

## Holy Fool Arts

<http://holyfoolarts.org>

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Holy Fool Arts** and \_\_\_\_\_ your organization \_\_\_\_\_ present an evening of Ceremonial Theater at \_\_\_\_\_ location \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ time \_\_\_\_\_.

Holy Fool Arts is coming through the area along their summer tour, when they will be performing *Wade Through Deep Water* and other theatrical offerings for dozens of church communities across the country.

Holy Fool Arts is a theatrical production company bridging the worlds of faith, art, and activism. As faith-rooted artists of the Judeo Christian tradition, spiritual activists, and justice advocates, they are inspired by the ancient vision at the heart of the world's spiritual traditions of human life in harmony with the rest of creation. Their three main projects are: *Leaps & Bounds*, a one woman show that exposes the ecological costs of our growth-oriented economy; *Beast*, a blues-infused theatrical music project that unearths the cultural significance of plants and animals within various spiritual traditions; and *The Carnival de Resistance*, a traveling arts carnival with outreach and education initiatives, including an eco-village demonstration project. While they are most known for producing the *Carnival de Resistance*, they have a number of programs to offer this summer, including pieces of ceremonial theater that recontextualize stories from scripture in the light of current ecological issues around resource extraction and water. One of these pieces, *Wade Through Deep Water*, has been featured for the last four years within the *Carnival de Resistance*. Now, you are able to experience this theatrical offering without having to make the trek to the annual *Carnival* residency...

*Wade Through Deep Water* introduces two prophets, Miriam and John the Baptist, whose water-logged lives kept them swimming in transformation. Weaving poetry from Catholic mystic Thomas Merton and Jewish feminist Alicia Suskin Ostriker with beautiful storytelling, high energy song and dance numbers, live music, dramatic characters, and large silk props, all are invited into the grief of the divine feminine and journey toward reunion with this aspect of God. Miriam remembers scheming by the Nile in a conspiracy of women who saved baby Moses (Ex 2:1–10). Her body sings a song of deliverance and the people follow her, yet we also lament her fate to endure solitary confinement in the desert and later “die in a dry place” (Ex 15:20–21, Num 12, Num 20:1–2). Miriam's struggle speaks to the reality that privatized water and desertification *are consequences of ignoring the voice of the divine feminine*. Meanwhile, John the Baptist calls all to a “dirty baptism,” because all the water is dirty and threatened. With fierce love, he calls for repentance, challenges us to abandon false hopes about technological saviors, and helps us feel the pain of the water. Surrounding the performance is a participatory ceremony including poetic reflection, ritual and dialogue about local watershed issues.

For more information, check out their website: <https://holyfoolarts.org/ceremonial-theater/>