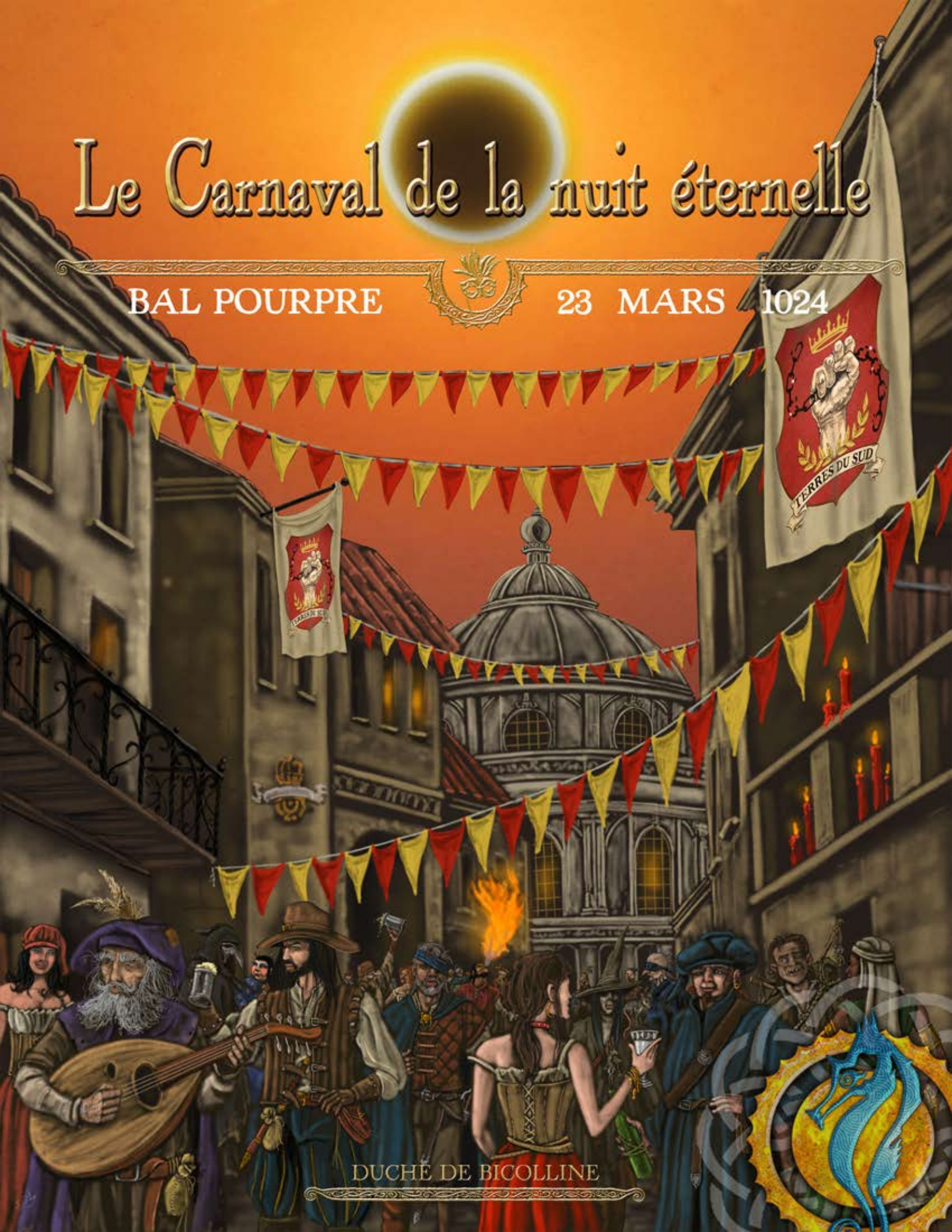


Le Carnaval de la nuit éternelle

BAL POURPRE

23 MARS 1024



DUCHÉ DE BICOLLINE



Le Carnaval de la nuit éternelle

THE CARNIVAL OF ETERNAL NIGHT

Perched among the misty peaks of the Dulgare plateau is the city of Gotwald, jewel of the Terres du Sud. Dubbed the "city that never sleeps", the capital of Dulgaron province is both a cultural mecca and a miserable gutter where ambitious orphans, cursed artists, exiled lords and a whole litany of bandits and cutthroats come to rot. A melting pot of culture cooked up by the iron ladle of its Prince, the nefarious Resther Saint-Félix and his felons-poets of Arrogance, Gotwald is therefore an architectural jewel with a whiff of urine.

