

## RUBY BLONDELL

**Professor of Classics** (Adjunct in Women Studies; Faculty Member, Program in Theory and Criticism)

**Ph.D.** University of California, Berkeley, 1984; BA Oxford University 1978

### Areas of Interest

Greek intellectual history; Plato; Greek tragedy; gender studies; reception of myth in popular culture

### Professional Organizations

Listproc manager for the Women's Classical Caucus list  
<http://www.wccaucus.org/>

Treasurer of the Lambda Classical Caucus  
<http://www.lambdacc.org/>

### Sample Publications

#### Books

*The Play of Character in Plato's Dialogues* (Cambridge University Press 2002); named a Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2003; selected for "Author Meets Critics" session at the American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meetings, Pasadena, March 2004

*Helping Friends and Harming Enemies. A Study in Sophocles and Greek Ethics* (Cambridge University Press 1989); published under the name Mary Whitlock Blundell

#### Edited Volumes

*Queer Icons from Greece and Rome = Helios* 35.2 (2008); edited, with an Introduction

*Ancient Mediterranean Women in Modern Mass Media*, co-edited with Mary-Kay Gamel = *Helios* 32.2 (2005)

#### Recent Articles

"'Bitch that I Am': Self-Blame and Self-Assertion in the *Iliad*," *Transactions of the American Philological Association* 140 (2010) (forthcoming)

- "Hercules Psychotherapist," 239-49 in *Super/Heroes: From Hercules to Superman*, ed. Wendy Haslem, Angela Ndalians and Chris Mackie (New Academia Publishing, Washington DC 2007)
- "Antigone," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History*, ed. Bonnie G. Smith (Oxford University Press 2007)
- "Where is Socrates on the 'Ladder of Love'?" 147-78 in *Plato's Symposium: Issues in Interpretation and Reception*, edd. James Lesher, Debra Nails and Frisbee Sheffield (Harvard University Press 2006)
- "From Fleece to Fabric: Weaving Culture in Plato's *Statesman*," *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* 28 (2005) 23-75
- "How to Kill an Amazon," 73-103 in *Ancient Mediterranean Women in Modern Mass Media*, edd. Ruby Blondell and Mary-Kay Gamel = *Helios* 32.2 (2005)
- "*Antigone*: Introduction," pp. 31-54 in R.C. Jebb, *Sophocles: Plays, Antigone* (Bristol Classical Press 2004)
- "The Man with No Name: Socrates and the Visitor From Elea," in *Plato as Author: The Rhetoric of Philosophy*, ed. Ann N. Michelini (Brill 2003) 247-66
- "Letting Plato Speak for Himself," in *Who Speaks for Plato? Studies in Platonic Anonymity*, ed. Gerald A. Press (Rowman and Littlefield 2000) 127-46
- "Reproducing Socrates: Dramatic Form and Pedagogy in the *Theaetetus*," *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* 14 (1998) 213-38

#### Selected Older Articles

- "Western Values, or, The Peoples Homer: *Unforgiven* as a Reading of the *Iliad*" (co-authored with Kirk Ormand), *Poetics Today* 18 (1997) 533-69
- "Self-Censorship in Plato's *Republic*," in *Virtue Love and Form: Essays in Memory of Gregory Vlastos*, *Apeiron* 26 (1993), ed. T. Irwin and M.C. Nussbaum (Edmonton, Alberta 1993) 17-36
- "The Ideal of the *Polis* in *Oedipus at Colonus*," *Tragedy, Comedy and the Polis*, edd. A.H. Sommerstein, S. Halliwell, J. Henderson and B. Zimmermann (Bari, Italy 1993) 287-306
- "*Ethos* and *Dianoia* reconsidered," *Essays in Aristotle's Poetics*, ed. A.O. Rorty (Princeton University Press 1992) 155-75
- "Character and Meaning in Plato's *Hippias Minor*," *Methods of Interpreting Plato and his Dialogues*, ed. J.C. Klagge and N.D. Smith, *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* supplementary volume (1992) 131-72

"Parental Nature and Stoic Οικείωσις," *Ancient Philosophy* 10 (1990) 221-42

"The *Phusis* of Neoptolemus in Sophocles' *Philoctetes*," *Greece and Rome* 35 (1988) 137-48; reprinted in *Greece and Rome Studies II: Greek Tragedy*, ed. Ian McAuslan and Peter Walcot (Oxford 1993), 104-115

"The Moral Character of Odysseus in *Philoctetes*," *Greek Roman and Byzantine Studies* 28 (1987) 307-29

### Translations

Selections from Homer, translated in Valerie M. Warrior, *Greek Religion: A Sourcebook* (Newburyport, MA, 2009)

*Sophocles: The Theban Plays, Antigone, King Oidipous, Oidipous at Colonus; Updated Translations with Introductory Essay and Notes* (Focus Classical Library, Newburyport MA 2002)

*Sophocles: King Oidipous, Translated with Introduction, Notes and Interpretive Essay* (Focus Classical Library, Newburyport MA 2002)

*Sophocles: Oidipous at Colonus, Translated with Introduction, Notes and Interpretive Essay* (Revised Edition; Focus Classical Library, Newburyport MA 2002)

*Euripides' Medea, Translation with Introduction and Commentary*, in *Women on the Edge: Four Plays by Euripides*, by Ruby Blondell, Bella Zweig, Nancy Sorkin Rabinowitz and Mary-Kay Gamel (Routledge 1999)

*Sophocles' Antigone, Translated with Introduction, Notes and Interpretive Essay* (Focus Classical Library, Newburyport MA 1998)

### **Theatrical Activities**

"Where do girls come from? The creation of the feminine in the matrix of Greek myth," podcast to accompany *Hey girl!* by Societas Raffaello Sanzio at *On the Boards*, Seattle January-February 2008  
([http://www.ontheboards.org/index.php?page=otb\\_audio](http://www.ontheboards.org/index.php?page=otb_audio))

Creative Consultant, *Medea Knows Best*, Nebunele Theatre, December 2007  
(<http://nebunele.com/>)