

Director's Notes

This is not a traditional play... and I hesitate to call myself the playwright of something i wrote while sleeping! This is a multidisciplinary piece, where text, choreography, music and video staging are equal partners in the 'writing 'of the work. I also share credit for the direction with my team, who see the work a lot better than I do from the stage. In this work, with 3 video projectors and a lot of painstaking work, my team and I have attempted to stage the seemingly un-sharable experience of dreaming.

I've always been attentive to my dreams, as though they might hold secret messages to help me get through life. I have used dreams (quite literally) in several pieces, when they've appeared as the missing links I needed to and the core of the work. I've always known that dreaming guides me in the way I structure my work.

Pillow Talk, an essay on dreaming is built on a collection of real dreams recorded in a Dictaphone tucked under my pillow. it is a (true) story about how we cope with life's challenges every night, when our inner theatre's curtain rises. Comedies and tragedies in every style imaginable come to us (for free!) to tickle us out of our troubles or shake us to the core. We are surprisingly funny, violent, pitiful or courageous...we are complete artists; we can even create God.

Whether we remember them or not, whether we can make sense out of them or not, dreams are at the heart of our capacity to create, to think, to learn, and to survive. But why do we have to tell ourselves crazy stories each night in order to survive?

I can't answer that question. What i can do is portray how our dreaming selves deal with the obstacles we all face, with our innate sense of metaphor and poetry. it's as if we each had an inner therapist, asking: haven't we seen this before? Not the same, but similar...how did we deal with this the last time? i believe this therapist also visits us when we 'identify' with a work of art.

In these tumultuous times (aren't we always in tumultuous times?) i feel a need to plunge deep into myself – and take you all with me – into a kind of collective unconscious. if real change comes from within, this is my latest attempt to foster positive change. At the very least, i wish you all the sweetest of dreams!

Dulcinea Langfelder