

TREASURE LANGUAGE STORYTELLING

Brown's Mart Theatre, Darwin ~ 7:30pm Saturday 22 October 2016

Invocation: **Buwan, bundok, dagat, lupa** (Tagalog) – *Christian Ramilo*

Moon and mountain, wooing

Sea and shore, courting

The people slumber

Lovers dream

Moon, mountain, sea, shore

Offer joy and peace

Will you accept?

Will it last?

Welcome

– *Steven Bird*

Ayiye fe nu dzi dzi (Ewe) – Ananse's Search



Ewe is a language of Ghana, from the Niger-Congo language family. Ananse folklore is widespread in Africa and the Caribbean. It tells of a mythical spider called Kwakou ("Wednesday") Ananse who is the guardian of all stories. Ananse is a trickster and Ananse's stories require thought as they never mean what they appear to mean. Kwame

Selormey, our storyteller, comes from the Volta region of Ghana, where he grew up listening to stories as a way of unpacking the lessons of yesterday, and informing the morals of today and tomorrow.

"Kwame" means Saturday (the day he was born). Kwame serves as CEO of Melaleuca Refugee Centre.

Greeting: **Misegli segli lo** *Listen to the story I bring*

Response: **Egli ne va** *Let the story come forward*

Listen: *ayiyie~spider, mawu~god, janta~tiger, eda~snake, aseye~celebration, nudu du~food*

Tír na nÓg (Irish) – The Land of Eternal Youth



Irish is the official and national language of the Republic of Ireland. It is a Celtic language, spoken daily by about 75,000 people. Most speakers live in protected regions in the west of Ireland, known as Gaeltacht areas. Tír na nÓg is a tale from Irish mythology that tells the story of Oisín, a warrior and poet, who falls in love with Niamh. She is a beautiful goddess from Tír na nÓg, a land where nobody grows old.

Our storyteller, Teresa Lynn, is a researcher of language technology at Dublin City University in Ireland.

Greeting: **Dia dhaoibh** *God be with you all*

Response: **Dia is Muire duit** *God and Mary be with you*

Listen: *fadó~a long time ago, álainn~beautiful, croí~heart, póg~kiss, fág~leave, Éirinn~Ireland*

Hinihintay (Tagalog) – Waiting



Tagalog is the main language of the Philippines. Our storyteller, Christian Ramilo, has worked in the arts for over 30 years. He co-founded several multicultural music and theatre groups since migrating to Australia in 1986, and continues his explorations of the relationships of people, place, art, design, culture, community, diversity, and technology at Darwin Community Arts (DCA), where he is Executive Officer. Christian's songwriting is inspired by progressive and traditional songs from the Philippines, Nueva Cancion from Latin America, and other traditions that sing of people's lives, and imagine a different and better world.

Listen: Hinihintay~*waiting*, paggawa~*labor*, nagmamadali~*rushing*, gamot~*medicine*, panganay~*firstborn*, ubo~*cough*

Mwana mume ali kuwa na wana wake wawili na mtoto m' moja (Swahili) – The man who had two wives and one child



Swahili is a Bantu language, and the lingua franca of East and Southeast Africa. Safi Sango, our storyteller, was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo. When she was 9, her family fled to Malawi where they lived in Dzaleka refugee camp. Safi heard this story from her grade 4 teacher. Safi came to Darwin with her family in May, and she attends Darwin High School.

Greeting: **Jambo**

Response: **Jambo sana**

Listen: ndige~*bird*, wake wawili~*wives*, ganda la tunda~*fruit peel*

Language Champion Panel

Close

A big thank-you to tonight's storytellers! Special thanks to our organising committee, Andrea Van Der Werf, Hannah Harper, John Nyamusara and Jim McDougall, to the team at Brown's Mart, and to our supporting organisations. Thanks also to Richa Pant and Jenny Jenkinson. Photos and videos from tonight's show will be posted on treasurelanguage.org. Treasure Language Storytelling is an initiative of the Aikuma Project, led by Steven Bird and Robyn Perry (aikuma.org, facebook.com/AikumaProject)

