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MYTHIC JOURNEYS 2006

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

David Abram is a cultural ecologist and philosopher who has had a deep influence on the environmental movement in North America and abroad. He is the author of *The Spell of the Sensuous: Perception and Language in a More-than-Human World* (Pantheon/Vintage)—a book which helped catalyze the new field of eco-psychology. Abram lectures and teaches widely on several continents. His essays have appeared in such journals as *Orion*, *Tikkun*, *Parabola*, *Environmental Ethics*, *Adbusters*, *Resurgence* and *The Ecologist*, as well as in numerous anthologies. He is currently working on exploring the ways in which perception, poetics and wonder inform our relation with the animate earth. He maintains a passionate interest in interspecies communication and in the rejuvenation of oral culture.

Stephen Aizenstat, Ph.D., is the founding president of Pacifica Graduate Institute, a private graduate school offering masters and doctoral programs in psychology and mythological studies. He is a licensed clinical psychologist, a marriage and family therapist, and a credentialed public school teacher. His original research centers on a psychodynamic process of “tending the living image,” particularly in the context of “dreamwork,” and he has conducted dreamwork seminars for more than 25 years throughout the US, Europe and Asia. Aizenstadt has recorded “DreamTending,” a six-audiotape series released by Sounds True. His other publications include: “Dreams are Alive” in *Depth Psychology: Meditations in the Field*, edited by D. Slattery and L. Corbett, and “Nature Dreaming: Jungian Psychology and the World Unconscious” in *Ecopsychology: Restoring the Earth, Healing the Mind*, edited by T. Roszak, M. Gomes and A. Kanner.

David Anderson is a British animator whose work stands out for its persistent surreal fantasy and the multiplicity of techniques used to cast a spell. Stop-motion model animation blends with orthodox cell animation; live-action footage comes unadorned, or garnished with pixillation, xerography, colorful felt-tip smears and imagery from the paintings of Ernst and Magritte. His films include *Dream Land Express*, *Dreamless Sleep*, *Deadsy*, *Door* and *Time of Angels*. A member of Redwing Film Company, he has produced successful commercials for several large companies.

Coleman Barks, Ph. D., in 1976, began translating the poems of Jelaluddin Rumi, a 13th-century Sufi mystic and a poet as famous in the Islamic world as Shakespeare is in the West. He has since become the primary translator bringing Rumi’s poems into contemporary English, publishing 16 volumes of Rumi’s poetry, including *The Glance: Songs of Soul-Meeting* and *The Essential Rumi*. A poet in his own right as well as a publisher and teacher of

contemporary American poetry, Barks taught for 34 years at the University of Georgia, where he was named Poet and Professor Emeritus of English. Currently, he collaborates in performances with musicians, including members of the Paul Winter Consort. His work was featured in two PBS series with Bill Moyers, *The Language of Life* (1995) and *The Sounds of Poetry* (1999).

Peter S. Beagle is the award-winning author of *The Last Unicorn*, *A Fine and Private Place*, *The Folk of the Air*, *The Innkeeper's Song* and *Tamsin*. His books have been listed as some of the finest fantasy fiction ever created. He has also written short stories, screenplays, non-fiction and poetry, and recently finished the screenplay for a film version of *A Fine and Private Place*. Beagle is an accomplished singer/songwriter who delights audiences in English, Yiddish, French and German.

Derek Beres is one of the leading sources of international music in America, through various journalistic endeavors (staff writer, *Trace*; music editor, *Rattapallax*; freelance journalist, *The Village Voice*, *Urb*, *Relix*, *Blue*, *YRB*). His Mythika Electronika project, which he will be presenting at Mythic Journeys, traces the mythological roots of world musics. He also performs Thai massage yoga at Atmananda Yoga in SoHo. As a DJ, he travels internationally with the GlobeSonic crew alongside Fabian Alsultany and Acidophilus and runs the weekly Kollektive party at Kush with Karsh Kale. In 2001, he co-founded EarthRise Arts with painter Craig Anthony Miller, producing numerous art and music events in and around New York City. He spent two and a half years as managing editor of *Global Rhythm* magazine, and his last play, *Burning Trees*, was performed at the Nuyorican Poet's Cafe during 2002's Hip-Hop Theater Festival. *Global Beat Fusion*, his book about the new world mythology being created by global electronica, was published on June 21, 2005, by Outside the Box Publishing.

Ari Berk, Ph. D., is an author, poet and associate professor of English language and literature at Central Michigan University where he teaches courses in mythology, American Indian literature, folklore and Medieval literature. The former student of Pulitzer Prize-winning writer N. Scott Momaday, Berk has created and directed literacy programs for disadvantaged youth, and at the University of Arizona, he helped to develop the first American Indian Studies doctoral program in the United States. His latest book *The Runes of Elfland* (a collaboration with international best-selling artist Brian Froud) creatively explores the otherworldly wonders of landscape and language.

Charlie Bethel is an actor/writer based in Minneapolis and has also worked as a director, stage manager, producer, electrician, milliner and properties and set dressing artist. Outside the theater, Bethel has been a writer for Red Farm Films, a filthy joke generator for Innovisions Greeting Card Company, a seamanship instructor, a cook, a gardener, a florist and a surveyor of graveyards. A native Southerner, Bethel is a graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts and the South Carolina Governor's School. Bethel never met an epic he didn't like. With no costume or props except a couple chairs and a glass of water, he uses only his own formidable storytelling skills to make the tale of Gilgamesh come alive in a riveting, rollicking and accessible staging. The way he tells the tale makes you realize anew why this saga has survived the millennia.

