

## The Case of Rameau's Parques: Cross-Casting in the *Tragédie en musique*

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Table 1 – Parques, Furies, and Gorgons in Lully<sup>1</sup>

Opera	Role(s)	Clef(s)	Performers
<i>Cadmus et Hermione</i> (1673)	Quatre Furies*		
<i>Alceste</i> (1674)	Alecton	C3	M. Le Roy (1677); M. Boutelou-Fils (1706); Robert Lebel (1716); Louis-Antoine Cuvillier (1728 and 1739); M. Bêche (1754); M. Langlois (1757)
<i>Thésée</i> (1675)	Les Furies*		
<i>Atys</i> (1676)	Alecton*		M. Le Dauphin (1676)
<i>Isis</i> (1677)	Erynnis	C3	M. Ribon (1677); M. Desvoix (1704); Robert Lebel (1717); Louis-Antoine Cuvillier (1732)
	Les trois Parques	C1/C2/C3	Mlle. Bony, M. Forestier, M. Langeais (1677); Mlle. Loignon, Paul Kellner, Gabriel-Vincent Thevenard (1704); Madeline-Claude Pasquier, M. Dun le fils, Jean Muraye (1717); Mlle. Jullie, M. Dumast, M. Dun (1732)
<i>Psyché</i> (1678)	Suite des Parques† Les trois Furies	C3/F4 C3/C4/F4	24 male vocalists and 14 male dancers (1677) M. Aurenti, M. Gasper, Paul Kellner (1686, Wolffenbittel); M. Bertrand, M. Desvoys, Robert Lebel (1703); M. Deshayes, M. Desjardins, M. Dun (1713)
<i>Proserpine</i> (1680)	Les trois Juges des enfers (Les trois Furies after 1715)	C3/C4/F4	M. Gingant, M. Godonesche, M. Le Roy (1680); M. Desvoyes, M. Frere, Pierre Prunier (1699); M. Buzeau, M. Dun, Louis Mantiene (1715); M. Buzeau, Louis-Antoine Cuvillier, Gérard Morand (1727); Jean-Baptiste Berard, Louis-Antoine Cuvillier, M. Person (1741); M. Desbelles, M. Lombard, M. Muguet (1758)
<i>Persée</i> (1682)	Méduse <sup>2</sup>	C4	M. Desvoyes (1682 and 1703); Louis Mantiene (1710 and 1722); Louis-Antoine Cuvillier (1737); Mlle. Metz (1746 and 1747); Mlle. De Plant (1770)
	Euryale	C3	Pierre Prunier (1703); M. Buseau (1710); M. Guedon (1722); M. Dumast (1737); M. de la Tour (1746 and 1747); M. Cavallier (1770)
	Sténone	F4	M. Marianval (1703); M. Dun (1710 and 1722); Jean Louis Blain de Fontenay (1737); M. Person (1746 and 1747); M. Cassagnade (1770)

\* Mute or danced roles

† The Suite des Parques includes *La Guerre*, *Les Fureurs de la Guerre*, *La Famine*, *Les Maladies violentes & languissantes*, *L'Incendie*, and *L'Inondation*

<sup>1</sup> Information about clefs and performers in Lully is taken from Carl B. Schmidt, *The Livrets of Jean-Baptiste Lully's Tragédies Lyriques: A Catalogue Raisoné* (New York: Performers' Editions, 1995).

<sup>2</sup> Méduse, Euryale, and Sténone are further identified as *Les trois Gorgones*.

Table 2 – Cross-Casting in Rameau’s *Hippolyte et Aricie* (1733)<sup>3</sup>

Role(s)	Clef(s)	Performers
Les trois Parques	C3/C4/F4	Pierre Jélyotte, Louis-Antoine Cuvillier, M. Cuignier (1733); M. Dutilly, M. François, M. Devadre (1741, Rouen); Louis-Antoine Cuvillier, M. Albert, Jean-Antoine (or Jean-Baptiste) Berard (1742); M. Scelle, M. Gavaudan, M. Philippe (1743, Lyon); M. Lachevrerie, M. Augé, M. Philippe (1750, Lyon); M. Person, M. Langlois, M. Albert (1757); M. Cavallier, M. Durand, M. Cassaignade (1767)
Tisiphone	C3	Louis-Antoine Cuvillier (1733 and 1742); M. Rochette (1741, Rouen); M. Lachevrerie (1750, Lyon); Henri Larrivée (1757); M. Durand (1767)

Table 3 – Group and Individual Names

Group	Greek Name(s)	Roman Name(s)	Individual Names
Parques (Fates)	Moirae	Parcae	Clotho, Lachesis, Atropos
Furies	Erinnyes or Eumenides	Furiae or Dirae	Tisiphone, Alecto, Megaira
Gorgons	Gorgons	Gorgons	Medusa, Euryale, Sthenno

Figure 1

Excerpt from Philippe Quinault and Jean-Baptiste Lully, *Persée*, Act II, Scene 1:

PHINÉE: Meduse se retire, elle nous laisse en paix.

CASSIOPE: Elle peut revenir, elle peut nous surprendre...

PHINEUS: Medusa withdraws, she leaves us in peace.

CASSIOPEIA: She might return, she might take us by surprise...<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Information about clefs and performers in *Hippolyte et Aricie* is taken from Jean-Philippe Rameau and Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, *Hippolyte et Aricie*, Sylvie Bouissou, ed. (France: Gerard Billaudot, 2002) and Sylvie Bouissou and Denis Herlin, eds., *Jean-Philippe Rameau: Catalogue thématique des oeuvres musicales*, Vol. 2 (Paris: CNRS éd. and Bibliothèque nationale de France, 2003).

<sup>4</sup> English translation from Lois Rosow, "Libretto of *Persée* by Philippe Quinault with English Prose Translation," *Journal of Seventeenth-Century Music* 10 no. 1 (2004), [http://sscm-jscm.press.illinois.edu/v10/no1/rosow\\_libretto.html](http://sscm-jscm.press.illinois.edu/v10/no1/rosow_libretto.html).

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