

The Angkor Dance Troupe Presents the World Premiere of

APSARA DANCING STONES

អប្សរាថ្មរាំ

25 Years



SATURDAY OCTOBER 27, 2012

7:30 - 9:00pm Lowell Memorial Auditorium



www.angkordance.org





Moni Meka



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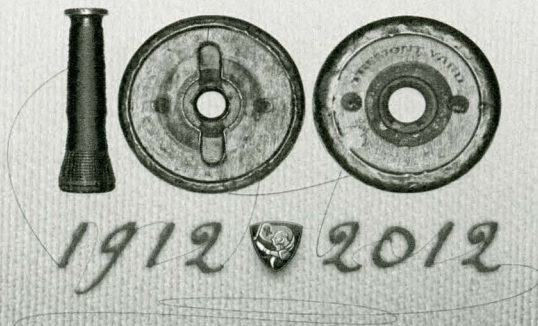
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Thank You

We are delighted you have joined us for the world premiere of Apsara Dancing Stones. 25 years ago, we began the Angkor Dance Troupe with the vision to preserve and develop the traditions of Cambodian performing arts, that was almost completely wiped out during the Khmer Rouge genocide. As a community struggling to put down roots in a new homeland, Cambodian dance provides a poignant reminder of the beauty and spirituality of our culture and helps us build a more stable foundation for our children.

As the heart and soul of the Cambodian American community in Lowell, the Troupe has served as a foundation and voice of our cherished cultural traditions. We are nationally recognized as one of the most accomplished and experienced of the U.S. - based Cambodian traditional arts ensembles and have received recognition from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the National Endowment of the Arts, and the White House.

Apsara Dancing Stones represents a monumental achievement in the artistic development and innovation of the Troupe. The story of Apsara Dancing Stones uses the traditions and techniques of the classical Khmer dance blended with contemporary dance drama elements. This interpretive dance allows the Angkor Dance Troupe to honor Cambodian history and culture while advancing the art form to a new level.

As we debut this performance we look forward to all the opportunities that lie ahead the next 25 years.

We hope you enjoy the show!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Thou'.

Tim Thou
Founder & Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phousita Huy'.

Phousita Huy
Artistic Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linda Sou'.

Linda Sou
President of the Board



Story



The Angkor Dance Troupe presents the premiere of *Apsara Dancing Stones*, a contemporary dance drama that embodies the beauty and culture of Cambodia. With Eastern and Western influences, this visual narrative combines an unparalleled performance of dance and music from modern and classical Cambodian styles.

A young Cambodian/American architectural student, Khemra, travels to Cambodia with a group of students to study the UNESCO world heritage site, Angkor Wat. He is unaware that the spirits inhabiting the stones of Angkor have a story to tell.

Through the eyes of the Apsara, Khemera is about to embark on a magical journey into Cambodia's golden era of Gods and Goddesses.

Evening Program

General Audience Admission

Apsara Dancing Stones ACT I

Intermission

Apsara Dancing Stones ACT II

VIP Meet & Greet with Classical Dance

Master, Artistic Director & Principal Dancers





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Cast &

Artistic Stage & Crew:

Mrs. Phousita S. Huy, Artistic Director
Mr. Higgins, Jim, Flying Orb Productions Director
Mr. Touch, Chhan, Asst. Artistic Director
Mr. Proeung, Chhieng, Writer
Mrs. Soth, Somaly, Assistant Advisor
Mr. Tim C. Thou, Program Director
Mrs. Khakhada Horn, Assistant Manager
Mrs. Kolab Thou, Costumer/Dresser
Mrs. Chenda Wilson, Assistant Costumer/Dresser
Mrs. Akara Mao, Assistant Costumer

Principal Dancers of the Angkor Dance Troupe:

Kim Allen	Sovannthida Morn	Channa Sath
Pech Heung	Sophorl Ngin	Sokhoeun Sok
Emaly Horn	Rancia Phin	Krisna Thou
Sophy Leng	Virginia Prak	Monica Veth
Brianna Mai	Mary Prum	Peter Veth
Phirum Meas		



Performers & Dancers:

Caitlyn Chan	Alexandra S. Mai	Vituu Touch
Nova Chenda	Celena Mai	Kevin Searth
Charlie Chhor	Curtis Mai	Phalida Sok-Soth
Tanromni Chum	Krissandra Mai	Anita Srey
Isabel Clafin	Salena Mam	Rotanna Srey
Nicky C. Fennell	Athenna Mao	Chummeng Suon
Sopaul Hem	Anton Mao	Sopeeda Suy
Malia Keo	Bunkeath Meng	Paulina Tran
Randy Keung	Vanny Nelson	Daisy Var
Johnny Khat	Melissa Ouk	Jasmin Tauvari Udomsay
Samantha Lehouillier	Jefferson Phan	Judith S. Wilson
Kalya Iek	Victoria Phan	Robin S. Wilson
Sovann-Malis Loeung	John Phim	Reaksmey Yan
Kelly Solida Ly	Nina Touch	

Soundtrack Production:

Mrs. Hieng, Nayto, Folk Dance	Mr. Preung Proun, Musicians Leader
Master from RUFA	Mr. Nou, Vandy, Musician
Miss. Heung, Pech	Mr. Se, Phalla, Roneat Thung
Mr. Chun, Sokdavin, Studio Mixer/ Owner	Mr. Nol, Kol, Salai-Kloy
Mr. Ek, Side, Guitar, Keyboard , Music & Lyric Composer, and Singer	Mr. Ven, Phirum, Violin
Mr. Chau, Sopharith, Asst. Studio Sound Track Recording	Mr. Yun, Theara, Tro
	Mr. Meas, Kimhan, Sampo
	Mr. Rus, Sokunthear, Kong Thom Chun, Sokdavin, Studio Coordinator