Jean Shinoda Bolen, M.D., is a psychiatrist, a Jungian analyst in private practice, a clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California Medical Center and an internationally-known lecturer. She is the author of *Goddesses in Older Women: Archetypes in Women Over Fifty*, *The Millionth Circle*, *The Tao of Psychology*, *Goddesses in Everywoman: A New Psychology of Women*, *Gods in Everyman: A New Psychology of Men's Lives and Loves*, *Crossing to Avalon: A Woman's Midlife Pilgrimage*, *Ring of Power* and *Close to the Bone*.

Bill Bridges is the co-creator of Holistic Design's *Fading Suns* universe and the game developer for White Wolf's *Mage: The Ascension*. He is the author of *The Silver Crown* and the *Bone Gnawers, Stargazers* and *Wendigo Tribe* series for White Wolf. His works also include a staggering amount of books for a wide range of games: *Fading Suns* (Holistic Design), *Werewolf, Vampire, Wraith, Changeling* (all White Wolf), *Pendragon* (Chaosium) and *Star Trek* (Decipher). His computer game credits include *Noble Armada* (Holistic Design), *Dracula Unleashed* (Viacom) and *Star Trek Starfleet Academy* (Interplay). He currently co-chairs the content committee for Mythic Journeys.

Sal Brownfield, a prominent Atlanta artist, has touched and been "touched" by art for over 60 years. In his own words, "Art is a verb as well as a noun, something that happens." Brownfield's work graces various studios and locations from the United Nations Pavilion in Genoa, Italy, to the walls of a locked down facility for troubled boys at Inner Harbour Hospital in Douglasville, Georgia. One of Brownfield's paintings, depicting a mountain castle overlooking a farming village as seen from a great height, fills a wall at the Mythic Imagination Institute offices.

Duncan Campbell holds degrees from the Sorbonne, Yale College and Harvard Law School. In the last 40 years he has gained extensive experience in the fields of psychology, philosophy, spirituality, law, business, politics, communications and teaching. He has traveled widely in both industrial and developing countries, engaging indigenous cultures and receiving initiation in a number of traditions. Campbell presented on "The Art of Dialogic Myth-Making" at the Joseph Campbell Centenary celebration "The Re-enchantment of the World", sponsored by the International Transpersonal Association in Palm Springs in June, 2004. He has hosted his "Living Dialogues" program with visionaries in many different fields, first on public television, and now on community public radio and the Internet.

Julia Tsitsi Chigamba will collaborate with members of the Oakland Youth Chorus to create "Bembero Mudenbu" ("The Celebration of the Basket"), a new multidisciplinary presentation of Zimbabwean music and dance that traces the history and diversity of the Shona musical tradition and its journey into the modern world. The performance will weave Chigamba's traditional music and dance with new musical arrangements and choreography to relate the story of her life growing up in a village in Zimbabwe, her transition to life in the United States and her struggle to balance between traditional and modern culture.

Deepak Chopra, M.D., continues to transform our understanding of the meaning of health. Chopra is known as the prolific author of more than 35 books and 100 audio, video and CD-ROM titles, which have been translated into 35 languages with over 20 million copies sold worldwide. His latest book, *The Spontaneous Fulfillment of Desire: Harnessing the Infinite Power of Coincidence* (Harmony Books) is in stores now. His best-sellers include *Live Longer: 10 Steps to Reverse Aging* and *The Path to Love*. Chopra has published numerous books focusing on health issues that include *The Chopra Center Herbal Handbook: Forty Natural Prescriptions for Perfect Health*; *Perfect Weight: The Complete Mind / Body Program For Achieving and Maintaining Your Ideal Weight*; and *Restful Sleep: The Complete Mind / Body Program For Overcoming Insomnia*. Popular audio books and CD-ROMs include *Magical Mind, Magical Body*; *The Higher Self*; *Journey to the Boundless*; and *The Wisdom Within*. Many know him from his regular work with PBS, which includes *The Soul of Healing: Body, Mind, and Soul*; *Body, Mind and Soul: The Mystery and The Magic*, one of the most highly viewed and successful fundraisers in the history of the network; and *The Way of the Wizard, Alchemy and The Crystal Cave*. Through The Chopra Center, Chopra is revolutionizing common wisdom about the crucial connection between body, mind, spirit and healing.

Charles de Lint is the acclaimed fantasy author of 47 books, novels and collections including *Moonheart*, *Someplace to be Flying*, *The Onion Girl*, *Seven Wild Sisters* and the recently released *Tapping the Dream Tree* and *Spirits in the Wires*. He writes a monthly book review column for *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction* that shines a public light on authors of fine fantasy fiction. He is also an accomplished Celtic musician. The 20th anniversary edition of his groundbreaking work *Moonheart* is being published this year with illustrations by Charles Vess.

