

Revealing the Intersections: Theater, Mythology, and Cross-Cultural Psychology in Creative Expression

Authors : Nadia K. Thalji

Abstract : In the timeless tapestry of human culture, theater, mythology, and psychology intersect to weave narratives that transcend temporal and spatial boundaries. For millennia, actors have stood as guardians of intuitive wisdom, their craft serving as a conduit for the collective unconscious. This paper embarks on a journey through the realms of creative expression, melding the insights of cross-cultural psychology with the mystical allure of serendipity and synchronicity. At the nexus of these disciplines lies the enigmatic process of active imagination, a gateway to the depths of the psyche elucidated by Jung. Within the hallowed confines of the black box theater at the Department of Performing Arts, UFRGS University in Brazil, this study unfolds. Over the span of four months, a cadre of artists embarked on a voyage of exploration, harnessing the powers of imagery, movement, sound, and dreams to birth a performance that resonated with the echoes of ancient wisdom. Drawing inspiration from the fabled Oracle of Delphi and the priestesses who once dwelled within its sacred precincts, the production delves into the liminal spaces where myth and history intertwine. Through the alchemy of storytelling, participants navigate the labyrinthine corridors of cultural memory, unraveling the threads that bind the past to the present. Central to this endeavor is the phenomenon of synchronicity, wherein seemingly disparate elements coalesce in a dance of cosmic resonance. Serendipity becomes a guiding force, leading actors and audience alike along unexpected pathways of discovery. As the boundaries between performer and spectator blur, the performance becomes a crucible wherein individual narratives merge to form a collective tapestry of shared experience. Yet, beneath the surface of spectacle lies a deeper truth: the exploration of the spiritual dimensions of artistic expression. Through intuitive inquiry and embodied practice, artists tap into reservoirs of insight that transcend rational comprehension. In the communion of minds and bodies, the stage becomes a sacred space wherein the numinous unfolds in all its ineffable glory. In essence, this paper serves as a testament to the transformative power of the creative act. Across cultures and epochs, the theater has served as a crucible wherein humanity grapples with the mysteries of existence. Through the lens of cross-cultural psychology, we glimpse the universal truths that underlie the myriad manifestations of human creativity. As we navigate the turbulent currents of modernity, the wisdom of the ancients beckons us to heed the call of the collective unconscious. In the synthesis of myth and meaning, we find solace amidst the chaos, forging connections that transcend the boundaries of time and space. And in the sacred precincts of the theater, we discover the eternal truth that art is, and always shall be, the soul's journey into the unknown.

Keywords : theater, mythology, cross-cultural, synchronicity, creativity, serendipity, spiritual

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