Artists from Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh Cambodia:

Miss. Sin, Sakada (Apsara)	Miss. Mom, Vanvotei, Dancer
Miss. Um, Chanthida (Seven Color Dancer)	Miss. Sam, Limsothea, Menop
Miss. Sith, Chanvoleak, Dancer	Miss. Sam, Savin, (Seven Color Dancer)
Miss. Chhoan, Nirothanak, Apsara	Miss. Chhoan, Niboran, Krot
Miss. Sok, Lyana, Dancer	



Characters and Scenes

In order of Appearance

Welcoming Dance - Mary Prum, Pech Heung, Kim Allen, Virginia Prak, Brianna Mai, Thida Morn, Phirum Meas

Khemra - Chantha Krouch

A young architectural student traveling to Siem Reap to study the temples of Angkor.

Student Dancers - Tim Sokhoeun, Sophy Leng, Sophorl Ngim

The students explore the temples and dance amusingly among one another bringing with them western influences in their style of dance as they imitate the gestures of the Apsara carvings.

Apsara Dancer - Monica Veth

An Apsara dancer within the palace walls of Angkor which symbolizes Cambodia's beauty and culture.

Prince Mearnup - Sokhoeun Sok

A Prince who lives within the palace walls encounters the Apsara dancer. They fall in love with one another gazing at stars and moon in the night sky.

Warriors in Training - Bunkeath Meng, Charles Chhor, Cheymony Fennell, Chummeng Suon, Randy Keung, Johnny Khat, John Phim, Kalya Iek, Sopaul Hem, Reaksmey Yan

Young warriors train in preparation to protect the Angkor kingdom from intruders.

Garuda - Peter Veth

A mythical half man half bird creature is depicted destroying the Apsara stones. This animal is used to symbolize those who show disregard for others' culture, and Cambodia's period of strife and destruction with the looting of precious temple artifacts and art forms.

Flashlight Search - Poutda Pech, Tim Sokhoeun, Charles Chhor, Johnny Khat

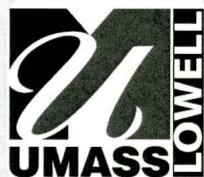
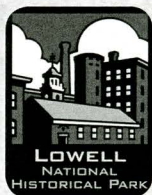
Broken Apsara Stones - Krisna Thou, Rancia Phin, Channa Sath, Robin Wilson, Monica Veth

The broken Apsara stones weep from the vandalism by Garuda.



Tep Apsara - Sophorl Ngin, Sophy Leng, Brianna Mai, Virginia Prak, Emaly Horn, Thida Morn, Mary Prum, Phirum Meas, Pech Heung
 The finale is a dance of rebirth as young dancers rise to dance once again. The song is an appeal for protection and preservation of this beloved icon of Cambodian people. The Apsara's power as a symbol of peace and reverence lies in the hands of future generations.

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Dara Pinn

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Peter Veth, Assistant Artistic Director
Liz Clafin, Sales Coordinator
Shaun McCarthy, Grant Writer





Mission

The Angkor Dance Troupe, a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, is a unique organization that provides an essential service to the community. The Troupe is the only nonprofit cultural group in Lowell, MA, whose sole mission is to preserve the traditions of Cambodian performing arts.

The Angkor Dance Troupe develops and teaches Cambodian dance, promotes an understanding and appreciation of Cambodian culture, and provides a positive social and educational outlet for Cambodian youth.

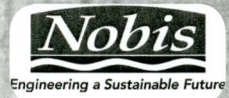
History

The Angkor Dance Troupe was formed in 1986 by Cambodian refugees of the Khmer Rouge holocaust. Lowell's Cambodian American community, estimated at more than 35,000 people, is the second largest in the country. When we resettled here, we brought a passion to carry on our cherished cultural traditions to practice and perform, to teach our children, and to see our art preserved for future generations of all cultures.

We take our name from the great Angkor civilization, between 802 and 1432 AD when Cambodia was a dominant empire in Southeast Asia. Dance and music have always been prominent in Khmer society, but these ancient traditions were nearly eliminated when the Khmer Rouge controlled Cambodia in the 1970s. Artists were among those deliberately targeted for execution. More than 90% of the country's tradition bearers perished. Today, as Cambodians around the world struggle to emerge from decades of war and poverty, our people look to the rebirth and re-creation of dance as testimony to the endurance of our culture.

“The Angkor Dance Troupe is a gem in the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts Cultural Council is proud to be a longtime supporter of Angkor for its beauty, value, and impact in preserving this rich cultural art form for the Lowell community and beyond” says Anita Walker, the Executive Director for the Mass Cultural Council. “The Angkor Dance Troupe is not only an organization promoting dance, it’s an inspiration to all those who survived the Cambodian Genocide three decades ago, and a testament to the enduring power of the arts.”

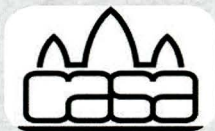
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Angkor Dance Troupe

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25 Years



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In Celebration of the 25th Anniversary, we would like to extend sincere gratitude to the Lowell National Historic Park for their continuous support and partnership, which made this milestone possible.

www.angkordance.org