William Doty, Ph. D., is professor emeritus of humanities and religious studies at the University of Alabama and editor of *Mythosphere: A Journal for Image, Myth, and Symbol*. Doty is a prolific writer, translator and editor who published 14 books and over 70 essays in a wide range of journals on topics including religious studies, anthropology, psychology, classics and art criticism. His best-known book is *Mythography*.

Carolyn Dunn is a Native American journalist, teacher, fiction writer, anthology editor, musician, catechist and poet who recently has been doing fascinating research into "deer women" stories, exploring how they relate to women's lives today. She is author of two books of poetry, *Outfoxing Coyote* (2002) and *Hidden Creek Journal* (2000), as well as the coeditor of the anthologies, *Through the Eye of the Deer* (1999) and *Hozho: Walking In Beauty*.

Ekiwah Adler Beléndez was born prematurely on September 14, 1987, in Amatlán, Tepoztlán, Morelos. He has muscle spasticity and cannot walk by himself, although he has excellent control of the movement of his arms and hands. His speech and intelligence are intact. Because of intensive therapy programs, Belendez has primarily been home-schooled. Around the age of 10, he began to write poems and short stories. His books include *Soy (I am)*, *Palabras Inagotables, (Neverending Words)* and *Weaver*, written in English. His books have received both acclaim and awards. Beléndez has about 90 new unpublished poems in Spanish and is just beginning to write in prose.

Emerald Rose is a four-man Celtic-theme folk rock band with a rich, original sound drawn from diverse influences, from Jethro Tull to the Chieftains. Blending chorus vocals, pennywhistle, world percussion and driving guitars and bass, their music ranges from traditional jigs and reels to original folk rock and pop numbers. Many of the band's musical themes draw from Celtic myth and legend, but the style is modern, upbeat and accessible.

Heinz Insu Fenkl works as a director of the Interstitial Studies Institute and the creative writing program at the State University of New York. Fenkl is the author of *Memories of My Ghost Brother*, short stories, fiction and non-fiction, numerous articles and translations of Korean literature. He also teaches at Vassar College, Bard College, Sarah Lawrence College and Yonsei University in Korea.

James Flannery, Ph. D., is the Winship Professor of Arts and Humanities at Emory University. He also heads the W. B. Yeats Foundation and founded the Yeats International Theatre Festival at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin. Besides being an accomplished Irish tenor, stage director and producer, he is a scholar of Irish and Celtic music, poetry and mythology. Flannery is the author of *W.B. Yeats and the Idea of a Theatre: The Early Abbey Theatre in Theory and Practice* and *Dear Harp of My Country: The Irish Melodies of Thomas Moore*. He is the 1994 recipient of the Wild Geese Award for outstanding contributions to Irish culture and the holder of honorary doctorates from Trinity College (Hartford) and the University of Ulster. In addition, he has been named five times as one of the "Top 100" Irish Americans by *Irish America Magazine*.

Betty Sue Flowers, Ph. D., is director of the Lyndon B. Johnson Library and Museum. Prior to her appointment in 2002, she was Kelleher Professor of English and member of the Distinguished Teachers Academy at the University of Texas at Austin. She is also a poet, editor and business consultant, with publications ranging from poetry therapy to the economic myth, including two books of poetry and four television tie-in books in collaboration with Bill Moyers, among them, *Joseph Campbell and the Power of Myth*. She hosted *Conversations with Betty Sue Flowers* on the Austin PBS-affiliate and has served as a moderator for executive seminars at the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies, a consultant for NASA, a member of the Envisioning Network for General Motors, a visiting advisor to the Secretary of the Navy and editor of *Global Scenarios* for Shell International in London and the World Business Council in Geneva (on global sustainable development and, most recently, on the future of biotechnology).

Honora Foah is the co-president, with Michael Karlin, of the Mythic Imagination Institute and the Mythic Journeys conferences. She was the chief producer and designer for the UN Pavilions featured in the 1992 World Expo in Genoa, Italy, and the 1993 World Expo held in Taejon, South Korea. As the artistic force behind Visioneering International, Inc., Foah brings to every endeavor her extensive training and professional experience in the fine arts, including dance, music and theater. In 1987, Foah teamed up with her husband, Robert, to produce imaginative high-tech audio visual projects that are on the cutting edge of the industry. Together, they have grown in this capacity and serve as the principal multi-media consultants to the United Nations and several Fortune 500 companies.

Brian Froud is the artist of the best-selling, whimsical *Lady Cottington's Pressed Faerie Book*; conceptual artist for Jim Henson's *The Dark Crystal*; winner of the ASFA Best Interior Illustration; and winner of the Hugo Award for Best Original Artwork in 1995. He also was the illustrator of *Good Faeries*, *Bad Faeries*, *The Runes of Elfland*, and a new book *Goblins!* created with writer (and Mythic Journeys guest) Ari Berk. Froud's art was featured in *Ancient Spirit*, *Modern Voice*, the Mythic Journeys 2004 art exhibit.

Wendy Froud is a gifted doll and figure maker, sculptor and puppet maker whose work is seen in *The Dark Crystal* (Jen & Kira), *Labyrinth* and *The Empire Strikes Back* (Yoda). Her work has also been featured in a series of fairytale books co-created with author and Mythic Journeys guest speaker Terri Windling. Froud's fantasy creations were featured in *Ancient Spirit*, *Modern Voice*, the Mythic Journeys 2004 art exhibit.

