The Dance of the Sun

a film by Ami Skånberg Dahlstedt and Folke Johansson, with music by Palle Dahlstedt, about the origins of dance and mythology in Japan connecting with contemporary dance today.

Description

Choreographer Ami Skånberg Dahlstedt takes us on a voyage to Japan where dance has a long and significant history. The dance has its roots in a mythological story, in which the Sun Goddess gets angry and hides in a rock cave. The world plunges into darkness and cold. However, the Godess of laughter lurs her out with some energetic and crazy dancing and finally the light and warmth returns. The story is the basis for both classical and contemporary dance and theater; Noh, Kabuki, Nihon Buyo and Butoh. The film also invites us to meet Nishikawa Senrei, a very special profile in Kyoto. We will see parts of Ami's lesson in traditional Japanese dance and also meet contemporary performers in Kyoto, the former capital of Japan.

For the film, composer/researcher Palle Dahlstedt composed a series of pieces for specific segments of the film. He used composition techniques developed within his research project Creative Performance, for both sound design and the generation of structures. A number of older pieces by Dahlstedt were also used in the film.

Directed, written, narrated by Ami Skånberg Dahlstedt

Directed, photographed by Folke Johansson

Edited by

Folke Johansson Ami Skånberg Dahlstedt Rasmus Ohlander, sfk

Original music by

Palle Dahlstedt

Music by

Palle Dahlstedt Ensemble Nipponia Kumiko Nonaka

Cast:

Ami Skånberg Dahlstedt
Nishikawa Senrei sensei
the Godess Ame no Uzume: performed by Frauke
Rosa Yuki
Bruno the Bad Boy
Kumiko Nonaka
Peter Golightly
Jonah Salz
Heidi S Durning
Mio Durning

Also featuring:

Students at Senreinokai Ryoko Oishi, Kaori Iwasaki, Motoi Mahiro, Aoi Nakai, Atsushi Heki and Chizuko Takizawa

Performers at Urban Guild:

Butoh dancers: Fukurozaka Yasuo and Yamaguchi Keiko

Musicians: Jerry Gordon, Saikou Miyajima

Students at Kanze Noh School

Two maiko san of Pontocho geisha district Performers at Mibudera Temple in Kyoto Performers in Yosakoi Odori, Kochi Two miko at Yoshida Shrine, Kyoto Kagura performance at Fushimi Inari Shrine Shouka, bellydancer at Kamigamo Shrine

Additional photo:

Anders Bryngel, Ami Skånberg Dahlstedt, Daisuke Suzuki

Costume/Kostym:

Gerd Karlsson, Fumiko Nagai

Translation:

Joanna Etherton, Peter Golightly, Ami Skånberg Dahlstedt, Taeko Svensson, Mori Takewaka

THANKYOU

Kyoto Art Center, Senreinokai, Stipendiestiftelsen för studier av japanskt samhällsliv/The Scholarship Foundation for Studies of Japanese Society,

Konstnärsnämnden/the Swedish Arts Grants Commitee, Takae Hoshino, Mizuho Fujita, Mayumi Yamamoto, Daitoku-ji, Chandra Durning, Ulrika Brattberg, Emiko Ota,

Christian Gyllensten, Narihito Terauchi, the British Museum, Högskolan för Scen och Musik.

Distribution

Nicolas Debot, Njutafilms

Copyright: Studio BuJi and Levande Bilder, 2013