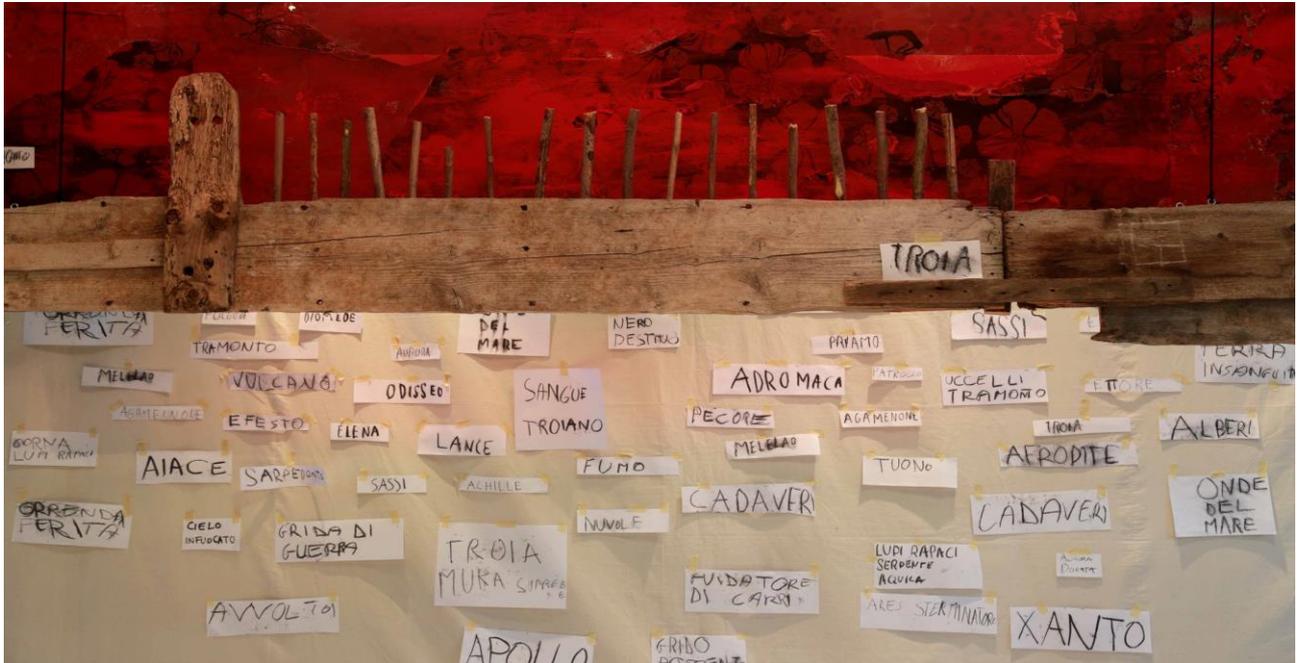


# Homer – Iliad

## The Game of Force



by

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*fast ships  
spears  
chariots  
men and armour,  
Gods and mortal rage  
lives snatched away  
swift horses  
great commotion  
from sunrise the colour of gold  
until sunset*

# Homer - Iliad

## The Game of Force

*...while on the plain, the violent battle is waged...  
what will happen?  
So what will we do?*

Through the words of Homer and the wonderful similes swathed in nature and the spirit of the winds, to which twenty-two children give voice, the impossible truth of an endless war that continues into our time.



Rules of a game without any apparent sense, metaphors, words, actions and human characters, natural objects and simple mechanical devices, counterweights that raise and lower figures on the world, pulleys that shift weight from one side of the battlefield to the other.

The Gods hatch deceptions, they display desire, they love and hate, they give no respite, they move the warriors and impose their will.

*"The lives destroyed on the battlefield are equivalent to toys broken by a child."*

*"The victorious soldier is like a scourge of nature. Possessed by war, like a slave, he has become an object."*

*"Warriors seem as much like fire, flood, the wind, wild beasts, or any blind cause of disasters as they do frightened animals, trees, water, sand and all that is moved by the violence of extreme forces."*

*"We can only love and be just if we understand the absolute power of force and are able not to give it respect."*

*"War is easy and is loved wretchedly."*

*(Simone Weil)*

*"Achilles resembles all the victorious. Hector resembles all the vanquished."*

*"Achilles is the game of war. Without Achilles, humanity would live in peace. The Gods took everything from Hector: Homer made him a man through and through and spared him neither the trepidation of fear nor the humiliation of cowardice."*

*"Hector endured everything and lost everything, apart from himself."*

*"In the Iliad, force thus appears as both the supreme reality and the supreme illusion of existence."*

*(Rachel Bespaloff)*