David Gonzalez is a storyteller, musician, poet, actor and doctor of arts who has created numerous productions, including the critically acclaimed shows *¡Sofrito!* and *MytholoJazz*. His work, *Double Crossed: The Saga of the St. Louis*, has toured nationally, including a run at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Gonzalez also wrote *The Secret of the Ceiba Tree*, *Finding North* and *The Frog Bride*, and he has recently completed *Freedom's River*, a libretto commissioned by the Cincinnati Opera. His poetry has been featured in Lincoln Center's Out-of-Doors Festival in 2001, Bill Moyers' documentary *Fooling with Words* on PBS and NPR's *All Things Considered*. Gonzalez also worked as a clinical music therapist for 20 years in clinical and educational institutions throughout the New York metropolitan area.

Andrew Greenberg, recently nominated to the Academy of Adventure Gaming Arts and Design Hall of Fame, is the co-creator of *Fading Suns* and the original developer of White Wolf's *Vampire: The Masquerade*. He has credits on more than 50 White Wolf products and more than 20 on HDI books. He has also worked on products with other roleplaying game companies, including Decipher's *Star Trek* game. His computer game credits include *Dracula Unleashed*, *Star Trek: Starfleet Academy*, *Emperor of the Fading Suns*, *Warhammer 40K: Final Liberation*, *Merchant Prince II*, *Mall Tycoon* and more. A recognized expert on games of all types, he recently wrote a history of computer games for the Matthew Bender legal reference series on Internet law. A promoter specializing in benefit concerts and events, he is also active in organizing conventions, and is organizer for Mythic Journeys 2006.

MaryAnn Harris is an artist who works in watercolors, acrylic, soft sculpture and fabric mache. She is also a talented musician (mandolin, guitar, vocals and bodhran) who, along with her husband, Charles de Lint, can be found on Thursday nights playing her heart out at Patty's Pub on Bank Street in Ottawa, Canada. She is the first editor for all of de Lint's work and has been commissioned to do cover art for several of his books. She is also an addicted collector of fine and unusual "objets d'art" who can often be found assembling items for auction as her saucy alter ego, Relectica.

Lorin Hollander's Carnegie Hall debut at the age of 11 was the beginning of his continuous professional career spanning five decades. He has performed with virtually every major symphony orchestra in the world and is a veteran of over 2,500 performances with orchestra, in recital, lecture/recital, chamber ensemble as pianist, and as symphony and choral conductor. For over 30 years, he has led community outreach and university residencies giving master classes, conducting youth orchestras and choirs, counseling students, guiding the gifted, holding interdisciplinary seminars on creativity and training mentors for the arts and sciences. He illuminates how music and art can end and prevent the violent, criminal and suicidal dysfunctions of our children while nurturing their humanity and can empower our senior citizens to become true mentors and Elders

Maren Tonder Hansen is an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister, a licensed psychotherapist, a founding member of the Pacifica Graduate Institute in Carpinteria, California, a board member of the Joseph Campbell and Marija Gimbutas Libraries and the mother of three children. She is the author of *Teachers of Myth* and *Mother Mysteries*, a tender and funny exploration of the sacred dimension of motherhood. Anthropologist Jean Houston calls Hansen "nothing less than a multi-mythic momma. Hers is a brilliant, intuitive grasp of the essential myths of Mother/Goddess."

Sharif I. Horthy was born in Budapest, Hungary in 1941. In his mid-twenties he moved to Indonesia, where he worked as a consulting engineer and ran a construction company. In his spare time he was personal assistant and interpreter to Bapak Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo, the founder of Subud. After 22 years in Indonesia, he moved to the USA and then to England, where he manages the Guerrand-Hermés Foundation for Peace. Horthy lives in Lewes, East Sussex with his Javanese second wife, Tuti, with whom he is gradually translating Bapak Subuh's works into English.

Chungliang Ai Huang is the founder and president of Living Tao Foundation and director of Lan Ting Institute in China. Huang is a renowned and popular teacher of creative tai chi and contemporary Taoism. He has found success as an architect, cultural anthropologist and dancer-choreographer. Huang is author of many books, including the best-selling *Embrace Tiger, Return to Mountain*, *Quantum Soup*; *Beginner's Taiji Book* (with Allan Watts); *Tao: The Watercourse Way* (with Jerry Lynch); *Thinking Body, Dancing Mind*; *The Tao of Giving and Receiving Wisdom* and *Working Out, Working Within: The Tao of Inner Fitness through Sports and Exercises*.

Stu Jenks has been exploring the symbols of the Circle, the Hoop and the Spiral, creating them in sand, in flame, in water, in Christmas lights and in time in photography. Jenks' photographs and installations have been exhibited in galleries and museums around the U.S., including solo shows. His work appeared in "Ancient Spirit, Modern Voice," a major exhibition of mythic art in Atlanta, Georgia (2004) and in numerous other exhibitions since 1979. His images have also appeared in books, magazines and on CD covers. Jenks has recently released his second CD of "electronic spirituals" entitled *West of the Fire: Soundtracks for Photographs, Vol. 2* on Fezziwig Records.

