

H A R V E S T G A T H E R I N G



*Ritual
Theater*

*Butoh
Dance*



*Psycho-
Magic
Act*



*Ancestral
Tradition*

at
ALKUVOIMA, TURKU
31.7. - 3.8.2025

I N V I T A T I O N

SATO

Ritual Theatre | Butoh | Psychomagic | Ancestral Tradition
Harvest Gathering @ Alkuvoima, Turku
Thu - Sun 31.07.-3.8.

SATO. Ritual, ancestral traditions, experimental ways of being. We gather in celebration of the harvest to experience the magical space of summer. Praying through one's whole being. Soul cultivation, service, cultural transformation. Art, creation and play, jamming, mistakes and mischief.

Methods: Ritual theatre, butoh, psychomagic, ancestral tradition, voice work, soulcraft.

Sato is a place, where the boundaries between the sacred and the absurd melt, where art and magic entwine, and the madness of the Fool is supreme wisdom.

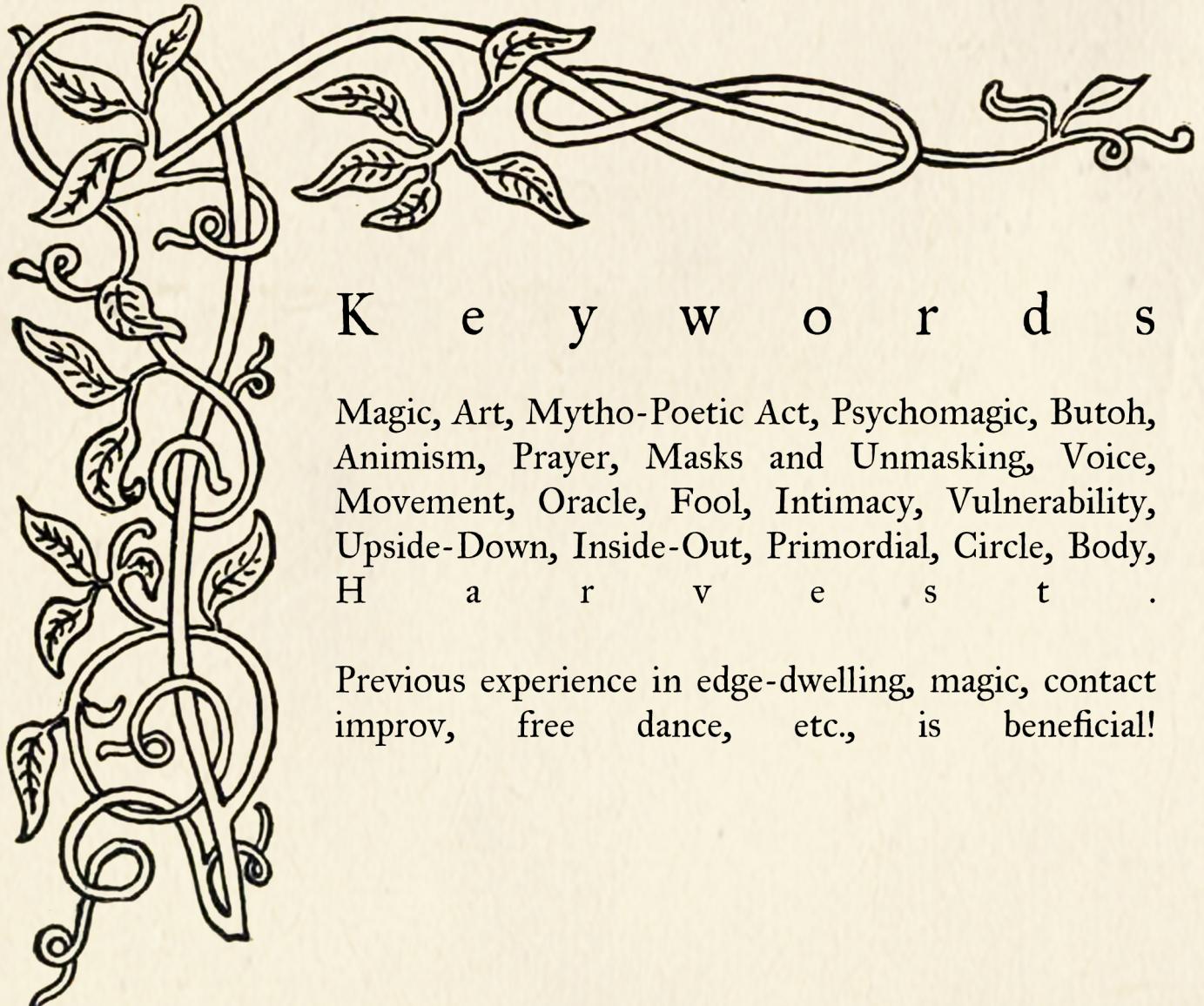
We step together through a secret doorway into a space, in which we embrace vulnerability and enjoy the carnival of life. We listen for the ways in which mystery lives through our own bodies and through the community. We invite the harvest season to tell its stories through us, and together we hold vigil for life in its fullness.

