



Why Translate Seneca?

An hour-long conversation between

Dana Gioia (translator of Seneca's *Hercules Furens* into English verse)

and

Mateusz Stróżyński (translator of Seneca's *Hercules Furens* into Polish verse)

on **Ancient Roman Tragedy, Latin Literature and Modern Poetry**

30th May 2023

**10AM Pacific Standard Time
7PM Central European Summer Time**

Streaming live on YouTube, on the official channel of
The Faculty of Polish and Classical Philology, Adam Mickiewicz University

DANA GIOIA is an award-winning poet, critic and translator, and has long been one of the most influential figures in American literature. A former Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, and former Poet Laureate of California, he has published six volumes of poetry, including *Meet Me at The Lighthouse* (Graywolf Press, February 2023) and *99 Poems: New and Selected* (Graywolf Press, March 2016). His most recent prose work is his 2021 memoir *Studying with Miss Bishop: Memoirs from a Young Writer's Life* (Paul Dry Books). He has just finished *The Madness of Hercules* (Wiseblood Books, April 2023), a verse translation of Seneca's tragedy *Hercules Furens*, which has fascinated him for decades.

MATEUSZ STRÓŻYŃSKI is the Director of the Institute of Classical Philology at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. A classicist, philosopher, psychologist and psychotherapist, he is interested primarily in the study of Platonism from antiquity to the present time. A founding editor of the online Classics journal *Antigone*, he has published Polish translations of the writings associated with St Angela of Foligno (2016, 2018) as well as St Augustine's sermons for Christmas and Epiphany (2019); he rendered into English (with Jaspreet Singh Boparai) a selection of poems by the Polish Romantic poet Adam Mickiewicz (forthcoming). His translation of Seneca's *Hercules Furens* is the first into Polish in almost 400 years.