Lynne Kaufman is the author of 11 full-length plays which have been produced in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C. and Louisville, Kentucky, at such theatres as The Magic Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville and Theatreworks. Her plays have won many awards including the NEA/Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays and Theatreworks Best New Play in California. Her short stories have appeared in *Cosmopolitan*, *Redbook* and *McCalls*. Kaufman's first novel, *Slow Hands*, was published by Mira Books in June 2003. Her second novel, *Wild Womens' Weekend*, was published in June 2004.

Daniel Kelly, a composer and pianist, has developed his own personal and unique approach to jazz – Afro-Cuban music and free improvisation. Kelly has innovated original ways to incorporate instruments into his own sound world. This is evident on his two highly acclaimed CDs, *World* and *Duets with Ghosts*. He has composed for film, theater and various multimedia performances. Kelly's interests also lie in forging new sounds in the realm of contemporary classical music and improvisation. He co-leads the improvisatory group, Liquid Ensemble, which blends electronic and acoustic instruments to create cinematic compositions. Kelly's talents as film composer can be heard in the films, *The Receipt*, *Suzana's Dreams* and *Below the Belt*, which was awarded Best Film of the Oregon Film Festival.

Christopher W. Klaus serves as founder and chief executive officer at Kaneva®, Inc., the world's first online digital entertainment marketplace enabling customers to watch, play, create and market films and games. Kaneva is revolutionizing the industry by enabling customers to quickly download, watch and own a wide range of DVD-quality movies; play online games; and participate in a dynamic community of entertainment enthusiasts. Klaus is also the founder and Chief Security Advisor for Internet Security Systems, Inc. (ISS). Klaus is committed to the Atlanta entertainment and high tech communities through his involvement in groups such as the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Hands on Atlanta, the Technology Association of Georgia and the Georgia Tech Alumni Association.

Sheri Kling is an Atlanta-based singer/songwriter whose music resonates with authenticity. Her compositions are heart-rooted and spirit-seeking. Each song is another way of looking at what is real, what is true, and what invites us all into a more passionate and well-lived life. Her solo CD is *Let It Unfold*.

Joseph Kulin publishes *Parabola, the Magazine of Myth, Tradition and the Search for Meaning*, as well as Parabola Books, Audios and Videos. He is the founder and producer of the "Cinema of the Spirit" Film and Video Festival, now in its fifth year. He acquired distribution rights along with Mystic Fire for the immensely popular PBS series, *Joseph Campbell and the Power of Myth* with Bill Moyers. He has produced an audio and book series of Native American stories for children and is currently developing a world myth and story program for public radio. He co-edited *Gathering Sparks*, a collection of interviews with Joseph Campbell, Marion Woodman, Peter Brook, Thomas Berry, Oliver Sacks, Elie Wiesel, H.H. the Dalai Lama and others. Kulin produced a biography of the Jungian writer Helen M. Luke, which has aired on public television. He is currently writing a modern fairy tale for children, "The Story of Princess Ican."

Ellen Kushner applies her talents as writer, producer and storyteller to host WGBH Radio's award-winning series *Sound & Spirit*, which Bill Moyers calls "the best program on public radio, bar none." She is the author of mythic fantasy novels *Swordspoint: A Melodrama of Manners*, *The Fall of the Kings* (with Delia Sherman), and *Thomas the Rhymer*. Her short fiction appears in various anthologies, including *The World's Best Fantasy and Horror*. She performs on stage and is sought after as a teacher and public speaker.

John and Caitlin Matthews are respected Celtic scholars and authors who share an interest in myth, religion, music, mysticism and art. They have a special focus on Celtic Myth, Western Mystery traditions, art, poetry and music. Some of John's many books include a new translation of Mallory's *Le Morte de Arthur*. Some of Caitlin's many volumes include *Mabon and the Mysteries of Britain*, *Arthur and the Sovereignty of Britain* and *Celtic Love*. Together, they have authored over 70 books, including *The Western Way* and *Hallowquest*, a guide to the Arthurian Tarot deck they developed. The Matthews are co-founders of The Foundation of Inspirational and Oracular Studies.

Michael Meade has studied myth, anthropology, history of religion and cross-cultural rituals for over 35 years. His hypnotic and fiery storytelling, street savvy perceptiveness and spellbinding interpretations of ancient myths and symbols are highly relevant to current culture. He has an unusual ability to distill and synthesize these disciplines, tapping into ancestral sources of wisdom, while connecting them to the stories of people today. He is the author of *Men and the Water of Life*; editor, with James Hillman and Robert Bly, of *Rag and Bone Shop of the Heart* and editor of *Crossroads: A Quest for Contemporary Rites of Passage*. Meade is Founder/Director of Mosaic Multicultural Foundation, a network of artists, teachers and activists that fosters community healing and development efforts.

O.R. Melling is the author of *The Druid's Tune*, *The Singing Stone*, *The Summer King*, *The Light Bearer's Daughter*, *The Book of Dreams*, *My Blue Country* and *The Hunter's Moon*, which won the Ruth Schwartz Children's Literature Award (Canada) 1994 and was short-listed for the Young Adult Book of the Year Award 1993 of the Canadian Library Association. She has also written *Falling Out of Time*, which she describes as "my 'adult' mythic fantasy (of) sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll with archetypes." Melling has been Writer in Residence at Ireland's Tyrone Guthrie Centre for the Arts, Denmark's Orslev Kloster and India's Auroville. She reviews books for magazines such as *Books Ireland* and *The Irish Times* and is on the Irish Arts Council list for school and library visits.

