

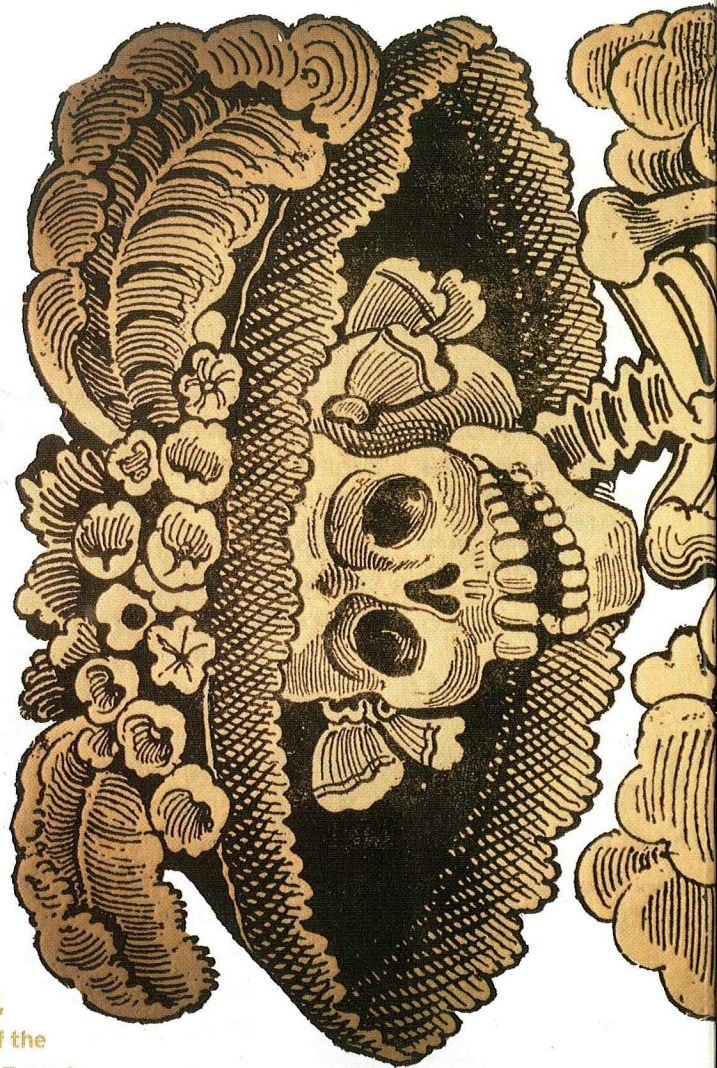
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dead can dance

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS (Day of the Dead) is a Mexican ritual honouring deceased family and friends, a surprisingly upbeat occasion for which participants don skull masks called *calacas* and dance – celebrating that death is not the end but the beginning of a new stage in life. » This fall, Vancouverites can also dance with Death by mastering this easy three-step *danzón*: Step 1: Stock up on *skeletalia* – candy skulls, paper banners, charming corpse figurines – at Tierra del Sol (2018 Commercial Dr.), a shop like Tim Burton's toy chest. Step 2: Dance wild through the streets around Commercial Drive's Grandview Park at the annual Parade of the Lost Souls, October 27, 6 to 10 p.m. Step 3: Attend the Ultimate Traveller's Day of the Dead music and photo presentation at the Ferry Building Gallery, and learn how mortals brighten up the Grim Reaper south of the Rio Grande (1414 Argle Ave., West Vancouver, October 31 at 7 p.m.). North Vancouver-based travel photographer Peter Langer (theultimatetraveller.com) narrates his images of lavishly decorated graves and provides info for those planning their own Los Muertitos getaway. □

RESTLESS LENS

WILLIAM JANS IS THE CRISS ANGEL OF magic lantern travel shows. Okay, maybe he is not that punk, but when the ebullient Vancouver commercial photographer returns from one of his off-the-map vacations, he presents his stunning images and video clips to sold out audiences in shows that can best be described



DAY OF THE DEAD
Though Mexico's Spanish conquistadores – who arrived in the New World more than 500 years ago – viewed the ritual as sacrilegious, *Día de los Muertos* merged with Catholicism and continues to flourish today.



BURMA BOUND
From Hanoi (left), William Jans's multimedia extravaganza meanders north to Vietnam's subtropical villages, down to Saigon and the Cambodian capital, then into Burma (now known as Myanmar), a country struggling to overcome 50 years of ethnic strife, one-party socialist government and military rule.

as PowerPoint on speed. His latest hypertravelogue uses new multimedia technology to re-envision crazy adventures from his 1995 trip to southeast Asia. *Burma Bound* premieres in Victoria October 4, Nanaimo October 5 and Vancouver October 12 and November 9. □

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