Legend has it that every decade, in this part of the world alone, a highly unusual phenomenon occurs: the sun is obscured by a black circle of unknown origin. Some believe it to be the remnant of some kind of magic, others believe that the moon itself is cursed with a long-forgotten crime. One thing is certain, the eclipse never has the same exact duration; sometimes the sun only disappears for a day, sometimes for a week. In Dulgaron's archives, it's even possible to find accounts of an eclipse lasting more than four months.

Surprisingly, the phenomenon is a source of joy for the locals, who take the opportunity to indulge in one of their oldest traditions: the Carnival of Eternal Night. As the sun looks away, citizens of all walks of life see it as an opportunity to give free rein to their lowest instincts. Throughout the eclipse, the streets are filled with a thunderous masquerade of masked onlookers who give free rein to their desires in the darkness of the maze of alleyways. Beggars become lords and vice versa, we get down on all fours and bark like street dogs, the ugly becomes the sublime and, of course, we ignore taboos.

On this occasion, eager to mark the most memorable of all festivities, Resther Saint-Félix (baptized "the prince of the night" by some for his habit of never exposing his skin to the sun) summoned his jester Yorick Lefou and Dame Susanna of the famous Mille-Visages theater troupe, to help him devise a production that would boggle the mind.

And so, after months of Pharaonic preparation, ambitiously decorated infrastructures and a thorough cleaning of all the city's latrines, the capital of Dulgare is ready to welcome you! Welcome, travelers and ambassadors from faraway lands, to observe a phenomenon that many see only once in a lifetime. This eclipse could stop at any moment, and the hustle and bustle of the Carnival of the Eternal Night is only intensified at every turn.

Welcome to Gotwald.





Le Carnaval de la nuit éternelle

General information:

About Le Bal Pourpre

Le Bal Pourpre is a medieval fantasy ball to be held on March 23 at Espace Shawinigan (1882, rue Cascade, Shawinigan, Québec, G9N 8S1).

Participation is restricted to those aged 18 and over.

Schedule

On-site parking and the welcome desk will be open from 1:00 pm. You'll be able to pick up your wristband if you wish, but you won't be able to access the hall before the activity begins. The Gotwald gates will open at 4:00 pm and close again at 3:00 am.

Registration and fees

Registration will open in February on our website. The registration period will remain open until **Thursday March 21 at midnight**. You must register in advance to take part: no on-site registration will be possible.

The cost of the activity is \$90.00 CAD (plus taxes) for members and \$100.00 CAD (plus taxes) for non-members.

All registered participants will receive a Bal Pourpre population card, five ringing solars and a few piécettes. The piécettes will be very useful for participating in the various quests and activities available in the streets of Gotwald! These will be given to you upon arrival when you check in at reception.

Photographers

A studio will be set up in the entrance hall, where photographers will be happy to immortalize you between 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm

Drive-home service

Don't take any chances, leave your cart on site!

The Duché de Bicolline will provide a shuttle service to the Hôtel Énergie Shawinigan (Auberge des Gouverneurs) and the Comfort Inn between 11:00 pm and 3:00 am. Let the shuttle service take you home with complete peace of mind.

The shuttle schedule will be posted on site.



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Restaurant and bar services

Several food and beverage outlets will be available throughout the evening to serve guests!

For the belly

Le caboulot de Balbakir (4:00 pm to 3:00 am) - Salle de Bal l'Arrogante

The most exotic of bectances, for the most puny peasant and the most garrulous nobleman alike! Come and sample our wide range of flavors!

Chez Bronto (4:00 pm to 8:00 pm) - Salle de Bal l'Arrogante

In Terres du Sud, everything is gigantic, starting with the animals that live here. Come and see if your stomach is strong enough to finish your plate by cutting your teeth on a mouth-watering brontosaurus leg.

