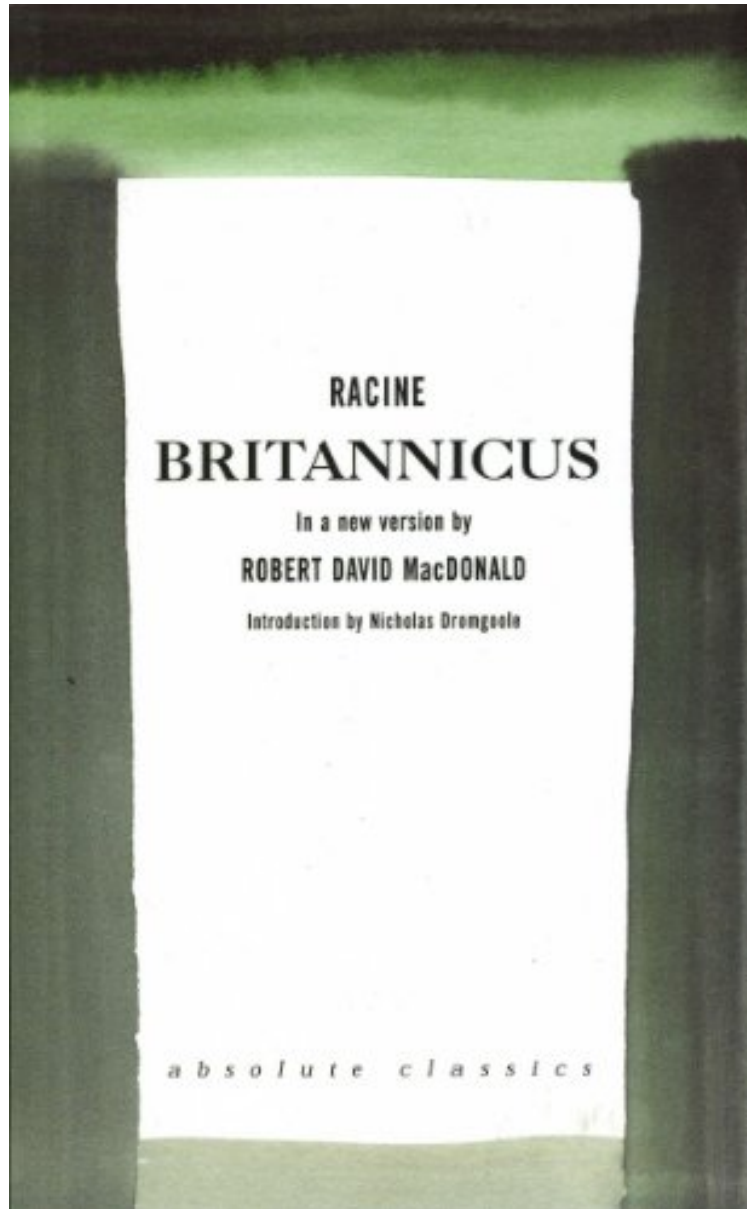


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## Britannicus (Absolute Classics)

*Jean Racine, Robert David MacDonald*  
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**Jean Racine, Robert David MacDonald : Britannicus (Absolute Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Britannicus (Absolute Classics):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy General HospitalExcellent

An Almeida Theatre production that opened at the Albery Theatre with Diana Rigg and Toby Stephens, and then

played for a season on Broadway. This political thriller, set in Rome at the beginning of Emperor Nero's tyranny, lays bare the relationships at the heart of power as a world slips into moral chaos.

'The tragedies of Racine (1639 - 99) are not only equal to those of Sophocles and Shakespeare, they are also among the peaks of classical art' Financial Times

About the Author" Jean Racine (1639-99) is widely regarded as the greatest seventeenth-century French tragedian, both observing and transcending the conventions of classical tragedy. Robert David MacDonald (1929 - 2004) was born in Elgin, Scotland. After originally training as a musician, he worked as a Director, Playwright and Translator. As an Assistant Director, he worked at both the Glyndebourne Opera Festival and for the Royal Opera House. In 1971, he became Co-Artistic Director of the Glasgow Citizens Theatre, where he directed fifty plays and wrote fifteen for the venue before his retirement in 2003. The plays that he wrote for the Glasgow Citz include *The De Sade Show* (1975), *Chinchilla* (1977), *Summit Conference* (1978), also seen in the West End with Glenda Jackson and Gary Oldman, *A Waste of Time* (1980), *Don Juan* (1980), *Webster* (1983), *Britannicus* (2002) and *Cheri* (2003). As a translator, MacDonald translated over seventy different plays and opera from over ten different languages including *The Threepenny Opera*, *Tamerlano*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Orpheus and The Human Voice*, *Conversation at Night*, *Shadow of Angels*, *The Balcony*, *The Government Inspector*, *Tasso*, *Faust I and II*, *Ibsen's Brand* and *Hedda Gabler*, *Lermontov's Maskerade*, *Lorca's The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Moliere's School for Wives* and *Don Juan*, *Pirandello's Enrico Four*, *Racine's Phedre*, *Schiller's Mary Stuart*, *The Maid of Orleans* and *Don Carlos*, *Chekhov's The Seagull*, *Verne's Around the World In Eighty Days*, *Wedekind's Lulu* and *Goethe's Clavigo*. His adaptation of *War and Peace* ran for two seasons on Broadway and received an Emmy award when shown on U.S television. The Finborough Theatre has previously presented Robert David MacDonald's versions of Rolf Hochhuth's *Soldiers* (2004) and *The Representative* (2006) "