During the gathering each participant will create and present their own psychomagic act, their own ritual performance. The personal life-drama becomes an offering to the altar of life; the mytho-poetic self offers a revelation of itself; the language of dreaming becomes more true than the language of day. The psychomagic act creates another reality in the heart of the ordinary, and offers an opportunity to engage in a transformative process that which can only be worked by magic, where common sense-making cannot reach.

The space of Sato will be a tender, living and breathing tapestry of myth, magic, our own psychic processes, dreams and fears. We are looking for 10-12 players.

The workshop offers a space to step into the shoes of the Fool; make life living art; explore the shapes of your creativity and soul; become unbridled; become a myth.





K e y w o r d s

Magic, Art, Mytho-Poetic Act, Psychomagic, Butoh, Animism, Prayer, Masks and Unmasking, Voice, Movement, Oracle, Fool, Intimacy, Vulnerability, Upside-Down, Inside-Out, Primordial, Circle, Body, Heart, Voice, Spirit.

Previous experience in edge-dwelling, magic, contact improv, free dance, etc., is beneficial!

What is ritual theatre?

Ritual theatre is a craft that allows us to see the world in a poetic, sacred, enchanted way. It is to see through the imaginal sense, the mythopoetic lens. Through this way of seeing, the world becomes ensouled. In ritual theatre we become participants in the sacred speech uttered by everything around us, the cosmic scripture that is always there, thirsting for our reading of it. The mythopoetic is not a metaphor, it is an actual dimension to reality, where metaphor can point us towards.

Ritual theater is a deeply necessary, ecstatic way of participating in the shaping of reality. It is a form of activism, healing and prayer. Through it we offer ourselves to be vessels for the stories that need to be told, whether they're dreams, ancient traditional stories, personal re-workings, entirely new stories, or images emerging from our longings and life dramas.

The stories we tell ourselves and the stories we tell in community are the stories that space culture and society. Ultimately, ritual theatre is about cultivating an ensouled storyteller consciousness, in service to cultural transformation.

We return to the ancient roots of theatre, where theatre is woven with ritual, service and the more-than-human world. When we allow different characters and mythic stories to move through us, our bodies, words and creative currents step into service for the community and for ourselves.

Ritual theatre allows a space in which we can attune to our personal soul current, as in how the organizing intelligence of the cosmos moves through us individually. It offers a space to make passionate, surreal choices that rise from tracking our own soul guidance.

Enacting the stories of power, the stories that emanate from the soul and from the ecology of life is to feed life. It is to feed culture, feed the wilds, feed all that feeds us. Ritual theatre is an offering.

SATO is a bridge between ancient practices of communion with spirit, and artistic expression and storymaking today. We get to apply all the ancestral wisdom we have whilst playing with all the modern styles, methods and technologies of art-making, activism and healing.

Our gatherings ask deep questions. What is the world telling you, if you dare to offer your attention? What do you love, how much does it cost you, and what are you prepared to offer for it to come true? What does your soul burn for? Will you let us feel that?

