Amos Comenius Memorial
Innuinuit
Hopedale

presents

"MY BLUE HEAVEN"

CAST

Caribou man/announcer ----------Johnny Tuglavina
Tshakapesh ----------Andrew Karpik
Sedna ----------Susan Nochasak
Tornrak/Professor ----------David Nochasak
Fox ----------Wayne Piercey
Nanuk ----------Junior Pijogge

CREW

Spot ----------George Winters
Lights ----------Tiny Boase

TEACHER

Bill Wheaton





Nukum Mani Shan School
Innuinuit
Davis Inlet

presents

"MY BLUE HEAVEN"

CAST

Innu woman ----------Nora Mistenapeo
Innu woman ----------Martyne Rich
Pilot 1 ----------Ben Rich
Pilot 2 ----------Jeffrey Piwas
Pilot 3 ----------John Tshakapesh
Pilot 4 ----------Clarence Nui
Pilot 5 ----------Frank Dicker
Bartender ----------Mary Ann Piwas

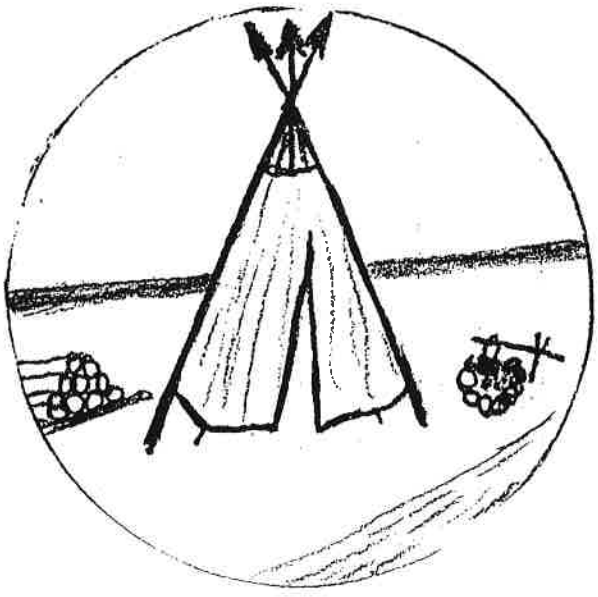
CREW

Special Effects ----------Ben Rich
Lights ----------Jeffrey Piwas

TEACHER

Lou Byrne

Peenamin Mckenzie







Scene 1

THEME music: "My Blue Heaven"

SPOTLIGHT

ANNOUNCER WALKS OUT INTO THE SPOTLIGHT

ANNOUNCER: Good evening ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys of all ages...
Welcome to Goose High School and to the 1989 Creative Arts Festival.

Tonite we're very fortunate to have as our guest visitor, the world famous historian, Professor Nochasak

As most of you are probably aware, Professor Nochasak is a Labradorian. He was born in Hopedale, and completed his high school education there. When he was going to school in Hopedale he was involved with the very famous native troupe, Innuinuit... through his association with them, he became interested in the history and legends of the native people of the north. Professor Nochasak obtained his Masters Degree at Memorial University in St. John's, and went on to further studies at Harvard University, where he recieved his PHD.

Professor Nochasak has just returned from the Circumpolar Conference in Greenland, and has kindly consented to attend the Creative Arts Festival. We hope you will enjoy his lecture, as the legends of the Innu and Inuit unfold before your eyes.

PLEASE GIVE A VERY WARM WELCOME TO PROFESSOR Nochasak



NARRATOR: Good evening ! Good evening ! It's a pleasure to be here in Goose Bay.
This evening I have a story to tell you... a very interesting story indeed.
The story is illustrated by 'Holograms'... as you know, 'Holograms' are produced by laser-beams, which make the images seem life-like.
The 'Holograms were taken as part of my research into ancient native legends.

This story is not only about people, but also about the animals of Northern Labrador.... specifically the spirits of land and sea. The animal spirits of the 1800's were very real to the Innu and Inuit. During the 1900's these spirits evolved into another reality, mythological creatures. Now, in this century, these same animal spirits, are very real again .... heroes to the native peoples of Labrador.

INTRO

PROFESSOR Nochasak walks on slowly .... nods head to audience .... shakes hand of announcer ..... walks over to podium + switches on light .... ruffles through notes and clears throat.



(1) PROFESSOR: The first Halogram that I have to show you tonite is "Sedna, Goddess of the sea".

A long time ago there was a young girl who married a bird, and moved to an island with him. She was very unhappy because the bird treated her badly. One day her father came for a visit and decided to rescue her. They escaped in her father's boat. When the bird discovered they were gone, he created a terrible storm at sea. To save himself, the Father threw his daughter overboard. The woman clung desperately to the sides of the small boat, but her father chopped off her fingers and she sank to the bottom of the sea. The young woman's fingers turned into whales, seals, and walruses, and she herself became a powerful spirit and was feared by everyone.

