

DAEDALUS RISING

Celebrating 10 Years of The Anunnaki Project
and The Cabiri performance troupe



May 1, 2009
Cal Anderson Park
Seattle, WA

Introduction: Matthew Richter, founder of Consolidated Works

Narrators: Kirsten Lauzon, Founding Cabiri
Beau Prichard

- I. **The Dreaming** - In the time beyond time, outside our world, the ancient ancestral spirits gathered and created the world we know and understand. They continued to live in The Dreaming, just as we live in the World. Their influence can be felt here in every way, from the weather, to the environment, to the unexplained. We can never truly die, as our selves in this world are simply extensions of our forms in the Dreaming. When we sleep, if we follow the proper traditions, we may walk with the gods and our ancestors in the Dreaming, discovering more about ourselves and the world around us.

Dancers: Katrina Alston, Morgan Houghton, Adrienne Krieger, Rachel Severson, Amy Shuster, Tiffany Wilson

Choreographers: Adrienne Krieger, Charly McCreary

- II. **Axis Mundi** - The ancient peoples of Siberia believe that when the great God Ulgen crafted the world, he stacked one world atop another, and joined them with a great tree, the world tree. The spiritual leaders of the Altaic tribes would offer themselves up to be reformed into shaman, taking on the power to travel between the worlds and talk with the gods. This is such a tale...

One day a man spied a bird and tried to catch it. It teased him, letting him get close but no closer. It led the man to the great World Tree, which joins all the worlds together. Up and up the man followed the bird, and as he did, he saw that it was beginning to change shape. When they reached the top of the tree, emerging into the next world, the bird had become a woman!

The man asked for her hand in marriage, but she said she could not marry him because her people were so unhappy. For, you see, this world had an extra sun and an extra moon, so the days were roasting hot and the nights were freezing cold. The man immediately swore he would kill the extra sun and the extra moon if the woman would marry him.

The woman sent him to the sea god who would turn him into a warrior that would be able to defeat the sun and the moon. The sea god boiled the man in an iron kettle until he fell apart. Then he used those pieces to form a new man, a man made of iron, a man powerful enough to kill the sun and the moon. He formed the man into a shaman.

Aerialist and Choreographer: Jon McClintock

Jugglers: Matt Cantrell, Andy Demetre

- III. **Benandanti** – It is old Europe, and the time of the Inquisition. Superstition and fear are rampant, and the people are scared and suspicious of the *streghe*, who are believed to lay ruin to the crops, bringing famine and disease to the people. But for every monstrous *streghe* that crawls from a blackened, dying womb, to crawl the earth as a *maladanti*, another child is born blessed, beneath the caul, as a *benandanti*, gifted with the power to protect those around them. As the Catholic church's fingers reach further and further into the world, the old ways are chased away, and with them, the protections against the old evils. The crops are dying, and only the *benandanti* know how to stop the *streghe* from creating a famine that may kill everyone. But the *benandanti* must also fear for themselves, as they are as feared and verboten as the *streghe* in this dark time of fear and superstition...

Streghe: Amanda Frank, Charly McCreary, Amy Shuster,
Brenda Stevens, Tiffany Wilson

Benandanti: Katrina Alson, Morgan Houghton, Angela Langmann,
Leah Leslie, John Murphy

Villagers: Jenna Lutton, Olivia Stambor, Mike Stephan

Guest Artists: The Red King, Auditory Alchemy
Jon McClintock, *Benandanti*
Courtnee Papastathis, *Streghe*

Choreographer: Erin Simons

- IV. **Hekate** - In the ancient world, from Thrace to Babylon, travelers were acutely aware of the liminal spaces in this world. Crossroads, often the junction of three crooked paths, were the realm of the ghostly and undead, those lurking and struggling to tear through the tender fabric between realms, looking to cross the boundary and enter the world of the living.

Hekate, in Her triple form, ruled over the other side, a kingdom of chaos and dread. Her three-bodied statue, the Hekatarion, was often found mysteriously placed at the crossroads, offering protection to those travelers who showed appropriate respect, leaving her a sacrifice.

And to make sure these horrors were kept at bay, dark figures would gather at the crossroads on the last day of every month. The exact details of the ritual they would perform is a mystery lost to the ages, but the disturbing remnants of the ritual could always be found the next day at the crossroads, beneath the thick scent of sulfur...

Hekatarion: Katrina Alston, Amanda Frank, Leah Leslie, Amy Shuster,
Rachel Severson, Brenda Stevens

Dancers: Ashley Bates, Zarah Kushner, Jenna Lutton,
Sara Mangiameli, Summer Meyer, Jennifer Wensrich

Demiurge: John Murphy

Choreographer: Charly McCreary

Guest Artist: The Red King, Auditory Alchemy

V. **Radost Folk Ensemble** – guest artists Radost will present a traditional Balkan song and dance from their repertoire.

VI. **At the Dawn of Ch'u** - According to an ancient document known as the Chu Silk Manuscript, the Chu culture had a unique view of the creation of the universe. Unlike other ancient Chinese cultures, who believed in a self-creating universe, the Chu believed in a diety, Nu Tian, who was responsible for the creation of the world.

Before time was time, the ancient god, Nu Tian, gave birth to four sons, who were the four seasons. Soon after followed the eight months, two for each season. Finally, Nu Tian created the sun and the moon. All of Nu Tian's children then descended upon the earth, dividing the day from the night. Then, Nu Tian taught them to dance, and as they moved above the earth it began to turn, and time began to pass.

But then came GongGong, who took the orderly world and twisted it, causing chaos to spread, spreading dissension and causing the passing months and seasons to loose their sense of rhythm, interfering with the passage of time itself.

Nu Tian looked down from the heavens and saw that the seasons, months, and heavenly bodies were confused and scared. Nu Tian descended from heaven, chased Gong Gong away, and taught the children their magnificent dance again, restoring order to the universe and everything in it.

Nu Tian: Erin Simons
Seasons: Morgan Houghton (Spring), Leah Leslie (Summer),
Charly McCreary (Autumn), John Murphy (Winter)
Months: Carolyn Busby, Dora Keating, Lucas Keyes,
Jenna Lutton, Jon McClintock, Rachel Severson,
Amy Shuster, Tiffany Wilson
Sun: Christl Marcontell
Moon: Adrienne Krieger
GongGong: Maque Davis
Chaos: Katrina Alston, Ashley Bates, Nancy Coltom,
(fire dancers) Amanda Frank, Sam Graves, Zarah Kushner,
Sara Mangiameli, Summer Meyer, Olivia Stambor
Brenda Stevens, Jennifer Wensrich

Choreographer: Christl Marcontell

Accompaniment: The Let's Dance! House Band (Carol Nelson et al)
with Janna Wachter (operatic vocals)