Ritual theater re-ignites the spirit; it's a craft of ensouling; it's a work of transformation.

Why?

*“The only war that matters is the war against the imagination.
All other wars are subsumed in it.”*

- Diane Di Prima

We are confronted by the power of narrative to shape our lives in today's world. Narrative is a matter of imagination, it's always has a cosmology that it belongs to. What kinds of imaginations are available to us, what kinds of narrative-making does the overculture offer us?

Mythosomatics and ritual theatre are a way of re-integrating the physical body and the mythic imagination. Inherited patterns and beliefs that are not of soul, developmental trauma, ancestral wounds and infocolonization (the way the infosphere colonizes our imagination) imprint right at the intersection of the imagination and the physical body.

Working at that intersection then offers us ways to heal, to imagine wilder and vaster realities, and to access the deep story of our soul. Soul in this context is one's unique, individual niche in the ecological whole. It is the way that the organizing intelligence of the universe moves through you personally. It is the personal Tao, the personal gift that we each bring to earth. Your creativity is how it moves through you.

When we cultivate a resourced mythosomatic body, when we nourish our sensitivity and listening to the way the soul moves through us, then our sensitivity is the beginning of our power. The mythosomatic resources our soul and supports us in being guided through life in a clearer way from soul level.

Price ranges

Flourish: 300-350€

The flourish rate covers the costs of organizing the workshop and enables us to offer a support price to those who need it. For you who have regular income, things like savings and property, live in abundance, and wish to share a little of it forward.

Standard: 220-270€

The standard rate covers the workshop expenses such as venue rental, snacks, facilitators' travel costs, and a small fee for organizing the event. For you who have regular income or can budget for events like this.

Support: 160-200€

If your situation doesn't allow you to pay the standard price, you can choose this.

No proof of your situation is needed; your own assessment is enough.

We have included sliding scales within sliding scales to allow for nuance within your financial situation. Choose your price from what you can and are eager to offer.

Language

The workshop will be held in english or finnish, depending on the participants. English is likely.

Eating

Food is self-catered. Alkuvoima's kitchen is available for cooking. Nearby grocery stores and restaurants are an option.

Sleep

Sleeping on mattresses at Alkuvoima or in your own tent at the garden is a possibility. Fee for a night indoors is 10 euros, and for a night in a tent is 5 euros. Note: No shower or sauna, washing up in a sink or a bucket shower outdoors.



Preliminary schedule

Thursday 17:00-21:00

16:00-17:00 arrival
17:00 - 18:00 welcoming circle
18:00-21:00 program

Friday 10:00-21:00

10:00-13:00 program
13:00-14:30 lunch
14:30-17:30 program
17:30-18:30 dinner break
18:30-21:00 program

Saturday 10:00-21:00

10:00-13:00 program
13:00-14:00 lunch
14:00-17:00 program
17:00-18:00 dinner break
18:00- psychomagic acts and SATO (harvest)



Sunday 10:00-18:00

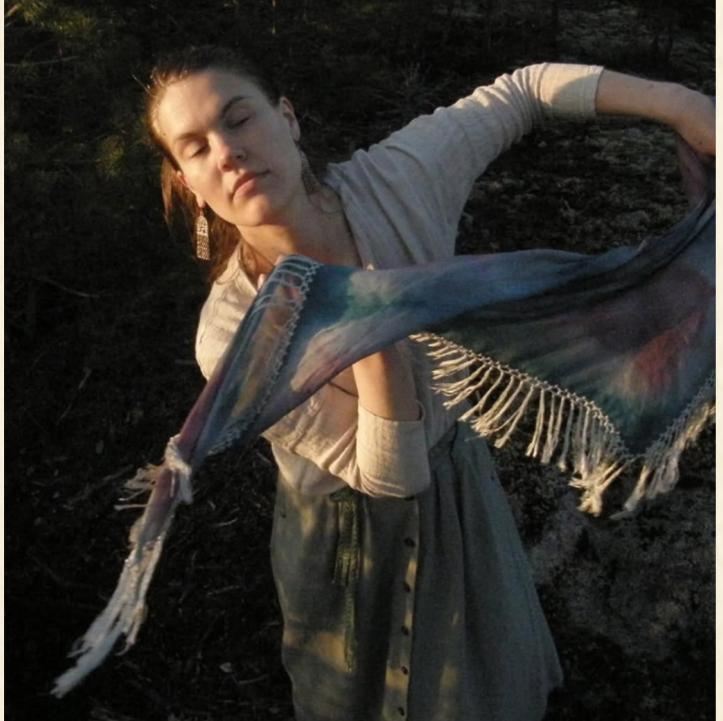
10:00-13:00 program
13:00-14:00 lunch
14:00-18:00 program & closing