(2) The second halogram is of Tshakapesh. Tshakapesh, as you may know, was the Innu spirit who a long time ago left earth and climbed a tree until he reached the moon. He became what we know today, as the man who lives in the moon. When the Innu people look up at the sky at night, they say, "There is Tshakapesh"!

The third halogram is of the "Caribou Man" from the Innu legends. It is said that he lives in a place called "Caribou House", somewhere near Ungava Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. Caribou man protects all of the animals and prevents anybody from seeing where the animals live. For indeed, "Caribou Man" is the great "Caribou Spirit".



(4)

The fourth Halogram is of Nanuk, the great white bear. This mighty hunter roamed the artic wasteland, unchallenged by anything, except man.

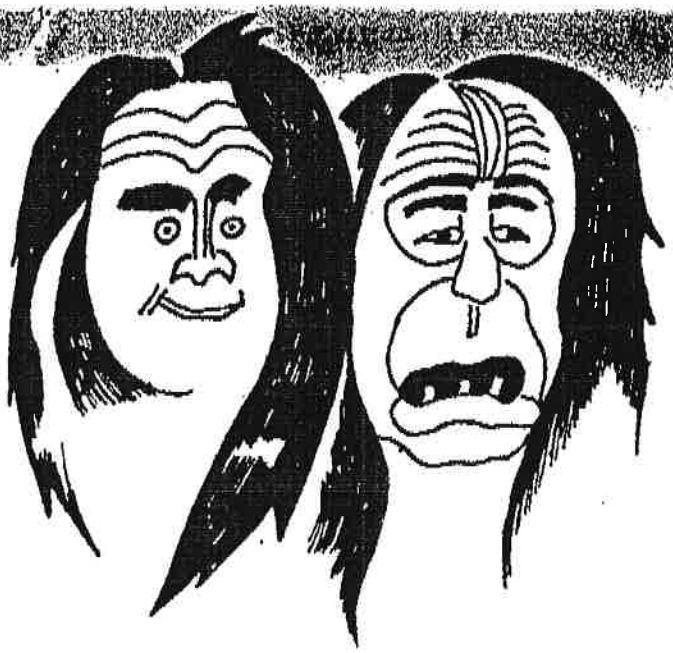
Nanuk was very powerful, and was admired not only for his strength, but for his exceptional intelligence. Nanuk.... king of the the vast frozen seas.

Scene 2
THE HALOGRAMS BECOME ALIVE

Sedna: (1) Something is not right here. The creatures of the ocean are disturbed. Of all the years I spent in the icy cold waters, nothing compares to how I feel now.

Caribou Man: (2) My sister, I feel the same way. The caribou herds are leaving their traditional calving grounds. They are dropping their calves early and the birthrate is getting less. Who dares destroy my animals!

Nanuk: Ahhh! I dreamnt that the hunters of the north were calling me back to test my powers.



Tshakapesh: Brothers! Sisters! For centuries I have been there, up in the moon with my sister and wife. Ever since the day that I climbed the tree to get to that beautiful land, I have never seen so much confusion amongst the people of earth.

Sedna: Strange forces are drawing us together

Tshakapesh: It is time.... time for us to go back before it is too late. We must return to the sky, water and land.

Sedna: We must drive away the demons who have taken the land from the people of the barrens and the coast.

Nanuk: But we all know the power of these demons.... they fly faster than an eagle, and roar louder than the giants.

[redacted] caribou man: Their sound paralizes the caribou so they cannot move. We have never seen anything like this before.

Sedna: I don't understand how a bird can fly so fast, or make such a deafening noise.



Scene 3

Professor: As you can see, our friends are concerned about the welfare of the people of the land. Gigantic birds are invading the earth, and the people have no way to fight against them. The birds made so much noise that the animals were afraid. The animals were so afraid that they did not want to eat or sleep... they began to starve. The spirits of the animals became weak. The people became weak because the animals moved to far places to hide from the gigantic birds... they could not find the animals for food.

PROFESSOR: The problem was that nobody, not the Innu or Inuct, nor the legendary creatures, could understand the power and purposes of these demons from the sky who infested their land.

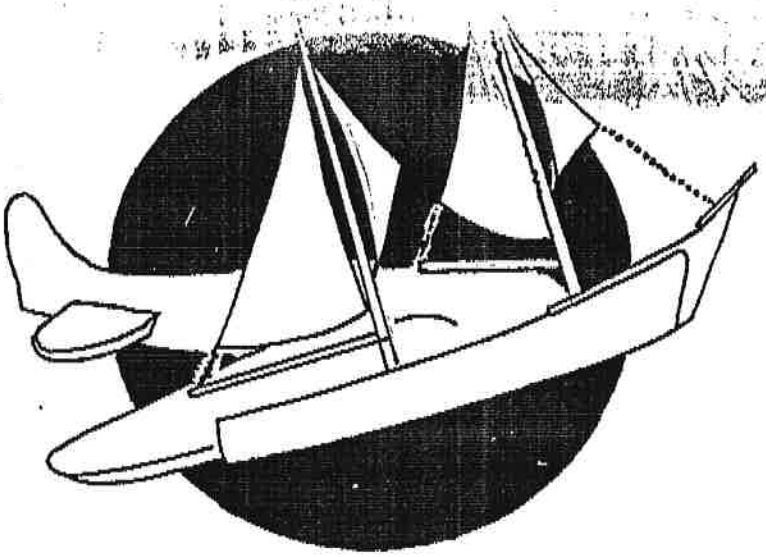
Ladies and Gentlemen, I have another Holagram for you to look at... images of the creatures who control the powerful birds.



