

Side-show: Blessed Kateri

Of course, Pope John Paul II stole the show. Ever since he was welcomed by the youth, on Thursday afternoon, he was cheered by the huge crowds, applauded and received many tokens of honor. He was the "father or grandfather" of every one.

At the same time, there was other shows going on, besides the Way of the Cross. Starting Wednesday afternoon, a regular show was given at the Medeival Times Arena, by a group of Frenchmen with Indian participants, all about Kateri Tekakwitha. They had previously spent 11 days in Kahnawake rehearsing for the show, in Kevin Saylor's theatre. One of their main actors from Kahnawake was Donna Jacobs who helped so much to give an Indian touch to the musical show.

The production came from the talents of Daniel and Anne Facerias, from Lourdes, France. They are well known for having performed in so many countries. With a small budget they succeeded in putting on a fine show which was seen by thousands of young people.

Here's the synopsis of the show: the Indians encounter some foreigners for the first time. The Frenchmen received a very respectful welcome. The Indians found in these newcomers, especially in the missionaries, the presence of the great Spirit whom they had lost. Then because of the fur trade, there was a lot of rivalry between the French, Dutch and British.

Hot Ashes is taken up by this great Spirit and he narrates how a little girl is born, just about losing her eyesight because of small-pox. She also was possessed by the Spirit, her Algonquin mother being a Catholic. Her lover was Jesus crucified. She had to flee secretly to Laprairie where she meets some of her mothers friends who protect her. Finally because of Kateri and the missionaries, reconciliation and peace are obtained. Whites and Indians dance together.

In his homilies, the Pope alluded twice to Blessed Kateri, a model for the youth. A young Indian girl and a boy came on the stage to testify how Kateri guides them and inspires them.

Before his departure the Pope invited a few groups to thank them for having contributed to the WYD in a special way. Amongst these, a few Indians. Loyd Philipps from Kahnawake offered His Holiness an Indian gift. The Pope said: "I wish before all to greet the young Indians who come from the region where Blessed Kateri lived. Rightly you call her "kaiatanoron", a very noble and dignified person. May she be for you all, a model showing you how young Christians can be the salt and light of the world.

What encouraging propoganda for the Cause of Blessed Kateri!

What hope it gives us for her canonization!

Jacques Bruyère s.j.

Kateri Musical Play at the WYD in Toronto

Invitation leaflet

Présente

Kateri Tekakwitha

Un spectacle de Daniel Facérias
A show from Daniel Facérias

July 24 (1pm-5pm)
July 25 (1pm)
July 26 (1pm)

**Au Medieval Times Arena
(Toronto)**



XVII^e Journée Mondiale de la jeunesse
XVIIth world youth day
Entrée gratuite

Kateri : 1656-1680

La bienheureuse Kateri Tekakwitha, surnommée «Le Lys des agniers», a vécu la vertu de pureté à un degré héroïque au milieu des persécutions de son peuple.

Elle était aussi fidèle que les étoiles du firmament et progressait dans la vie spirituelle comme le cerf se hâtant vers les sources d'eau vive. D'une foi profonde et d'un amour personnel pour le Christ qu'elle appelait son «Amant», elle avait une dévotion profonde à la Vierge Marie, qui remplaçait sa maman de la terre. À sa mort, son visage marqué par la petite vérole s'est transformé et rayonnait d'une beauté angélique, à ravir les missionnaires et les Iroquois de Kahnawake.

1656 : naissance d'une Algonquienne Mohawk à Osserion (Aurieuville).
5 Avril 1676 : baptême de Kateri le jour de Pâques, à la Mission Saint-Pierre.
5 avril 1680 : mort de Kateri (24 ans) au Sault-St-Louis.
3 janvier 1943 : elle est proclamée Vénérable par Pie XII.
22 juin 1980 : Kateri est déclarée Bienheureuse par Jean-Paul II à Rome.
Patronne de la Paix et de l'Écologie.

Spectacle

La vie de Kateri s'inscrit dans toute l'aventure missionnaire du nouveau monde, au coeur du Canada amérindien du XVII^e siècle. **60 participants** : 25 de Kahnawake et du Québec, 15 cavaliers du Medieval Times, 20 chanteurs, danseurs et acteurs venus de France pour la JMJ. Kateri vit sa foi chrétienne en artisan de Paix dans la différence et l'accueil évangélique de l'autre... Des scènes d'aventures extérieures et intérieures, des moments poignants et inoubliables.

Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

O God, who, among the many marvels of your Grace in the New World, did cause to blossom on the banks of the Mohawk and of the St-Lawrence, the pure and tender Lily, Kateri Tekakwitha, grant, we beseech You, the favor ye beg through her intercession, that this young lover of Jesus and of his Cross may soon be counted among the Saints by Holy Mother Church, and that our hearts may be enkindled with a stronger desire to imitate her innocence and faith. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen
1 Our father, 1 hail Mary and 3 Glory be to the Father

Canada Centre Kateri, C.P. 70, Kahnawake, Qc J0L 1B0 Tél : (450) 632-6030 Tél : (450) 638-1546	France Production du Grand Large 8 chemin de la Côte 65 380 Ossun-Lourdes Tél : (01133) 562.32.89.47 Télé : (01133) 562.32.72.56 Email : grandlarge.production@libertysurf.fr
---	--

Remerciements à : JMJ, Centre Kateri, Mission St-François Xavier, Medieval Times Arena, Tim Guénard, Rany Olibet, Donna Jacobs... et toute l'équipe d'acteurs, danseurs et figurants. Paroisse Saint-Louis de France, Jean Léon Laffite, théâtre de Kahnawake.