For the mind

Come and quench your thirst all evening long from 4:00 pm to 3:00 am. Don't forget your mugs and cups, as there will be no plastic cups at the serving points.

Prince Resther's cellar

The main bar where you'll find a bit of everything: microbrewery beers, wine, cider and other refreshments.

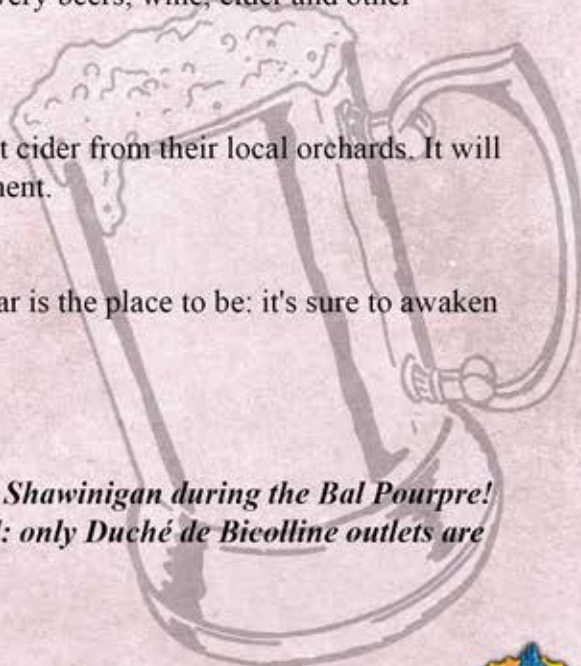
The tempting apple

For the occasion, Gotwald merchants have imported the finest cider from their local orchards. It will be served with a selection of local specialties for your enjoyment.

Red candle's zinc

For lovers of divine nectar, strong spirits and cocktails, this bar is the place to be: it's sure to awaken the senses!

Outside alcohol consumption is strictly forbidden at Espace Shawinigan during the Bal Pourpre! Therefore, no outside alcohol will be tolerated inside the hall: only Duché de Bicolline outlets are allowed during the event.





Le Carnaval de la nuit éternelle

Schedule and program

4:00 pm

Doors open - *Espace Shawinigan main entrance*

4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Guardians of the Archives - *The Saint-Félix bazaar*

Registration for the Panache contest with Les Artisans d'Azure - *The Saint-Félix bazaar*

Caricaturist - *The Saint-Félix bazaar*

Tarot reading - *The Saint-Félix bazaar*

Inlay artist - *The Saint-Félix bazaar*

Apothecary - *The Saint-Félix bazaar*

Rat catcher - *Barracks boulevard*

Barracks - *Barracks boulevard*

Magic Tower - *Cemetery*

Various quests - *As opportunities arise*

Cabaret - *Red candle district*

Curiosity tent - *Ville-Basse*

6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Henna - *The Saint-Félix bazaar*

4:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Graft Counter - *Gotwald plaza*

Banque de l'Hippocampe - *Gotwald plaza*

5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Casino - *Old chamber pot stall*

8:30 pm

Duchy Auction - *In front of the Graft Counter on Gotwald plaza*

9:00 pm

Crapaud Hurlant show (first part) - *Ballroom The Arrogant*

10:00 pm

Panache contest - *Ballroom The Arrogant*

Election of a Magician Scholar - *Old chamber pot stall*

10:20 pm

Election of an occultist scholar - *Old chamber pot stall*

10:40 pm

Election of a high priest scholar - *Old chamber pot stall*

11:00 pm

Crapaud Hurlant show (second part) - *Ballroom The Arrogant*





Area reserved for regions

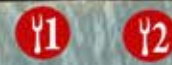
Gotwald plaza



The Saint-Félix bazaar



La Ville-Basse



Ballroom
The Arrogant

An overview of the different neighborhoods

- Prince Resther's wine cellar
- The temptress apple
- The zinc of the red candles
- Le caboulot de Balbakir
- Cuisse de brontosaurus
- Graft + Banque