Scene 4

While the Professor proceeds with the narration, the spirits move off stage, while the demon-pilots come on stage. A 'mime' takes place, characterizing military personnel at a pub drinking beer.

Narration begins again while demon/pilots move off stage, and spirits return.



Scene 5

SEDNA, CARIBOU MAN, NANUK, TSHAKAPESH

CARIBOU MAN: Just look around. Everything is dieing. Look at those caribou over there. Years ago I would have been able to get close to them... but now, I don't think that they even know me!

TSHAKAPESH: It is hard to imagine that one time I used to be able to hunt and live on this land. Now there is nothing. On the moon I am happy, and there is lots of food. But here I see only death ... just like a long time ago when those pale looking people came across the ocean on the big wooden boats.

SEDNA: yes I remember Tshakapesh, when those boats came. All of us sea creatures were afraid. Those ships were bigger than whales. I remember all of the disease and death that happened to the people of Okak and Hebron.

NANUK: And on the land, even the spirits of the great bear became weak with starvation. Nobody could understand what was happening!

CARIBOU MAN: We have all seen the destruction from these earlier times. But now my brothers and sister, today we have another disease striking the hearts of the people ... the giant birds!

TSHAKAPESH: What are we going to do!



NANUK: What are we going to do!

SEDNA: What are we going to do!

TOGETHER: To do! To do! To do!

(SOUNDTRACK: voice saying: "there's nobody there, there's nobody there.....)

FIVE JET FIGHTERS ENTER SCENE (MIME JETS IN FLIGHT, SOUNDTRACK OF JET PLANES). CARIBOU MAN, SEDNA, TSHAKAPESH, AND NANUK ARE AFRAID. TWO INNU PEOPLE ARE UP ON A RISER. THEY ARE BEING ATTACKED BY THE JETS. INNU PEOPLE DIALOGUE THEIR FEAR IN INNU LANGUAGE. NOISE FREEZES MYTHOLOGICAL PEOPLE. PLANES LEAVE THE SCENE AND LIGHT FOCUSSES BACK TO THE MAIN CHARACTERS.

NANUK: T Shakapesh, what happened?

TSHAKAPESH: It was them... they are here again!

SEDNA: Did you see those poor Innu people. They look so afraid.

CARIBOU MAN: And all we could do is stand around and watch. We are powerless!

NANUK: Tshakapesh, what are we going to do?

TSHAKAPESH: I don't know... Caribou Man, we need your help.

CARIBOU MAN:  Come here my friends, I'm going to tell you a story....



CARIBOU MAN:

A long time ago there was an awesome great spirit.... the great beast of the sky that grew so large that the stars trembled. Its call was like the northern wind, and its wings created thunder. The spirit is called TORNRAK. The demons who fly in the sky have disturbed TORNRAK, and it is said that TORNRAK has come back to earth as a shaman, to search out the demons. Some say he is here now, disguised as a man.

SEDNA: We all know the stories of TORNRAK... what are you trying to tell us?

CARIBOU MAN: The TORNRAK has greater powers than ours. We need it to come to us.... we need it now!

SEDNA: How are we going to do this?

CARIBOU MAN: The way the people always found something in the past. We must concentrate our thinking on the TORNRAK spirit, and it will appear before us.



NANUK: We will use the drum to summon the spirit. If the TORNRAK is near it will hear our call and join us in our fight against the demons.

TSHAKAPESH: What if it doesn't hear us?

NANUK: If we concentrate we will find the TORNRAIS.... it will come ... LET US BEGIN!!!

NARRATOR: (-Narrator has now transformed into Shaman-TORNRAK spirit) (Drum in background)

I hear your call my friends... come, I know the place from which the demons came... I AM (together) TORNRAK !!!

- TORNRAK begins narration "Beat of The Drum"
- Jet fighters return
- TORNRAK and 'spirits' seem to defeat attacking planes. Planes go offstage.
- TORNRAK and 'spirits' back towards rear of stage, suddenly they turn their heads and stare.
- Planes return and destroy spirits
- Pilots take white canes and do a 'soft-shoe' to "My Blue Heaven"

CAST RETURNS FOR BOW

THE END