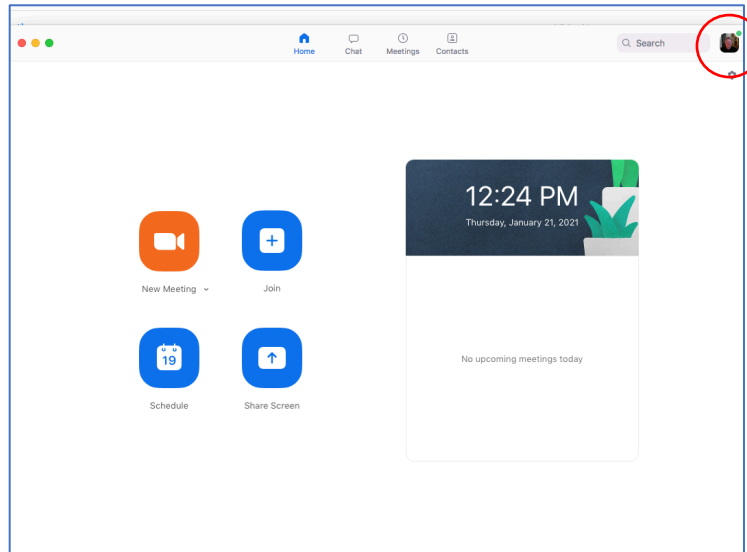# Zoom Tips and Tricks for Agamemnon

<u>Make sure you are using the latest version of Zoom</u>.

- Log into your **Zoom** account
- You should see a screen like this:

- Click the image icon in the upper right of this window (red circle)
- A pop-up menu will appear
- Click the **Check for updates** option and follow directions.

> Note: In the event that you have not loaded the Zoom application on your computer, please go to https://zoom.us and sign up and download the Zoom client to your computer. It's free!

<u>Set your virtual background</u>

Prior to your reading, you will be provided a download link to a jpg image that will serve as your virtual background. Download this image and save it somewhere on your computer where you can easily find it later.

- Sign in to **Zoom** desktop client, navigate to the screen shown above, and click the icon in the upper right corner of the window (red circle)
- Click **Settings**.
- Click **Virtual Background**. …
- Click **+Add Image** and navigate to your downloaded image and select it. You should then see the downloaded image in your choice of virtual backgrounds.

- To disable **Virtual Background**, choose the option None.

Virtual backgrounds may not work well with your computer hardware, resulting in a spotty image that obscures your face. In general, computers older than five years old may have problems. Hardware specifications for using virtual backgrounds can be found here: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/360043484511

If your computer does not meet the requirements, it is possible that your phone might. The link above also describes the hardware requirements for using a phone (for example, if you have an iPhone, it must be an iPhone 8 or higher). If your phone lets you properly display a virtual background, you can use that during your reading. We can discuss details on how best to do this during our preparatory sessions.

If neither your phone or computer works, we will discuss other options to get you in character.

<u>Script Reading Aids</u>

It is easy to dramatically improve your performance with some simple steps so that when you deliver your lines it doesn't appear like you're reading out of the hardcopy book.

- You will need a PDF copy of *The Oresteia* (using the Oliver Taplin translation). You can download a free copy of the three plays in PDF format here: https://www.pdfdrive.com/the-oresteia-agamemnon-women-at-the-graveside-orestes-in-athens-e196864865.html
- Once you've downloaded the PDF, go to the sections that contain your lines, copy them, then paste them into a word document.
- In the word document you can adjust colors, font size, font style, line breaks, and other aspects of the text that make it easy for you to read. From this point you can print the document. If you print the document you can then prop it up on an easel in front of your computer and read your lines while looking into the camera. A second option is to display the word document on your computer while you are in the Zoom meeting, and scroll through the pages as necessary. If you put it on your computer, you will not be able to see the Zoom session while you are reading your lines as your Zoom window will be covered up by the word document.

We hope that these tips and tricks will aid your participation in the presentation of *The Oresteia.* If you have any further questions about the topics covered here or any other technical issues, please do not hesitate to contact Scott Jones directly at s.jones92120@gmail.com.

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