Facilitation



13 (Meri Karhu) Ritualist. Ash woman and storyteller. Long time facilitator with ten years of experience from various fields. As a guide Meri has been described as a compass pointing to the soul's integrity; as a bridge between worlds; a presence that is a poem; a person that dares to find truth where others turn away from. Her passions include soul-making, ritual traditions, oracular arts and the future's ancient heart.

Ahmaliina (Inkeri Kurkilahti) is a luonnonnostaattaja (witch in Finnish cosmology), bearer of Karelian tradition, folk musician, butoh practitioner and wild life form. Methods she works with include voice work, trance dance, somatic shamanism and folklore as a living tradition. As a guide she is both grounding and gentle, as well as playful and multiverse-reaching.



Testimonials

“The workshop offered me a space in which I could expand to my own dimensions, both physically and spiritually. It gave me a possibility to join a shared mission and connect more deeply with my own being. I appreciate most that we created a space in which the deeper, unconscious understanding could emerge into awareness and be witnessed. Each of us had a possibility to create something that was uniquely our own. This was facilitated in such a gentle way, that even those of us for whom being creative is unfamiliar, could birth something extraordinary. The most valuable part for me was creating my own psychomagic act, and witness the acts of others.” - M.M.

“I was able to start my retreat with magic, sustain magic for several days, and continue with more magic, every day after. I felt welcomed by everyone and the group felt like a group quickly. I’m very grateful for the small reminders of ritual focus and it’s possibilities in society. Most vivid learning for me was that I can make psychomagic and ritual happen anywhere, and there is people who do the same, here in Finland. Special thanks for the butoh performance task of enacting the birth of the world, it was a wonderful intro to the psychomagic act and singing prayer practice. I have kept growing more to my own size, finding ways to reach and hold myself in pain and the enthusiasm for birth.” - V.R

“Little things like dirt on my hands, a heavy rock, an extension cord or a roll of plastic wrap take me back to the wonders I have seen and experienced, the eye-wateringly beautiful and fucking bonkers psychomagical acts. This really keeps the fire burning and it does not go out. Writing the letter to my longing and seeing the response has been truly profound and memorable. The message from my longing is pretty clear, so I’ve been “making the rules again.” Our gathering was an easter never to be forgotten.” - K.L

“I’m so grateful for the space you held during the workshop, it feels very special. Magic has been with me in the last several days and it feels so tangible and alive!” - R.R

“I feel many new possibilities opening up in my being. I feel what a great gift it was from the cosmos to share this sacred and strange space with you. I feel transformed by the Mystery, and I feel like I am remembering again something very deep and precious, soft, warm, and full of life, which is also calmer and quieter than silence. Like a strange taste of the nectar of life that I have always known was inside me, but which I had half forgotten. I remember this taste now, a sacred thing.” - M.M

R E G I S T E R

Send an e-mail or message either one of us - whoever you got the invitation from. IF you got it from someone else, e-mail

merikarhu@live.fi

WITH ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS:

1. A question/riddle/poem from your current life-drama that you wish to explore during our time together.
2. A photograph of yourself looking mythic/primal/strange/something else.
3. How much will you pay? (in numbers)
4. Do you need to sleep over at the venue?

You will receive payment instructions after registering. Please pay within 5 days of registering. Payment plans are available, just ask.

If you know of someone who could enjoy and benefit from an event like SATO, please pass on this invitation!