- Gotwald plaza**
 - The fountain
 - Bell tower
 - The confessional
 - Barracks
 - The mad throne
- The St-Felix Bazaar**
 - The apothecary
 - The inlay maker
 - The caricaturist
 - The henna tattoo artist
 - Les Artisans d'Azur
 - The Tarot
 - Gardians of the Archives

Ballroom
-The main stage

Barracks boulevard
-The exterminator

Cemetery
-Magic Tower

Ville-Basse
-The tent of curiosities

Red candle district
-Drag queen stage

The old chamber pot shop
-The Casino

Gotwald plaza

The old chamber pot stall

La Ville-Basse

Barracks boulevard

The Saint-Félix bazaar

Cemetery
Chapel

The red candle district

The two entrances to Gotwald



Embassy of the Terres du Sud





Le Carnaval de la nuit éternelle

Places of interest

The Saint-Félix bazaar

At the bend of a steep, nauseatingly noisy alleyway, overrun with strollers numbed by days of depravity of all kinds, lies a vast shopping alley. The great Saint-Félix bazaar opens up to you in all its excess of opulence and vanity. Here and there, disparate stalls form a veritable labyrinth of exotic products with (frighteningly) varied fragrances. One of Dulgare province's most important commercial centers, you'll find something to suit every eccentricity: from stalls selling a variety of second-hand goods, to shops selling traditional Ourgadun tattoos and jewelers ready to embed precious stones directly into your flesh, as is the local tradition. In the distance, the eclipse flickers faintly. Can you resist the uncontrollable urge to take a closer look?

Gotwald plaza

In the very center of the city lies a very acting public square. Here, the eclipse seems to loom over everything like a great eye suspended in the sky. Before the masses of debauched people, a few hooded cultists and their blind oracle preach sinister laments of penitence, lacerating their backs with cruel whips. In the middle of it all stands the great fountain of Gotwald plaza, where naked, glistening forms wade. It is said that mermaids have taken up residence in the city's drains, bringing back the finest treasures from the sewers to the lucky men and women they've fallen in love with. Piercing the surrounding din, the thundering bellow of Prince Resther's executioner rings out regularly, urging the people to gather once again for one of their favorite spectacles: a public execution. Here, it's the guillotine that's popular. "Short and to the point," the crowd chants.

Barracks boulevard

The city's two busiest thoroughfares are linked by an alley with the peculiar characteristic of being wider than it is long. This is where the Gotwald Guard has established its headquarters. Every column, every inch of every wall is plastered with portraits of wanted criminals. The rewards promised in exchange for their capture are highly variable, some thugs being nothing more than honest exhibitionists. While patrols go in and out to the rhythm of the sheriff's temper tantrums, more than ever overwhelmed in these times of high public nudity, just across the street are the high points of the city's hygienic authorities: Gotwald's rat catcher. Some say he's a former nobleman, others that he's the best-dressed of all the beggars. One thing's for sure, he hates his job and won't hesitate to pay you for any dead vermin you bring him, refusing even to stoop to touching them!



