

October 31, 2015
Boyce Thompson Estate aka Alder Manor
A requiem eruption & renewal dirge for all souls of the inbetween

Traveling in the footsteps of old city souls, from the church of our forebears, we reach the abandoned estate of Boyce Thompson--Except it isn't abandoned. Not tonight. Tonight, we gather--souls of the living and the dead--For a 100 year requiem eruption and renewal dirge. We who have faith in the night.

Our seed poem by Rainer Marie Rilke

To Darkness

You darkness from which I come,
I love you more than all the fires
that fence out the world,
for fire illumines a circle
and excludes the rest

But darkness holds it all:
the shape and the flame,
the animal and myself,
how it holds them,
all powers, all sight —
and it is possible: its great strength
is breaking into my body.
I have faith in the night.

ROLES:

BUS MATRONS
THE LADY OF THE MANSION
POETS
KEYKEEPERS
ESTATE GROUNDS CREW
DANCERS OF THE INBETWEEN: LEIMAY & FEATHERBONE BLACK
SUNNYSIDE BAND
STRING PLAYERS
EVE LADY APPLES
HAALE of MAST
SOUNDSYSTEM 1 & 2

PRELUDE

The Initiatory Meeting on the Upper West Side.
The Bus Journey North

SETTING & ACTION: 35+ Buses each with matrons ferrying guests to the evenings immersion. Gifts, context, a meeting of eyes.... traveling to our and their country estate....

ACT I: Arrival... 8 PM to 10 PM

SETTING: First Buses arrive approx 8:45. Buses continue to arrive until 10:15. Guests walk single file and enter through the main front doors into the central room. The Gamelatron plays. Cocktails. Exploring the courtyard.

The sound systems in the LOWER HALL are SILENT.

Guests are NOT allowed beyond the courtyard. Security Guards et al in place.

We may need restroom escorts!

ACTION:

Various minstrels, Poets, et al are introducing themselves through moving into and out of the space. Also down on the lower lawn and off in the distance.

8:45/9:00 Featherbone Black commences performance within the mansion from the NW corner room where they have dried rose petals laid out in the corner.

9:20 to 9:50. LEIMAY dancers one by one descend the staircase and commence a gradual parade through the mansion, out to courtyard, towards the cupola.

ESTATE CREW, POETS, ET AL shepherd guests out of the mansion onto the grounds near the cupola.

10:00 LEIMAY projections suddenly go dark.

10:05 The Lady of the Manor emerges onto the second floor balcony.

ACT 2: 10:05 PM to 10:15 PM The Lady of the Manor Sings from the Balcony

SETTING: ALL GUESTS ARE GATHERED in the outdoor courtyard near the cupola and bordering wall.

ALL CREW are ensuring the guests remain in this area

THE GAMELATRON IS SILENT. THE LOWER HALL IS SILENT.

JUNXION BUSES ARE SILENT.

LEIMAY dancers are as statues or have moved out of view

The Sunnyside Social Club is positioned at the edge of the courtyard and the lawn ready to play.

ACTION: THE LADY OF THE MANOR OFFERS A BENEDICTORY, WELCOMING SONG to all those present, those seen and unseen, living and dead. She welcomes them to the requiem mass, to renew their faith in the night. After the mass, she turns, enters the mansion and closes the door.

ACT 3: THE MASS 10:15 to 1:15

SETTING: Guests are now free to roam the grounds and to find the LOWER HALL.

ACTION:

The lady of the manor closes the door on the balcony.

We take a deep breath.

The Sunny Side Social Club breaks the silence. They play at the edge of the courtyard and begin to walk towards the LOWER HALL

DJs in the LOWER HALL to go live.

ALL SOUNDSYSTEMS GO LIVE in the LOWER HALL

ALL ACTS GO LIVE in the LOWER HALL

THE GAMELATRON resumes. The mansion is closed to guests without a poet guide.

THE LADY OF THE MANOR--resides in the upper chambers of the mansion. From time to time, she serenades all those outside.

FEATHER BONE BLACK dances between the mansion and the lower southern pool, free to roam.

LEIMAY dancers resume in the small pool and by the cupola in the courtyard. They are free to roam, to

go into the mansion and out.

POETS. The five principle POETS and their crew lead tours of precisely 7 keyholders at a time into the upper floors of the mansion including an audience with the lady of the manor.

KEYKEEPERS. These are performers/estate crew who have keys to give to certain guests. These keys enable you to tour the mansion with the poets. There will be approx 200 keys. 7 keyholders at a time may tour the mansion.

VARIOUS MINSTRELS activated on the estate grounds in Lower Hall

ESTATE GROUNDS CARETAKERS. These precious souls carry out their tasks of tending the grounds

ACTION 2: THE MANSION CLOSES at 12 PM

At precisely midnight, EVERYONE excepting the lady MUST EXIT THE MANOR. THE GAMELATRON GOES SILENT.

ACT 4: ENDING WAVE #1: THE ESTATE

SETTING: At 1:00 all Poets, Keykeepers and Estate Crew & the Sunnyside Social Club gather at the back door of the mansion.

THE SHRINE at the terraced stage at the Northeast corner of the courtyard has been fully prepped by the ESTATE crew and the Poets.

LEIMAY and FEATHERBONE BLACK all return to their base as an ensemble.

All tours have ended. The Lady of the Manor is inside at the back door. The string players are with her.

ACTION:

At precisely 1:15, the first ending wave begins.

LEIMAY and FEATHERBONE BLACK will have their ways of ending.

The Sunnyside Social Club begin to play and walk--clockwise starting from the southeast area of the estate. POETS & KEYKEEPERS & GROUNDS ESTATE, as well as security, sweep the estate, gathering everyone into the processional.

Eventually, everyone passes through the LEIMAY dancers and walks towards the terraced stage where the Lady of the Manor sings while the string players play a dirge.

POETS & KEYKEEPERS steward the ritual.

Guests receive flowers to place on the terraced shrine and are led to light offering candles.

EVE LADY APPLES joins the music in poetic offering

Guests leave by the courtyard door where buses receive them.

ACT 5: ENDING WAVE #2: THE LOWER HALL

SETTING:

The party guests exploring the Lower Hall, returning to dance and discovering rooms and mysteries.

ACTION:

At 1:15, all sound systems find their way to a common refrain. TBD. This resolves into a drone and into silence. Crews begin sweeps of the many rooms, gathering guests for the closing.

Guests are all invited to funnel out the RIVERSIDE DOORS to the lowest courtyard gathering area.

HAALE leads a ritual closing on the back courtyard.

Guests can return for coats, to gather their things and their crew.

Guests exit in waves and head towards the terraced courtyard stage & shrine & the buses.

The Lady and Eve and strings play as long as they wish. Others may take their place.

LEIMAY & Featherbone Black have completed their performances and exit the grounds as they wish.

The Poets, Keykeepers and Estate crew remain for closing moment.

The bus ride home to other dimensions.....