Castle Feast

Environment: Medieval castle - banquet tables, candles, throne, stained glass windows, feast: 'chicken', bread, cheese, mead (warm apple juice and honey). Minstrel corner; auto harps, tambours. Dancing space + long voiles. Large hearth, fire, fur rugs.



Feast Take your places at table, welcome and elect 'King/Queen'. A toast of mead for everyone! Let the feast begin - silver dome with chicken - gone! Find the chicken puppet - interactions - catch and leave by fire to cook. Have bread and cheese instead - enjoy sharing and eating together.









Minstrel Wandering minstrel arrives and begins entertainment. opportunities for individual performances - songs, stories. Builds to musical piece - all playing harps, drums and singing. Dance Tables pulled back and formal dancing begins - circles and lines, couples, trios and groups. A dance-based celebration. Pull out long cloths to enhance and encourage movement.



Hearth As the music dies down, retire to the hearth and snuggle up under soft furs and rest together, listening to the crackling fire sounds and watching the flickering fire-lights.







Evaluation: Tables and food acted as big motivators to draw groups together and even the most persistent of wanderers joined their groups to eat, drink and be merry. Chicken puppet provided a comical interlude and most clients enjoyed interacting with this gentle escapee. The arrival of the minstrel instigated some lovely individual performances and interactions. there are many clients who clearly enjoy the sounds/strumming of harps. The dance varied group to group, some able to sustain 'formal' lines/circle dances, others just enjoyed moving under the cloths. The hearth was a beautiful, glowing centrepiece for the chill and many found it hard to leave, especially the carers!