

របាំត្រូដី

Trot

Trot is a processional folk-dance from the Somry people of northern Cambodia. It is believed to have originated during the Angkor era (9th-14th centuries) and is performed each New Year for the king. The dance tells the story of a hunter, named Bun, who goes into the forest to hunt but no animals can be found anywhere. Bun prays to the forest spirits in hopes that they will return the animals. On his next hunt, Bun sees a golden deer. He kills the deer and when he sees how beautiful it is he offers it to the king as a gift. The king is pleased and grants Bun and his wife wealth and prestige.

In honor of the spirits and his good fortune, Bun created the *trot* which is led by a singer, followed by dancers dressed as a deer, a hunter, an ox, two demons, two witches, and two peacocks, and musicians with percussion instruments. As the procession moves along, dancers, carrying red pouches on long polls, collect donations from the crowd.

