

Press Release - For Immediate Release
- January 9, 2006 -
Contact: Nucky Walder / Tel: 202-882-6227

WHAT: **Ninth International Festival of Hispanic Theater**
In Spanish with live English dubbing (*except where specifically noted*)

WHO: Troupes from **Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Spain, and Uruguay.**

WHEN: **February 1 - March 11, 2006**

WHERE: **Gunston Arts Center - Theater Two**, 2700 S. Lang Street, Arlington, VA 22206;
Instituto de México, 2829 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009;
LAFI, 3800A 34th Street, Mount Rainier, MD 20712

TICKETS: **Regular \$25; Students & Seniors Citizens, \$20; '3-Play Pass for \$65/\$50'**
The 9th International Festival of Hispanic Theater is a Stages for All Ages production

INFORMATION: 703-548-3092 or 202-882-6227; www.teatrodelaLuna.org

9th International Festival of Hispanic Theater in La Luna's 15th Anniversary Season

Teatro de la Luna's Ninth International Festival of Hispanic Theater opens with a sumptuous invitation-only reception at the Residence of the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic on Wednesday, February 1, 2006, hosted by the Ambassador and Mrs. Espinal. The Reception will take place from 6:30-8:30 pm at 2930 Edgevale Terrace, Washington, DC.

Honorary Festival president is **Freddy Ginebra**, founder and Director of Casa de Teatro in the Dominican Republic. Mr. Ginebra is recognized as an artistic leader throughout the Spanish-speaking world; responsible for the nurturing and development of innumerable theatrical professionals. He will join Teatro de la Luna board and staff in welcoming guests to the reception, and will, in turn, be honored for his vast contributions to theater in general, and Dominican theater in specific.

Following is the Calendar of Events for the Festival:

Wed. Feb. 1 **Opening Night Reception**, Residence of the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic, 2930 Edgevale Terrace, NW, Washington, DC (*by invitation only*)
6:30 - 8:30pm

Feb. 2, 3, 4, 8pm **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: PARGO: *Los Pecados Permitidos***
(PARGO: Permissible Sins)
by Waddys Jaquez. Troupe: La Manzana Envenenada.

COLOMBIA: *Vida, Amor y Risa (Life, Love and Laughter)** by
Carlos Álvarez Mimo-Clown.
Feb. 4, 3pm At *Gunston Arts Center-Theater Two*, Virginia

- Feb. 11, 11:30am At the *Instituto de México*, District of Columbia
Feb. 12, 1pm At *LAFI-Latin American Folk Institute*, Maryland
- Feb. 9, 10, 8pm **SPAIN: Casting** by Eva Egido Leiva & Rubén Vejabalbán.
Feb. 11, 3pm & 8pm Troupe: Acciones Imaginarias. **US Première**
- Feb. 16, 17, 8pm **COSTA RICA: *El Inmigrante (The Immigrant)*** by César Meléndez
Feb. 18, 3pm & 8pm Troupe: Teatro La Polea
- Feb. 23, 24, 8pm **URUGUAY: *No seré feliz, pero tengo marido (I might not be happy, but at least I'm married)***
Feb. 25, 3pm & 8pm by Viviana Gómez Thorpe. Troupe: Regina Producciones. **US Première**
- Mar. 2, 3, 8pm **CHILE: *Muertos de Amor (Death by Love)**** Ensemble work.
Mar. 4, 3pm & 8pm Troupe: La Rueda Coja. **US Première**
- Mar. 9, 10, 8pm **PUERTO RICO: *Las Reinas del Chantecler (The Queens of Chantecler)*** by Myrna Casas.
Mar. 11, 3pm & 8pm Troupe: Producciones Cisne, Inc. **US Première**

* No live English dubbing offered; production is in pantomime.
Program subject to change.

Note to the Press: Two Complementary

Tickets

per Production Await Your Call

General Information:

- Tickets are **\$25**; students and senior citizens over 60, **\$20**
- **\$10 discount** when buying 3 tickets for three different plays (**3 Ticket Pass**)
- Theater for Children tickets: Adults \$10; children 12 and under **FREE**
- School performances – call office for hours and availability
- Post-Performance Discussions every Friday Night
- Live English Dubbing **FREE**
- Childcare available during Sat. matinees, 24 notice required, \$10 per child
- Our Festival is a **Stages for All Ages** production – Young people under 18 enter free when accompanied by a paying adult (*Theater for Children exempted*). Please see individual listings for appropriate age levels.

