



"I can call spirits from the vasty deep, so can any man. But will they come when you do call for them?" (Henry IV Part One)

SHAKESPEARE IS THE SUPREME DOCUMENTER OF HUMANITY AND THE HUMAN CONDITION, BUT AS A MAN STEEPED IN THE ANCIENT LORE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE, HIS SENSIBILITY WAS ALSO ONE OF PLACING THAT HUMANITY IN THE CONTEXT OF OTHER MAGICAL WORLDS, INEXTRICABLY INTERRELATED THROUGH LOCATION, CHARACTER AND MAGICAL WORDS.

SHAMANISM IS THE MOST ANCIENT AND MOST ENDURING SPIRITUAL TRADITION KNOWN TO HUMANITY. EVERYTHING IS INTERRELATED AND INTERDEPENDENT. EVERYTHING IS ALIVE AND HAS A SPIRIT. WE ARE WOVEN TOGETHER INTO A NET OF LIFE ENERGIES THAT ARE ALL AROUND US. THESE ENERGIES CAN APPEAR TO US IN DIFFERENT FORMS, SUCH AS SPIRITS OF NATURE, ANIMALS OR ANCESTORS.

USING THE WORDS OF THE GREATEST EXPONENT OF LANGUAGE EVER, COMBINED WITH SHAMANIC ENERGIES AND TECHNIQUES, THIS WORKSHOP SEEKS TO ENABLE THOSE INVOLVED TO EXPERIENCE THEIR TRUE VOICE FROM THE SPIRITUAL AND CREATIVE CENTRE AS A ROUTE TO PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL CHARISMA.

**"I come
To answer thy best pleasure, be 't to fly,
To swim, to dive into the fire, to ride
On the curled cloud. To thy strong bidding, task
Ariel and all his quality." (The Tempest)**

THE BELIEF IN THE POWER OF RITUAL, THE RECOGNITION OF THE SPIRIT ANIMAL IN PEOPLE (SO MANY OF SHAKESPEARE'S CHARACTERS ARE METAPHORICALLY ASSIGNED CHARACTERISTICS FROM THE ANIMAL WORLD) AND THE HARNESSING OF ARCHETYPES TO UNDERSTAND CHARACTER AND PERSONALITY WILL ALL ALSO BE EXPLORED IN THE WORKSHOP.

**"Stay, illusion!
If thou hast any sound, or use a voice.
Speak to me." (Hamlet)**

FROM THE OUTSET, AS WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE FREQUENT AND PROFOUND USE OF RITUALS IN SHAKESPEARE AND ANCIENT MYTHOLOGY, THE WORK AT ABINGTON BARN WILL FEEL UTTERLY DIFFERENT TO ANY OTHER ACTING OR VOICE WORKSHOP. NOT FOCUSING ON THE ACADEMIC OR TECHNICAL SIDE OF THE TEXTS WE USE BUT DISCOVERING THE POWER OF THE HUMAN VOICE THROUGH PLAY AND AN EXPLORATION OF A SHAMANISTIC OTHER WORLD, EXPERIENCING THE SHEER SPIRITUAL NATURE AND MAGIC OF PURE SOUND.

THE WORKSHOP WILL EXAMINE THE DIFFERENCE AND CONNECTION BETWEEN RITUAL AND THEATRE, AND THE VISCERAL AND MYSTICAL POWER OF SOUNDS AND WORDS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF STORYTELLING TO HUMANS SINCE THE DAWN OF CIVILISATION, AND OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ARCHETYPES TO BOTH SHAMANISM AND SHAKESPEARE.

THERE ARE MAGICAL WORLDS IN SO MANY SHAKESPEARE PLAYS – THE WINTER'S TALE, MACBETH, HAMLET, TWELFTH NIGHT, THE TEMPEST, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM AND OTHERS. THE LATTER IS THE PLAY WHICH MOST OBVIOUSLY INHABITS BELIEFS WHICH ARE AT THE CORE OF SHAMANISM, AND WILL BE OUR CORE TEXT. IT IS AT ONCE ABOUT THE MOST HUMAN OF THINGS – LOVE, HATE, JEALOUSLY, BETRAYAL, REDEMPTION – AND IMBUED WITH A SENSE OF OTHER WORLDLY MAGIC.

SHAMANISM SEES MAGIC AS A TANGIBLE FORCE. USING WORDS FROM A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM WE WILL EXPLORE THE MAGICAL POWER AND ENERGY OF WORDS, TO CHANGE, AMUSE, HURT, INFLUENCE, PERSUADE, SEDUCE, AND INSPIRE, FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS IN AN AUDIENCE OR IN LIFE ITSELF.

"We know what we are but know not what we may be." (Hamlet)



THOMAS MARTY WAS AN ACTOR FOR FIFTEEN YEARS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC ARENA THEATRE IN EDUCATION COMPANY AND TEACHER OF DRAMA IN MANY COLLEGES AND ARTS THEATRE SCHOOLS. HE IS CURRENTLY HEAD OF WELFARE, AND COUNSELLOR AT AN INTERNATIONAL ARTS SCHOOL. THOMAS IS ALSO A SHAMANIC PRACTITIONER AND HAS WORKED WITH VARIOUS HEALING ENERGY METHODS FOR THE LAST 30 YEARS. HE RUNS CAMBRIDGE CORE SHAMANISM, A HEALING AND TRAINING CENTRE HERE IN CAMBRIDGE WHERE HE LIVES. WWW.CAMBRIDGECORESHAMANISM.COM

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