



C.G. Jung Society of
Western Australia

Performance: Friday July 17, 2026

Inanna's Descent to the Underworld

Raelene Bruinsma

5000 years ago in Ancient Sumer, Inanna is Queen of Heaven and Earth, goddess of love and war, and keeper of the laws of nature and culture. Life flourishes sweetly and abundantly.

So why does she decide to descend to the Underworld, that place of death and despair from which no one ever returns?

Why do any of us descend? How do we leave? What do we bring back?

Using oral storytelling techniques and original music, Raelene explores some of the deeper mysteries and questions the stories evoke for inner work, sharing some of her own experiences and resonances with the stories.

Raelene Bruinsma is a former music therapist, a university tutor, a singer, songwriter, and storyteller whose practice-led PhD research explored the contemporary relevance of these ancient stories, especially for women looking for female-led myths to inform our life journeys.

**Venue: Cottesloe Civic Centre Lesser Hall
Corner of Napier Street and Broome Street, Cottesloe**

Cost: \$10 (members), \$15 Concession \$20 (general)

Workshop: Sunday July 19, 2026

10:00am- 2:30 pm

***Turning our ears towards the Underworld: A
Creative Arts approach.***

When Inanna “turns her ear towards the Underworld”, according to Wolkstein, she is engaging in an act of deep listening and deep wisdom. Although the conscious decision to engage with our unconscious, and our creativity, is often seen as mid-life wisdom, we descend and ascend in big and small ways throughout our lives, recovering trapped energies, and working towards Individuation. This workshop takes a playful and curious approach to both “turning our ears towards the Underworld” and bringing back and integrating what we find, using some of the themes of the story of Inanna’s Descent (courage, giving up earthly trappings - at least temporarily, encountering inner helpers, deciding what to bring back). We will engage in discussions, music listening, re-storying (and restoring/restorative) activities, and playing with colour and sound. A nourishing lunch is included in the restorative sanctuary at Hovea. This is a chance to encounter your creativity and your Self in a nurturing supportive environment.

Raelene will draw on her many years of experience as a registered music therapist, her decades of personal depth work, her training in storytelling therapy at the World Storytelling Institute in India, her PhD studying the stories and poems of Inanna, and her numerous experiences in leading workshops and teaching to hold space for your personal explorations.

<p>Venue: Hovea Ashram 805 Margaret Rd, Hovea Cost: \$100 (members), \$115 Concession \$135 (general) Includes a Vegetarian Lunch</p>

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