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to physically tell them, this would have withdrawn from their characters and again, the audience might not have been able to hear, a visual representation was a safe way to explain the story because the audience can’t always hear. Ancient Greeks would have also used levels to show the importance of different characters. We did the exact same and put a lot of thought into which characters would have a higher social status. Characters such as the chorus and the servants would have remained on the floor whereas Medea and the Kings would have been on a much higher level. In most cases, Medea would always be at the highest point of the stage because she held most of their lives in her hands; she was the most vindictive and controlling character.

The no lighting aspect of the performance was very interesting to work with because this meant that as an actor we had to represent raw emotion without the aid of blackouts and mood lighting. I think lighting would have ruined the accuracy of the play, because in 431BC they obviously had no electricity. By using no lighting in our own performance, we had to make sure that we entered and exited the stage as our character, making sure that we were constantly performing; this in a way was easier for me to connect more with my character and portray a more convincing performance. Lighting would have been interesting to use in sections such as “OH Damnation” this would have portrayed Medea’s power in a more obvious way however the Greeks portrayed it through percussion was just as effective.

Overall, despite sections of the play where Medea speaks out and doesn’t portray an average Greek woman, the play is a good reflection of Greek society. Men left their wives all of the time, just like Jason left Medea for the princess without a second thought and without any shame. Men controlled the lives of women just like Jason swayed the opinions of the princess to let the children stay in Corinth. Men had the overall power over citizens, this is shown in the play because all rulers were men, and even the Princess was controlled by her father and Jason because she was seen as weaker and incapable of ruling. Despite Medea’s unpredictable and exaggerated behaviour, and despite how much the play was disliked at the time of publication, Euripidies portrayed a highly detailed and accurate performance which captured Greek society perfectly.