

## CA Prize-winner 2015: Natalie Haynes



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The 2105 Classical Association Prize was awarded to Natalie Haynes: writer, broadcaster, and comedian. Having read Classics at Christ's College, Cambridge, her contribution to the promotion of the subject has been as vast as the range of media through which she has projected her passion. After ten years on the stage as a stand-up comedian, Natalie has more recently turned her attention to tragedy. Her acclaimed book *The Amber Fury* (published in the UK by Corvus, 2014) – a novel set in five acts – is packed with *Oedipus the King*, *Alcestis* and the *Oresteia*. She is also the author of *The Ancient Guide to Modern Life* (2010), which has subsequently been translated into Spanish and Greek. She frequently contributes articles to the Guardian and Independent, often containing classical content.

Natalie's documentary on Greek Tragedy and soap opera, *OedipusEnders*, was broadcast on Radio 4 in April 2010. She also presented *Ecce Fife*, about the revival of Latin teaching in August 2013. In early 2014, she broadcast a series of episodes on BBC Radio 4, 'Natalie Haynes Stands up for the Classics'. And just the night before joining us at the Bristol conference, her documentary on the Defining Beauty exhibition at the British Museum, *Secret Knowledge: The Body Beautiful*, aired on TV, reaching over a quarter of a million viewers.

In her acceptance speech, Natalie paid a fitting tribute to the modern relevance of the classical world. And she generously treated CA attendees to 'An Evening with Natalie Haynes', at which she read extracts from her book, and told anecdotes from her life and career to a packed audience in the Grand Thistle Hotel at Bristol.

*Dr Kathryn Tempest (University of Roehampton)*  
*CA Outreach Officer 2014-2017*