Le Carnaval de la nuit éternelle

The old chamber pot stall

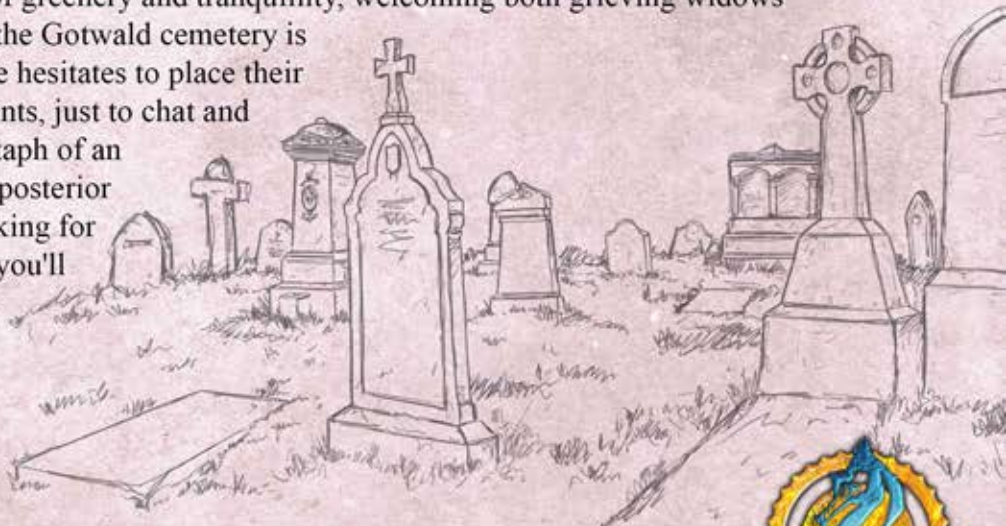
On the corner of a street whose name has been obliterated by a scurrilous chalk graffiti, stands an establishment where all sorts of different people enter, but clearly united by a desire not to be recognized. It's The old chamber pot stall, the kind of place where you pull your hat down over your eyes before entering. This is the headquarters of Gotwald's illicit activities, where the walls no longer have ears because they've been sliced open for privacy. Very little is known about the owner of the establishment, or what it's supposed to be used for. It looks like a tavern, but they don't serve anything, an auberge, but no one spends the night here, a gambling hall? What's going on here? The town's guards would like to get to the bottom of it, and behind the scenes, a tough operation is being prepared. If you have something highly illegal to do, hurry before it's too late...

La Ville-Basse

The city's streets suddenly take on a steep incline as you slowly but inexorably descend into the shallows of the Ville-Basse. This is an unsavory place, where hoodlums and gypsies from all over the world have amalgamated to form an unsightly slum, and proud of it. Indeed, it's here that the Carnival of Eternal Night is in full swing, or at least reveals itself in its simplest guise. On the ground, strangers and festival-goers feast and get drunk in a whirlwind of accents and dialects that are harder than ever to identify among the clinking mugs and opiate scents. There's also the never-before-seen spectacle of exotic creatures veiled behind the curtain of marquees. If ever there was a place to make a friend, this is it!

The cemetery

Living proof that during the Carnival of Eternal Night everything is turned upside down, even six feet underground! Usually a place of greenery and tranquillity, welcoming both grieving widows and teenagers in search of privacy, the Gotwald cemetery is now taken over by revellers. No one hesitates to place their behinds on the edge of the monuments, just to chat and empty their mugs, eclipsing the epitaph of an ancestor now forgotten behind that posterior that braies struggle to conceal. Looking for adventure? Come and have a look, you'll find just about anything here, apart from eternal rest.



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The chapel

Traditionally a place of recollection, this sanctuary is also occupied by festival-goers, proving that no one can escape the party. Even so, the clergy go to great lengths to maintain a modicum of decorum under the multicolored lights projected by the stained-glass windows, dimmed by the eclipse. Believe it or not, if you believe in the rite of St. Clement or have sworn allegiance to the True Faith, it's possible to satisfy your instincts in this holy place.

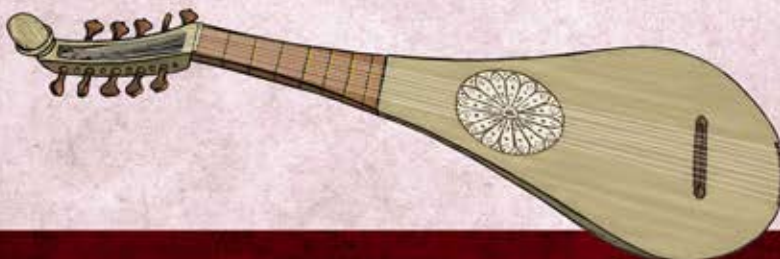
The red candle district

Even deeper in Gotwald's underbelly lies its most secret wonder: the red candle district! It's hard not to be mesmerized by the fragrance of the ladies and their satin veils. You'll find men for women, women for men, men for men, women for women and a whole range of individuals who couldn't be described in such mundane terms. Enter an establishment and bow your head before the majesty of the spectacle of flesh laid bare. Perhaps you'll dare to make a public spectacle of yourself? It's so easy to leave all the contents of your purse there, but beware of the one who fails to be gallant with these gold-hearted harlots! The matron has already taken out her scissors for far less. In the red candle district, those who play by the rules are rewarded with a night where their most taboo desires are celebrated, a night that some will spend their lives trying to emulate...