Todd Murphy's work has been exhibited in museums and galleries across the United States, Europe and Asia. He has been a visiting artist and lecturer at the University of Georgia, University of California San Francisco, University of Virginia, University of South Carolina and the High Museum of Art in Atlanta. His work includes painting, sculpture, site-specific work and experiential design. His latest initiative, called "the space between," seeks to blur the gap between commerce, community and art by working with organizations and corporations to create inspired solutions to specific problems. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Mythic Imagination Institute.

Gertrud Mueller Nelson was a Montessori teacher and a high school teacher before raising three children. As an artist, she is known for her stained glass, clip art and silver design. She has published seven books and many articles, as well as illustrated 11 books. She speaks at retreats, gives keynote addresses and presents at workshops internationally. Nelson's emphasis is on the cycle of seasons and festivals as opportunities for the grounding of spiritual life in both established formal ritual and in the humble personal rituals of daily living. In her book, *Here All Dwell Free*, the story of the Handless Maiden is her source for images of the wounded feminine and its healing.

Rabbi Yossi New is the spiritual leader at temple Beth Tefillah in Atlanta, Georgia, and he is an expert on the Kabbalah. Born and raised in Melbourne, Australia, Rabbi New's religious education includes studies at Keren B'Yavneh Yeshiva in Israel and the Rabbinical College of Canada in Montreal. He was ordained in 1981 at Central Lubavitch Yeshiva in Brooklyn, New York. His post-rabbinic work was completed at the Kollel's Halachic Research Program in Brooklyn. Rabbi New also serves as the Director of Chabad of Georgia.

Laurie L. Patton, Ph. D., is Winship Distinguished Research Professor in the Humanities and chairperson for the Department of Religion of Emory University. She earned her bachelor's degree from Harvard University and her doctorate from the University of Chicago. Her interests are in the interpretation of early Indian ritual and narrative, comparative mythology and literary theory in the study of religion. She is the author/editor of *Authority, Anxiety, and Canon: Essays in Vedic Interpretation*, *Myth as Argument: The Brhaddevata as Canonical Commentary*, *Myth and Method* (with Wendy Doniger), *Jewels of Authority: Women and Text in the Hindu Tradition*, *Toward a Comparative Philosophy of Religions*, *Bringing the Gods to Mind*, *The Indo-Aryan Controversy: Evidence and Evocation* (forthcoming with Edwin Bryant), *Fire's Goal: Poems from a Hindu Year* and a soon-to-be-published translation of the *Bhagavad Gita*.

Allen Pittman has studied various martial arts systems spanning the globe from highly skilled teachers in such diverse methods as Hsing I Chuan, Ba Gua Zhang, Tai Chi Chuan, fencing, "old-school" wrestling of England, judo and bando. He has also served as a guardsman for the H. H. Dalai Lama and Drepung Monastery. Interested in combat behaviors, Pittman spent some time in the interesting study of ancient Western battle strategy & hopology. Fascinated by the idea of warrior as healer, Pittman has studied physical therapy, osteopathy, Tibetan medicine and Unani medicine including herbology and aromatherapy. Pittman has also learned and taught how to empower the body and mind through the interesting art of yoga, both of the Hatha and Nidra styles.

George Quasha, poet, artist and publisher, is the creator of the "Art Is" and "Myth Is" projects. He is the author of several published books of poetry including *Somapoetics*, *Word-Yum*, *Giving the Lily Back Her Hands*, *Ainu Dreams* and the forthcoming works of Axial Poetics—*In No Time* and *The Preverbs of Tell: News Torqued from Undertime*. His visual art works have appeared in books and periodicals and in art shows. Also with Charles Stein, he has written numerous dialogical works, including three recent books: *Hand Heard/Liminal Objects: Gary Hill's Projective Installations—Number 1*; *Tall Ships: Gary Hill's Projective Installations —Number 2* and *Viewer: Gary Hill's Projective Installations—Number 2*.

Arsenio Rodriguez is secretary general of the Alliance for a New Humanity (ANH), which connects a global compassionate citizenry that influences policies that are closer to the true principles of life. ANH creates a critical mass of peace consciousness and projects a new narrative that fully recognizes the oneness of humanity. Prior to joining ANH, Rodriguez did development work with the United Nations and the World Bank.

Gayle Ross is a direct descendant of John Ross, chief of the Cherokee nation during the infamous "Trail of Tears" relocation. Through stories she learned from her grandmother, Ross has been telling her people's myths and legends at schools, colleges and festivals across the United States. Ross is a master storyteller who can provoke laughter with trickster tales (*How Rabbit Tricked Otter and Other Cherokee Trickster Stories*) or move listeners to tears with haunting Cherokee creation myths. The National Council of Traditional Arts has included Ross in two tours, and she was chosen by Vice President Al Gore – and later the White House, the Kennedy Center and the Library of Congress – to present the Native American tale. In 1995, Ross was featured in a two-hour segment of the documentary, *How The West Was Won*, on Discovery Channel. Ross's voice may be heard telling stories on National Public Radio programs such as *Living On The Earth* and *Mountain Stage*.

