

# THE MOURNING SHOW

## In Loving Memory....

Music, Words & Direction: **Ergo Phizmiz**

Design & Video: **Ergo Phizmiz, Vulnavia Vanity, Martha Moopette & The Travelling Mongoose**

Puppeteer: **Vulnavia Vanity**



Featuring:

Chris Evans: **Erik Bumbledonk,**

The Plague Doctor: **Ergo Phizmiz**

The Callers: **Martha Moopette, Lucinda Guy and Margita Zalite.**

**Genesis:** There are those who believe in the coming of the Zoroastrian demon Ahriman, using modern technology as his vessel for arrival.

*The Mourning Show* is the story of the coming of this demon, live on Chris Evans BBC Radio 2 morning show.

**Synopsis** – Early one winter morning, in the middle of a big-freeze, DJ and broadcaster Chris Evans turns up at BBC Broadcasting House for his regular early morning radio show. Due to the abominable weather, he missed his breakfast, but luckily picked up a banana on the way out. Upon eating, however, he reflects that banana is not a “winter warmer”.

This becomes the theme of his show that day. The public are requested to call and offer up their own ‘Winter Warmer’ recipes.

Awaiting the telephone, Chris reflects upon the recent pandemic of turkey flu, how the sudden onset of the cold seems to have greatly reduced the death toll of late. His first caller, Martha, a demure but slightly sarcastic young lady, gives a rundown of her favourite celery recipes. It appears this otherwise thoroughly balanced girl has something of a worrying obsession with this particular vegetable.



The phone rings a second time. The remarkable Lucinda is on the line, a taxidermist, a dancer, a local MP. She recounts her winter warmer recipe, taking her choice spices, laying them out methodically on the kitchen side, putting her hands into them, and moving her hands about.

A third caller, called Margo. Her winter warmer turns out to be consuming black pudding in every orifice and across the whole surface of her body.

We come to the Quiz. Chris's question cards begin to malfunction, repeating questions, nonsense questions, personal questions. His callers taunt him, mock him. Chris loses his temper, but has lost communication with the control room.

The callers begin to bring Chris into a state of trance, singing in the Enochian language of the angels to an increasingly ornithological Evans, who is overcome with the desire to be a bird, and plummets out of the fourth-storey window.

**Ergo Phizmiz** is an excessively productive odd fellow. Over the past ten years he's produced over 300 hours of music across radio, albums, theatre, installations, film, and multimedia, and is sadly showing no signs of stopping. His work is disseminated on a regular basis internationally, meaning that people all around the world are blocking their ears and pulling faces. Often sports a moustache.

**Erik Bumbledonk** is an actor, writer and composer. He has performed extensively, most recently at Prague Festival and the Edinburgh Fringe. Finds bottoms amusing. Growing increasingly tired of always making people laugh, he decided it was time to star in an Ergo Phizmiz comedy.

**Martha Moopette** makes stop-motion films, ceramics, and objects, occasionally singing when such occasion arises. Her film work has been screened in venues across the UK, plus internationally Cherbourg, Tokyo, Brussels, and St Petersburg. She looks great with a line-moustache, and has won awards and things!

**Lucinda Guy** exploited a brief spell teaching tambourine-based family music workshops to gain a place at the recently killed-off "school for adventure", Dartington College of Arts. She dubiously graduated in contemporary music by singing 'O for the Wings of a Dove' and 'Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair'.

**Margita Zalite** is a very curious girl from Latvia. She spent some time of her life in Siberia and Greenland, where the locals fell in love with her. Early work as speechwriter for the Latvian minister of culture and as an editor for Latvian National TV, with recent works leading to scholarships in Paris, Copenhagen and Berlin.

**Vulnavia Vanity** is an artist, deconstructor of dolls, musician, and actor. His personal taste in items of clothing is second to none, and he regularly scandalises the streets of the abominable small town where he lives.

Ergo Phizmiz is represented internationally by Care in the Community Recordings.