

CALENDAR

LOS ANGELES TIMES

KRAIG GRADY: The Stolen Stars

This year's Microfest ends with the latest mythical myth from L.A. microtonal composer Kraig Grady. Mysterious shadow puppets enact a story involving divine wars that threaten the universe and shatter a star, which must then be reassembled — kind of a cosmic celebrity rehab. Battles engaged on such a universal scale must embody a slower and grander process, and the music reflects this: twinklings, eternal drones and deliberate hammerings whose harmonies vibrate gently inside your very cells. Though the setting is conflict, the effect is peaceful; if you bring home the CD, you'll have a calming tool you can use to synchronize yourself with a greater order. Microtonal music, in fact, has an advantage over our standard 12-tone scale, in that the vibrations may be tuned to our natural resonances — the sound can respond to us as well as the other way around. Grady has accumulated many years' practice in finding the right intervals and building his own metallophones, organs and stringed instruments to play them, and he and his ensemble will make sure you get the message/massage. Black Cat Gallery, 11523 Washington Blvd., Culver City, Fri.-Sun., May 23-25, and Sat.-Sun., May 31-June 1, 8:30 p.m. (310) 313-4931.

---Greg Burk

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2003 E45

Expanded listings

Find more things to do, plus maps and other details on The Times' Web site. Click on www.calendarlive.com/listings.

good-versus-evil tale, coming to us courtesy of composer Kraig Grady's Shadow Theater of Anaphoria, will close the fourth annual MicroFest microtonal music festival. Starring and assembled by Grady, Whitney Arnold, Erin Barnes, Geoffrey Brandin, Tim Ottman, Rick Potts and Rainbow Underhill, the drama depicts, say the creators, "a traditional Anaphoria myth on the origin of the Dark Bands of the Milky Way." Princess Aurora, the ruler of Anaphoria, sets on to retrieve the Star of Orientation, which has mysteriously disappeared from the Anaphorian sky. But her perilous journey means she has to confront the evil Dr. Pestimon and his cohorts. Stay tuned (C.P.). Black Cat Gallery, 11523 Washington Blvd., Culver City. Fri., Sat., next Sun., May 31 and June 1, 8:30 p.m. \$10, (310) 313-4931.

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"The Stolen Stars" This imaginative