Ballroom The Arrogant

Commissioned by the Prince in honor of the decade's festivities, a few years ago a marmoreal edifice was erected near the city center, the largest ballroom the world has ever known: The Arrogant! An ostentatious structure dedicated strictly to the pleasure of music and dance. As Gotwald is first and foremost a capital of the arts, led by poet-knights, The Arrogant is the ideal place to keep up to date with the latest trends in highly codified, fashionable choreography, as well as to hear the shocking melodies of the most irreverent troubadours of the moment, such as Crapaud Hurlant.



Le Carnaval de la nuit éternelle

Detailed program

Meetings and Area Councils - *At your own risk*

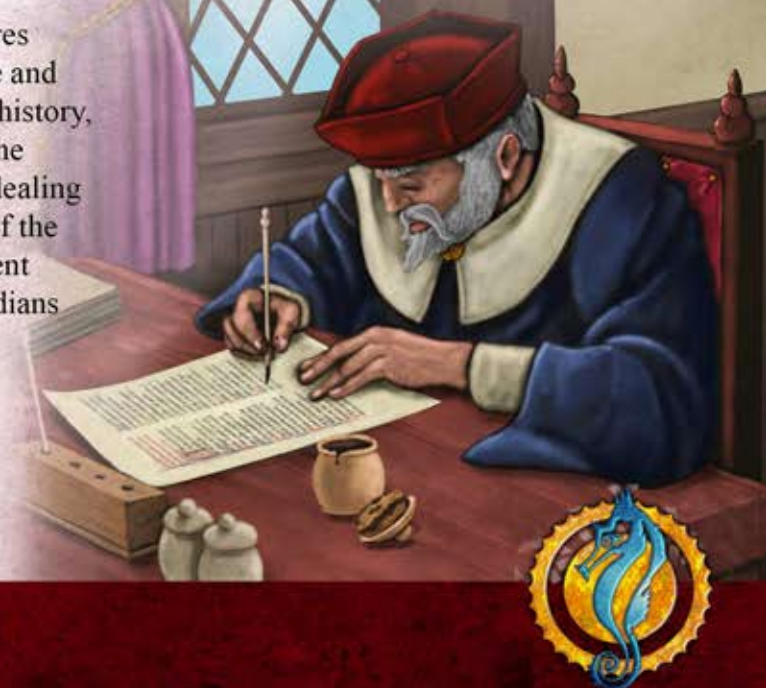
The Carnival of Eternal Night celebrations have taken over the entire city of Gotwald. Even the buildings usually used for judicial activities or meetings held by world leaders to discuss state affairs have not been spared by the festival-goers. So there's no secluded spot or complete reprieve in which to hold a meeting or regional council in private. On the other hand, each region has its own quarters within the city where it can gather. It's up to you to make your voice heard and make a coherent speech amidst all the hubbub.

Guardians of the Archives - 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

The Terres du Sud is one of the youngest nations in the Hippocampe world, but the unique culture of the free cities has long influenced the art of partying, with its excesses and sauciness that come naturally to all walks of life!

Guardians of the Archives will be present at the Carnival of the Eternal Night to collect objects and naughty texts that can join the many cultural artworks collected in the Grand Archives. Carnival visitors wishing to take part in the collection can visit Guardians of the Archives kiosk, where the presentation of the artwork donated and the quality of its content will be assessed. The most deserving donors will then receive Carnival winnings as a thank-you from Guardians of the Archives.

Beyond this cultural and sartorial influence of the Terres du Sud, the Guardians invite Carnival visitors to come and contribute to the archives with artwork relating to the history, geography and traditions of the cities and peoples of the Terres du Sud, to fill the rows of the Grand Archives dealing with the various regions of our world. As in the case of the dirty artwork, the presentation and quality of the content of these regional works will be evaluated by the Guardians of the Archives to reward the most deserving donors.