Cheryl Sanders-Sardello, Ph. D., specializes in the spiritual psychology of the senses. She has worked as an addiction counselor and a teacher in public agencies, as well as being in private practice for 28 years. She co-founded programs in perinatal intervention in Dallas, Texas, and conducts workshops on forming community coalitions for women and minority groups for health and human services. Her published children's stories serve as guides for teaching about AIDS and substance abuse. She conducts workshops for faculties and parents dealing with teaching about abuse, violence, AIDS and addictive behavior. She has published in the area of sensory awareness for children and for adults, publishing extensively on the sense of movement in children and play as an important indicator of this sense.

Robert Sardello is co-director of the School of Spiritual Psychology. He is a faculty member of the Dallas [Texas] Institute of Humanities and Culture and the Chalice of Repose Project in Missoula, Montana, as well as a former chairman of the Department of Psychology at the University of Dallas. As an independent teacher and scholar, his body of work is unique. He developed a spiritual psychology based in the spiritual science of Rudolf Steiner. Sardello is the author of several books including *Facing the World with Soul*, *Love and the World*, *Freeing the Soul from Fear* and, most recently, *The Power of Soul: Living the Twelve Virtues*. He is the author of some 150 articles in scholarly journals and cultural magazines.

Daniel Schene has been heard as a recitalist, concert soloist, chamber musician and accompanist across the United States and Canada, and in France, Italy, Turkey, Greece, Chile, Brazil and Asia. Recent performances have included four appearances at the International Chamber Music Festival of Brazil, a recital at the Salle Cortot in Paris, and the Beethoven Fourth Concerto in St. Louis. In demand as a teacher as well as a performer, Schene has been artist in residence and director of keyboard studies at Webster University since 1983. He is a founding faculty member of the Indiana University Summer Academy and of the Institute for Advanced Vocal Studies in Paris, France. Schene records for CRI Records.

Karen Shaffer is an arts/education/cultural events advocate and promoter (ArtsHouse), as well as partner in Green Man Press. She started her career at a Madison Avenue ad agency in New York City, then left to become a editor/personal assistant for a variety of publishers and authors. Before a serious car accident in 1998, she worked tirelessly to convert an old school building into a regional arts center, now an affiliate of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Now Schaeffer has a goal to return to her mandolin playing as medical research for spinal cord injuries progresses (thank you, Christopher Reeve). For three years, she co-produced the Good Goddess Arts Exhibition, a series of poetry, music and arts events celebrating Women's History Month, and she is active on the board of directors for the Appalachian Independence Center, working for people with disabilities. With her husband Charles Vess, she was co-curator of "Ancient Spirit, Modern Voice: The Mythic Journeys Art Exhibition" in 2004.

Anita Sharpe is co-founder of *Worthwhile Magazine*, a new national publication focused on passionate, purposeful, meaningful work. She was a Pulitzer Prize-winning writer for *The Wall Street Journal*, where her coverage spanned the media and entertainment industries to health care. Before that, as editor-in-chief of *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, she helped increase that publication's circulation nearly ten-fold and helped build it into one of the largest circulated, most respected and most profitable business journals in America. Under her direction, the publication twice won the national Gerald Loeb Award, the highest honor in financial journalism, and was a finalist for that award on three other occasions.

Delia Sherman, Ph.D., is the president of the Interstitial Arts Foundation, a member of the Endicott Studio for the Mythic Arts, an editor and an award-winning author of numerous mythic short stories, the young adult novel *The Freedom Maze*, and the novels, *Through a Brazen Mirror* and *The Porcelain Dove*. Sherman is also the co-author, with her partner Ellen Kushner, of *The Fall of the Kings*.

Taije Silverman is the 2005-2007 Creative Writing Fellow in Poetry at Emory University. She holds a BA in English from Vassar and an MFA in poetry from the University of Maryland. Her poems have been published in *Pleiades*, *Ploughshares* and *Poetry* and merited fellowships from the MacDowell Colony and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Her poem, "To Keep What I Love" (published in *Poetry*, April, 2004) may be read on her Emory University Website

Midori Snyder has published six acclaimed books of fiction for adults including a lyrical adult fairy tale titled *Soulstring*; three "imaginary world" novels known as the *Oran Trilogy*—*New Moon*, *Sadar's Keep*, *Beldane's Fire*; *The Flight of Michael McBride*; *The Innamorati*; and *Hannah's Garden*. Her short fiction has been published in numerous anthologies. Her essay, "The Monkey Girl," appeared in *Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: Women Writers Explore Their Favorite Fairy Tales*. In addition to writing, Snyder makes masks for theater and friends, plays classical mandolin (and Celtic folk music after enough whiskey), and trains regularly in Shotokan karate. The latter disciplines are evident in her popular tales for the Borderland "punk fantasy" series—"Demon," "Alison Gross," and "Dragon Child."

Sobonfu Somé, author and teacher and one of the foremost voices in African spirituality to come to west, says that: "There is a deep longing among people in the West to connect with something bigger—with community and spirit. People know there is something missing in their lives, and believe that the rituals and ancient ways of the village offer some answers." Somé, whose name means "keeper of the rituals" travels the world on a healing mission sharing the rich spiritual life, ritual and culture of her native land, Burkina Faso, which ranks as one of the world's poorest countries, yet one of the richest in spiritual life and custom. Somé has written two books, *The Spirit of Intimacy* and *Welcoming Spirit Home*, her newest offering which draws on rituals and practices involving community, birth miscarriage and children. Filled with grace and eloquence, Somé possesses a charm and modesty that enables her to touch her audience deeply. Her message about the importance of spirit, community and ritual in our lives rings with an intuitive power and truth that Alice Walker has said "can help us put together so many things that our modern western world has broken."

