



DBQ Presents:

THE MUMMERS ARE DEAD! LONG LIVE THE MUMMERS!

Noon - 2:00pm, with a reading beginning promptly at 1:15pm

Saturday, January 2nd, 2016

1026 Arch St. 2nd Fl, Philadelphia, PA

The sun was a red smear against the horizon as the truck finally crossed Two Street. It was weakly echoed in the rearview mirror's grimy streaks, and a wide smear on one edge of the windshield. Scattered sweepers were brushing the street clean of hot particles from the Drift wind, for tomorrow's parade.

- Michael Swanwick, *In the Drift*

Declining membership and soaring costs are building a story line of stress within Mummery that goes something like this: If only Dem Golden Slippers could be melted down and sold for cash, the feathered folk tradition might feel more secure.

- Maria Panaritis

"Under the Gaiety, Mummies Are in Grim Fight to Survive"

The Philadelphia Inquirer, December 29, 2014

Since 1901, the city of Philadelphia has officially recognized New Year's day with thousands of revelers in celebratory regalia parading through the streets.

In his 1985 sci-fi drama, *In the Drift*, author Michael Swanwick imagines a future-ish Philadelphia, plagued by both post-nuclear-fallout and by the perennial Mummers, whose governance of the City baffles and threatens its residents. Swanwick's campy fictional concerns mirror the real life speculation that Mummerdom is near an end; an imminent victim of an ever changing city.

For *THE MUMMERS ARE DEAD! LONG LIVE THE MUMMERS!*, DBQ will present documentary video alongside a reading of historical newspaper articles, contemporary blog postings and futuristic science fiction fantasy to examine the perpetual prospect of an end for the Mummers.

Please join us on the 2nd floor of 1026 Arch Street in Philadelphia on Saturday, January 2nd, 2016 from noon to 2:00pm, with a reading beginning promptly at 1:15pm.

Refreshments will be served.

DBQ is a collaborative project by Alex Lukas and Leah Mackin.

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