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Magic Tower

A delegation from the Tour de Magie et d'Occultisme will be present in Gotwald, attracted by this mysterious eclipse. Indeed, the conjunction of the eclipse and the lifting of prohibitions allows all magicians and occultists to attempt experiments that would otherwise be impossible. In particular, with the help of Master Mikali, a number of challenges and surprises have been prepared for Carnival visitors with supernatural talents.

It is also suspected that a spy managed to penetrate the Tower last August. Latest research indicates that he may have been present during the night-time festivities in Gotwald. Tower officials will be doing everything in their power to track down this criminal, apprehend him and prevent him from doing any further harm.

Throughout the evening, you may also spot the new TMO symbol on various items and scrolls. Please note that these items have no market value, are not exchangeable for cards and have no impact on the geopolitical game, but they are used in the quests taking place during the Gotwald Bal Pourpre.

Graft Counter - 4:00 pm to 8:30 pm

The graft counter and the Banque de l'Hippocampe will be open for all transactions.





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**Panache contest - 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Artisans d'Azure booth
(registration) 10:00 pm, Ballroom The Arrogant (competition)**

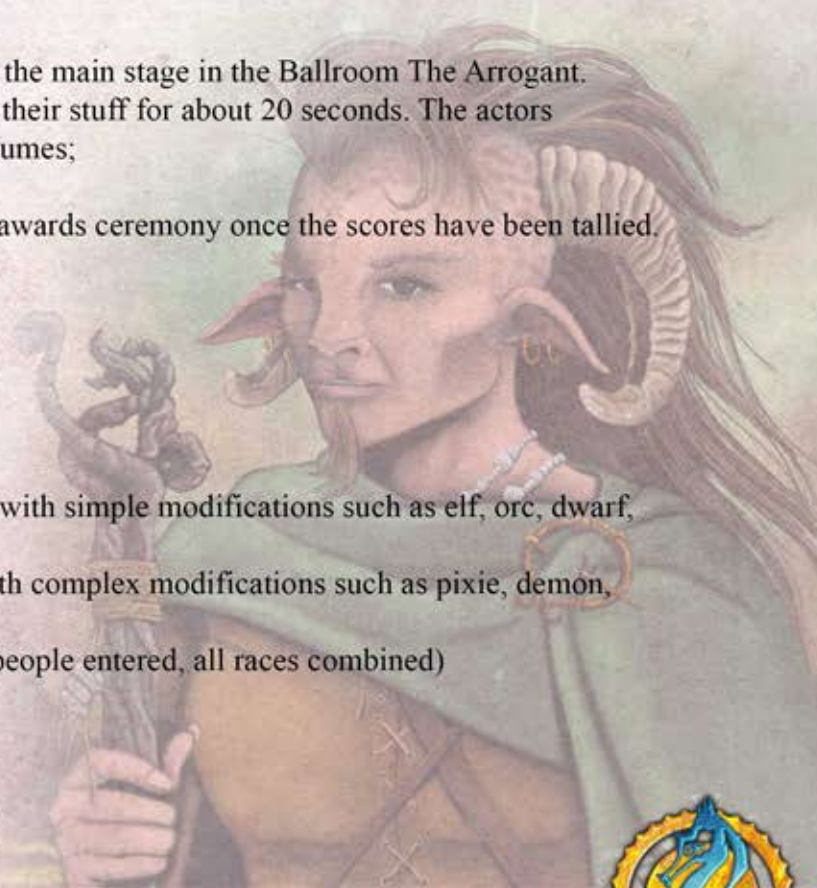
With people of all shapes and sizes in their finest attire, here's your chance to shine in front of all the guests. In Terres du Sud, diversity rhymes with beauty!

Les Artisans d'Azure is proud to present the Panache contest, designed to demonstrate that the Duché de Bicolline is an event where decorum is incomparable and unrivalled anywhere else in the world. The competition aims to showcase the characters, creations and costume designers of the larp community. It's all about creativity, talent and interpretation!