David Spangler is best known for his work as co-director and spokesperson for the Findhorn Community in northern Scotland. He has lectured widely on spiritual philosophy, personal development, futures studies, and community development. Spangler's books include *Parent as Mystic, Mystic as Parent; Blessing, the Art and Practice; Reimagination of the World: A Critique of the New Age, Science, and Popular Culture* (which he co-authored with William Irwin Thompson); *The Call; Manifestation: Shaping the Life You Love*; and, most recently, *The Story Tree*. Spangler is a founder and director of The Lorian Association and through that organization and its Web site, www.Lorian.org, currently teaches both online and face-to-face courses on incarnational spirituality.

Robert Swan's dream began at the age of 11. Inspired by Captain Robert Falcon Scott's voyages to the last great wilderness on earth, Swan went on to make his own mark as an explorer — becoming the first person in history to walk to both poles. His expeditions convinced him that a positive message involving the world of industry, business and commerce — with young people and the environment — was the only way forward. Swan was awarded the Polar Medal by H.M. Queen Elizabeth II. In 1989 he was appointed United Nations Goodwill Ambassador with Special Responsibility for Youth. The Robert Swan Foundation is a registered charity for the promotion of youth and scientific endeavor in the environment.

Charles Vess is an exceptional fantasy artist whose work graces book covers (such as Charles de Lint's *Tapping the Dream Tree*) and graphic novels including *The Sandman*, *Stardust*, *The Book of Ballads and Sagas* and many more. His most recent works includes illustrations for two Charles de Lint stories, *Seven Wild Sisters* and *A Circle of Cats*. Vess and his wife, Karen Shaffer, served as curators of "Ancient Spirit, Modern Voice: The Mythic Journeys Art Exhibition" in 2004.

Three Weird Sisters are Mary Crowell, Ph. D. (keyboards), Brenda Sutton (award-winning singer/songwriter on guitar and bodhrán), and Teresa Powell (3/4 upright bass), who weave tight harmonies with mythic themes. These "sisters by choice," if not blood, are dynamic, engaging performers who embrace topics ranging from rites of passage to Arthurian legend to computer romance. The Sisters' successful CD, *Rite the First Time*, debuted in 2001 and quickly became the best-selling recording in their genre followed by *Hair of the Frog* in 2004. They return to the recording studio this summer to create *Third Time's a Charm*.

Terri Windling is a writer, folklorist and consulting editor for Tor Books. She is best known for her editorial work in the field of fantasy literature, where she has long been a passionate advocate of mythic fiction. She has published over 40 books, including *The Wood Wife*, *The Winter Child*, the six-volume *Snow White, Blood Red* series and *The Armless Maiden* —as well as short stories, children's fiction and the annual *Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* volumes. Her essays on myth, fairy tales and art have appeared in *Realms of Fantasy* magazine: *Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: Women Writers Explore Their Favorite Fairy Tales* (Expanded Edition); *Meditations on Middle-Earth*; and *Fées*. She has won six World Fantasy Awards and the 1997 Mythopoeic Award for Novel of the Year. Windling creates "folkloric" paintings, inspired by myth, fairy tales and women's history, which have been exhibited in galleries and museums in the U.S. and abroad. In 1987, Windling created the Endicott Studio, and in 2001, she co-created Endicott West (an arts retreat in Arizona) with Ellen Kushner and Delia Sherman. She is a founding member of the Interstitial Arts Foundation.

Tom Blue Wolf is the founder and director of EarthKeepers & Company, a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating people of all ages on the importance of relationship with the earth and each other. He is a charter member of the World Council of Elders and The Indigenous Healers Association, and he travels the world teaching workshops, conducting ceremonies and inspiring hearts with the message of peace and harmony with "All Our Relations." He is a board member of several local, regional and national environmental organizations and active in many roles with youth programs around the country. He is a Native American spiritual guide, tribal ambassador, peacemaker and faithkeeper, as well as a musician, artist, herbalist, naturopath, environmentalist, author and lecturer.

Robert Walter is executive director of the Joseph Campbell Foundation, a position he has held since its inception in 1990. In 1979, Walter began to work on several projects with Joseph Campbell, who subsequently named him editorial director of his *Historical Atlas of World Mythology*. He continues to oversee the publication of Campbell's oeuvre, including the video series *Joseph Campbell's Mythos* and the Joseph Campbell Audio Collection. Walter was a founding trustee of United Religions Initiative (URI) and has served that organization as treasurer and as a member of its Global Council.

Sue Wooten has served as an environmental professional and community leader for more than 20 years. She is currently the executive director of a regional office for The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, as well as founder and coordinator for the Southeast Earth Institute, which is a "connecting place" for many of the organizations, initiatives, programs and projects that are committed to an ecological spirituality. Wooten is a past president of The Georgia Environmental Council and co-founder of a local Land Trust. At present, she is pursuing an M.A. in religion and ecology at Loyola University in New Orleans.

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