

Alderney Performing Arts Festival 2018

Ragga Gudrun's storytelling sessions

Saturday 26th May 2018 – Taste of Iceland - Evening meal & performance with after supper storytelling

Loki – the trickster god and his legacy:

Loki is the father of the three horrid beasts, that have been prophesied to fight with the giants in the terrible battle at the end of the world according to Norse mythology.

Loki is the catalyst god, the one who lands the other gods in trouble and rescues them out again. If he hadn't cunningly become blood brother with Odin back in the day, he probably would have come to a sticky end much sooner.

There is a prophecy by the seeress about the end of the world.

Towards the end of the world, the Norse gods will have become ill tempered and disengaged. They take their eyes off the world, and a great winter will hit their people. It will not be like any normal winter. When winter should finish, it will not cease to be cold. The winter will continue, crops will fail and there will be a great famine.

What will follow is Ragnarok – the terrible battle at the end of the world, where Loki and his awful children return to fight with the giants against the gods. The great wolf beast, son of Loki, swallows the sun, throwing the earth into permanent darkness and the venomous sea serpent poisons all marine life...

Then the world falls asleep, and it will be asleep for a very long time. Until a new dawn arises...

Sunday 27th May 2018 – Icelandic Landscapes, midday storytelling

2 stories from Norse mythology:

The story of the ogre Thrym, who stole Thor's hammer, Mjollnir, and refused to give it back unless Freya, the beautiful goddess of the earth, came to live with him in the land of the giants.

How Odin, father of the gods, stole the mead of the poets. The mead was made with dark magic by evil dwarfs, who concocted it from the blood of Kvasir, the wisest of the gods.

How the story of the mead of the poets is interwoven with the Icelandic psyche.