- Registration is between 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm at the Artisans d'Azure booth, by filling out a card that includes your character's name, guild, costume designer(s), a brief description of the costume and the desired category. Pre-registration is also possible via this link:
<https://forms.gle/3bdbC1xJGoUJFKhT7>
- If registration takes place on site, the participant will give an oral presentation of his or her costume to avoid any misunderstandings when writing the card. The organizer may take notes on the card for future presentation.
- At 10:00 pm, the competition takes place on the main stage in the Ballroom The Arrogant. Once called, each participant or group struts their stuff for about 20 seconds. The actors introduce the character or group and the costumes;
- A panache contestant must be present at the awards ceremony once the scores have been tallied.

Entry categories :

- Best **Human** costume
- Best **Non-human** costume (fantasy races with simple modifications such as elf, orc, dwarf, hunder, etc.)
- Best **Creature** Costume (fantasy races with complex modifications such as pixie, demon, Blue Man, etc.)
- Best **Party** costumes (minimum of three people entered, all races combined)



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Judging:

- Costume quality and detail
- Costume complexity (presence of several different pieces, accessories, layering, etc.)
- Character and stage performance (a matter of panache!)
- Match between costume and character (is it the guild's color? etc.)
- Audience interest (applause and cheers from the crowd).

Prizes for each category:

- First place: 150 solars and an engraved leather pen
- Second place: 100 solars
- Third place: 50 solars



Seigniorial elections - 5:00 pm to midnight, by appointment

Should a lordly election be held, the official bâtonnier must contact the Game master of the political sphere (nicolas.saucier@bicolline.org) by Friday, March 15 at the latest.

Ceremonies and rituals - 5:00 pm to midnight, By appointment

If you wish to organize a ceremony requiring the presence of a mystic or an occult or magical ritual, please contact the Game master of the sphere of faith (nicolas.saucier@bicolline.org) or of the sphere of magic or occult (charles.bilodeau@bicolline.org) no later than Friday, March 15, in order to be allocated a time slot and an officiant.





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Duchy Auction - 8:30 pm, in front of the Graft Counter on Gotwald plaza

The auction will be divided into two parts. The first part will feature a number of recently acquired collectibles, loot and treasures. These auctions are open to all, and you can use your Duché bills of exchange, solars or ores to defray the cost of your acquisitions.

The second section is designed for trade and shipping guilds to obtain lucrative contracts on certain trade routes. Shipowners in our world's major ports are short of certain essential products. Contracts are awarded to the highest bidder at auction, but traders must ensure that they can meet the demand for each contract. These trade routes can enrich the most opportunistic, but beware: there are plenty of brigands and pirates who will also want to profit from this lucrative market!

Musical show - 9:00 pm and 11:00 pm, Ballroom The Arrogant

After making a big splash at the Tournoi des Nations and the Grande Bataille in 1023, the six stooges return to the main stage at 9:00 pm!

Come and move, dance, sing and party in front of the stage of the Ballroom The Arrogant.

Did you think you'd experienced culture shock when you arrived in the alleyways of Gotwald? You've seen nothing yet!

The Duché de Bicolline is delighted to bring you Le Crapaud Hurlant to set the world on fire.

Election of Scholars - 10:00 pm to 11:00 pm, The old chamber pot stall

Three scholars must be elected during the Carnival of Eternal Night. One scholar with great mastery of magic (golhirs, manthoras, miguisses, breaths of life or svir-kalas). A scholar with great mastery of an occult art (skulls, forest spirits, ingredients, inventions or talismans). And one scholar among the grand priests (only one representative per religion may apply). [See pages 56-57 of the Compendium of Geopolitical Regulations for more information on Scholar elections].

Below you'll find the times when these three elections will take place:

- Election of a Magician Scholar 10:00 pm
- Election of an Occultist Scholar 10:20 pm
- Election of a Grand Pries Scholar 10:40 pm

Other entertainment and quest activities - throughout the evening



How to reach us

Event location:

Espace Shawinigan
1882, Cascade Street, Shawinigan, Quebec, G9N 8S1


Courriels :

info@bicolline.org

For general questions and logistics (registration, hospitality, accommodation, etc.):

maitredejeu@bicolline.org

For specific questions (contests, programming, tournament rules, etc.):



Phone number

(819) 532-1755

