

The Ghost Game Dead Gods

Tonight's presentation of The Ghost Game is based upon a tradition that was practiced in feudal Japan. The game was called hyaku monogatari, which roughly translates into "one hundred supernatural tales," wherein a group of friends gathered and lit 100 candles, and began telling ghost stories. With each story a candle was extinguished until just a single candle remained. Participants often fled the house in fear as the suspense and fright grew. Tonight we hope you will not flee in terror, but rather stay and enjoy dessert and the performances we have created for you!

Our performances this evening are a collection of tales from mythology, with the common theme of gods who die. Storytellers of the ancient world were far more connected with the seasons and cycles of life than modern man. In their ancient world, even the gods were not always able to escape the inevitable coming of darkness in winter. As the seasons changed and the vegetation began to wither and die, so the stories acted as a psychopomp to escort the soul through this transition of the world's life.

These stories of dying gods are terribly grim tales, all of which have tragic endings but they have a deep and powerful purpose within them. As winter approaches, life fades into oblivion and the fruit rots on the vine and falls down to the earth. At this time of year, we all feel a sense of loss, of death and the moribund. Tonight we go far into the realm of death as we realize that even the gods can be ripped apart by the cruel claws of the universe.

We welcome you into this charnel house of the autumn night and hope that we leave you with a somber mood to spend time reflecting through the winter as we await the spring. We present you the egregore of the ancient world!

Enjoy the show!



The Anunnaki Project is a multidisciplinary 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that seeks to educate the public about the mythology and folklore of cultures that have passed into antiquity through theatrical performance, workshops, written materials, and online resources. Since 1997, we have been purveyors of "performative mythology," our own unique approach to depicting ancient myths utilizing modern and classical folkloric dance, aerial arts, physical theater, stilt dancing, puppetry, and acrobatics. Your financial contribution to The Anunnaki Project is tax-deductible to the extent permitted under the law.

Thank you for your support.

The Performances

Attis

Aerialists: Charly McCreary, John Murphy, Erin Simons
Characters: Morgan Houghton, Jon McClintock, Amy Shuster, Rachel Severson, Mike Stephan, Brenda Stevens
Accompaniment: *Devotion* - Lisa Gerrard, *Lasse* - Qntal, *Cantique* - Die Form

Coatllicue

Aerialist: Adrienne Krieger
Dancers: Summer Templin Culp, Dora Keating, Jill Leversee, Jenna Lutton, John Murphy, Carolyn Shaw
Accompaniment: *Oya, Ayizán, Legba* - Sun God

Intermission

Syrinx

Aerialists: Morgan Houghton, Adrienne Krieger, Rachel Severson, Brenda Stevens
Accompaniment: *The Circle of the Lustful* - Mediaeval Baebes, *The Weather Vane* - Bleak, *Ju-On Parts III and VI* - Christopher Young, *Sacrosanctus Bleed* - In Slaughter Natives

Telepínu

Aerialists: Charly McCreary, John Murphy
Character: Mike Stephan
Featured Soloist: Jon McClintock
Accompaniment: *Truth Awakening* - In Slaughter Natives, *Souls of the Valiant* - Will

Inanna

Aerialists: Charly McCreary, Amy Shuster, Brenda Stevens
Character: Rachel Severson
Attendants: Summer Templin Culp, Jenna Lutton
Accompaniment: *The Narrow Gate* - Raison d'Etre

Intermission

Wotan

Aerialists & Acrobats: Morgan Houghton, Jon McClintock, John Murphy, Amy Shuster, Brenda Stevens
Characters: Summer Templin Culp, Dora Keating, Adrienne Krieger, Jill Leversee, Jenna Lutton, Charly McCreary, Rachel Severson, Carolyn Shaw, Erin Simons, Mike Stephan
Accompaniment: *Prelude in the Wake of Walpurga's Ashes* - Shinjuku Thief, *To Mega Therion* - In Slaughter Natives, *Furnace Rekindled* - Will, *Fanget I Krystal* - Mortiiis

Acknowledgements

Organizational Staff: John Murphy, Founder and Artistic Director
Charly McCreary, Managing Director
Technical Staff: Reed Nakayama & Sara Torres, Lighting Designers
Ryan Daudistel, Lead Rigger
Kyra Willson, Stage Manager
Choreographers: Adrienne Krieger, Erin Simons
Event Staff: Ashley Bates, Decor and Dessert Goddess
Amanda Frank, Volunteer Coordinator
Jennifer Wensrich, House Manager
Special Thanks: Abracadabra Printing
School of Acrobatics and New Circus Arts

And all of our wonderful volunteers, who make our productions possible!

Recommended Reading: *Descent to the Goddess*, Sylvia Brinton Perera
Adonis, Attis, Osiris: Studies in Oriental Mythology, James G. Frazer