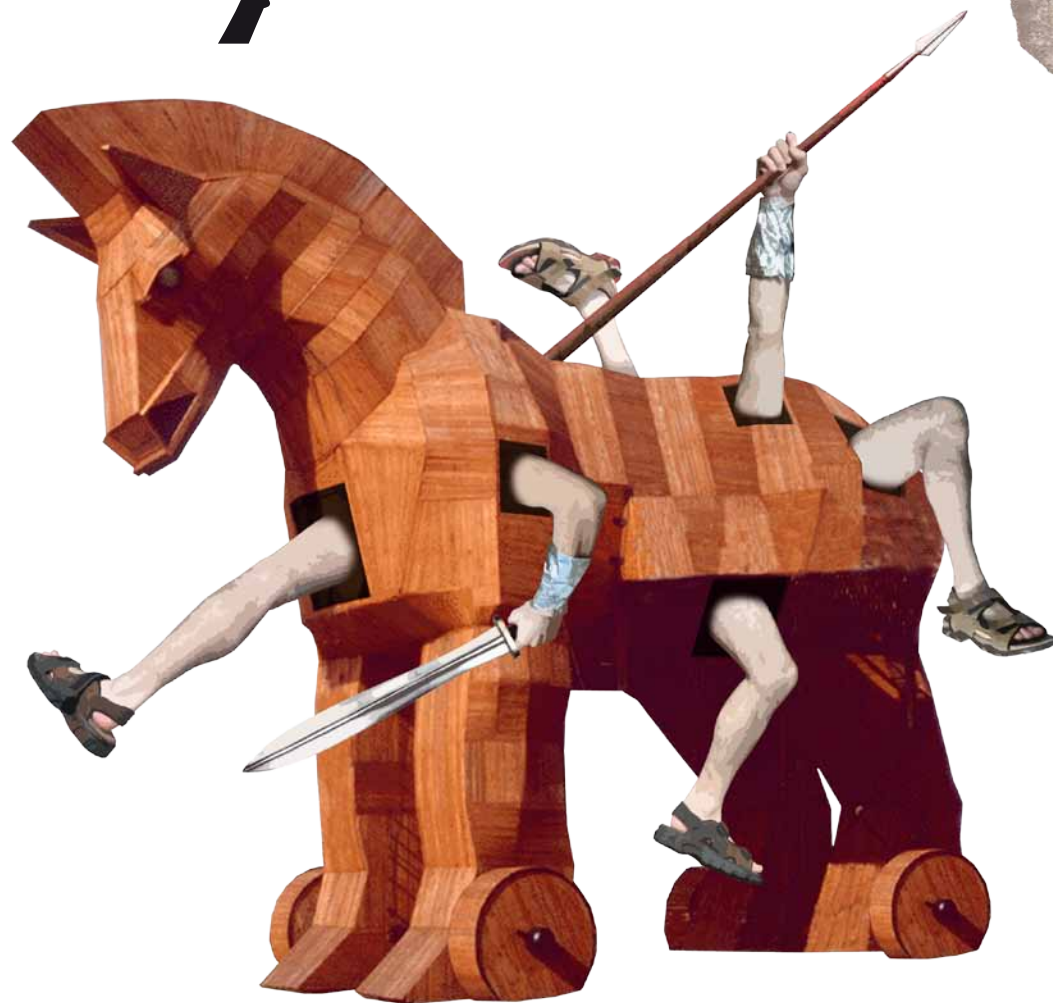


2012

NEW ZEALAND  
**playhouse**

THE COMPLETE  
WORKS OF HOMER

**ABRIDGED**



**Teaching information**  
for Drama, Classics and English teachers

Dear Teacher

If we are visiting your school in 2011 with *The Complete Works of Homer (Abridged)*, you may choose to use the show as a supplement to a unit you are teaching.

This resource is designed to help you make more informed lesson plans. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions about the content of the show - we would be really pleased to talk and help you to get as much out of the show as you can.

Sincerely,

New Zealand Playhouse

**0800 894 500**

**[resources@newzealandplayhouse.co.nz](mailto:resources@newzealandplayhouse.co.nz)**

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## General overview

*The Complete Works of Homer Abridged* will give students an outline of both *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* in an engaging, exciting and humorous way. Students will be introduced to the characters, plot line and themes of the books and will gain an understanding of the overall outline and style of these important texts.

Two actors will re-enact the two stories, playing a large number of characters, with some narration and explanation along the way.

Naturally, condensing the large works into a one-hour show will mean that each point will be visited briefly but

# Drama

## Level One

**90011** Demonstrate understanding of the use of drama aspects within live performance

*The Complete Works of Homer Abridged* uses a variety of performance techniques to convey the story. Students will be able to recognise and review a number of drama aspects within the play which will help them gain understanding towards this unit standard.

## Level Three

**90612** Analyse drama processes in a new context and reflect critically on drama performance

*The Complete Works of Homer* is unusual in its presentation in that it has two actors playing multiple characters as well as narrating it themselves. Students will be able to reflect and review this play both as itself and in comparison to other performances they see throughout the year.

## Classical Studies

### Level One

**91023** Demonstrate understanding of an important historical figure in the classical world

*The Complete Works of Homer Abridged* is focussed on the most integral characters of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. Students will gain understanding of these characters as they see elements of their character played out in an entertaining way which will increase their interest in these characters and help them with a foundation of knowledge to build on with further study.

**91024** Demonstrate understanding of social relationships in the classical world

In the play, students will see relationships explored between the characters of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. *The Complete Works of Homer Abridged* will serve to lay out the background story of the social relationships in these books and students will be able to see the dynamic between the characters played out in a way that is easy to understand and relevant to today's culture.

### Level Two

**7599** Explain the background, characters, and themes of Homeric epic

*The Complete Works of Homer Abridged* is an absolutely perfect foundation for this unit standard. The background of the books is explained in an engaging way, and characters and themes are explored and displayed in a way that will spark students' interest and enjoyment of these important texts. Students will gain an overall understanding of the storyline as well as being able to draw out certain characters or themes and use what they have learnt about them through this play to build further study upon.

## English

### Level Three

**9705** Give and respond to feedback on performance

*The Complete Works of Homer Abridged* will be a great performance for students to respond to. It may be especially interesting for students to respond to as it has been written and devised especially with high school students in mind, which may be interesting to compare to other live performances they see throughout the year.



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