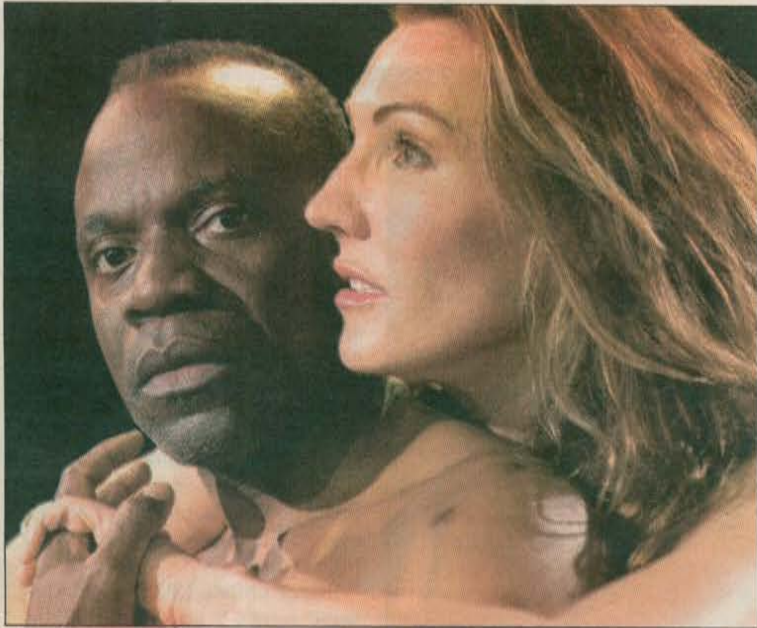


Worth a Look



L. Peter Callender plays Odysseus and Courtney Walsh is Calypso in "The Wanderings of Odysseus."

Theater

'The Wanderings of Odysseus'

It's required reading in many college classes, but even classics majors may have a difficult time trying to imagine Homer's "Odyssey" — with its many locales and mythical beings — as a dramatic stage work. But now, thanks to Stanford Summer Theater, the Odyssey will come to life onstage in a dramatic interpretation entitled "The Wanderings of Odysseus."

Oliver Taplin, who originally translated Homer's work into "The Wanderings of Odysseus" for a Mark Taper Forum production at the Getty Villa in Malibu, has re-teamed with the production's original director, SST artistic director Rush Rehm. SST's production will feature entirely new staging, including live percussion. The story recounts Greek hero Odysseus' 20-year quest to get home after the Trojan War — a journey that tests his wit and strength against fantastic creatures such as the Sirens, Calypso, and Cyclops.

The play opens on Thursday, July 22, at 7 p.m. and will be performed Thursdays through Sundays through Aug. 15 at Stanford's 80-seat Nitery Theater, 514 Lasuen Mall. Times vary. Tickets are \$20 general and \$10 for students.

The annual Stanford Summer Theatre festival also includes a free Monday-night film series, showing versions of Homeric epic at 7 p.m. in Stanford's Annenberg Auditorium. The series begins with the 2004 film "Troy" on July 12 and runs through Aug. 9.

Also planned are free staged readings of other Homer adaptations, and a July 31 symposium on "Homer and Performance" with lectures, performances, readings and a panel discussion. For details, go to summertheater.stanford.edu or call 650-725-5838.