INFORMATION and RESERVATIONS: 703-548-3092 / 202-882-6227

Email: info@teatrodelaluna.org

Website: www.teatrodelaluna.org

Teatro de la Luna is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. The 9th International Festival of Hispanic Theater receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, Arlington County Cultural Affairs Division, Arlington Commission for the Arts, Virginia Commission for the Arts, MARPAT Foundation, Inc., Instituto de México, Continental Airlines, Comfort Inn Ballston/Arlington, Smart Choice Settlements, Rumba Café, ZGS Communications, Telemundo-Channel 64, Radio Viva 900, Radio Latina, the Embassies of The Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Spain, Uruguay and private donations.

DESCRIPTION OF PLAYS

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC – PARGO: *Los Pecados Permitidos* (PARGO: Permissible Sins)

Heightened Realism

Ages: 15+

A weekly meeting of a self-serving “do-gooder” organization where participants air their dirty linen. Meet homeless María Cuchívica, ex-alcoholic Papichio Domínguez, PARGO’s resident queen Zaza, and finally, transsexual Pasión Contreras, all portrayed by award-winning actor Waddys Jaquez.

COLOMBIA – *Vida, Amor y Risa* (Life, Love and Laughter)

Comedic Pantomime

Ages: Family Show

Combine mime’s optical illusions, puppetry’s charms and clownish antics, enhanced by sublime music. Result: comedy, fun and a good time for all!

SPAIN – Casting

Scenic Collage

Ages: 15+

US Première

A young actress at a casting call - a woman obsessed with her figure - a casualty of women’s fashions - an anorexic ... all demonstrate the objectification of women in today’s society. Using classical and modern texts with personal introspections, Casting is strong, witty and sadly, true...

COSTA RICA – *El Inmigrante* (The Immigrant)

Dramatic Comedy

Ages: 15+

A Nicaraguan in Costa Rica, but even more, an exposition on the burning question that affects all the Americas: immigration.

URUGUAY – *No seré feliz, pero tengo marido* (I might not be happy, but at least I’m married)

Satirical Comedy

Ages: 13+

US Première

Love! Money! Sex! Infidelity! Come join Uruguay’s renowned actress Graciela Rodríguez as she probes a long-time marriage’s joys, frustrations and surprises via laughter and fantasy.

CHILE – *Muertos de Amor* (Death by Love)

Comedic Pantomime

Ages: Family Show

US Première

Two women and a man unexpectedly discover love. Their lives change radically as they discover candid, wistful, realistic and clownish truths through this universal, human sentiment. And with live music!

PUERTO RICO – *Las Reinas del Chantecler* (The Queens of Chantecler)

Satirical Comedy

Ages: 15+

US Première

An empty stage: A cleaning lady imagines her glorious past as an Argentine actress. Or maybe a comic opera soprano ... Or was she a Puerto Rican ballerina? All portrayed by the internationally acclaimed actress, Angela Meyer.

What the Critics Have Said... *(translated from the press in Spanish)*

Dominican Republic:

“Pargo is a scenic jewel; it is probably the most luminous spot in the Dominican theater scene...”

– *El Nacional*

“...long lines to see PARGO...” – *Listin Diario*

Colombia:

"...a versatile performance in every sense of the word...the show is full of surprises and color" – *Ateneo Porfirio Barba Jacob-Medellín*

"An eloquent silence...His mime is more than empty gesture...Carlos brings together the mime and the clown...For him the audience is his 'raison d'être' his reason to be..."

– www.elcolombiano.com

Spain:

"...a great show...a minimalist style, with a lone chair that suddenly converts to a bed, to a mannequin, an incredible world is created ..." – *abc color*

Uruguay:

At times it is unbelievably funny . . . the laughter of the audience says it all ... not to be missed." – *Últimas Noticias*

The actress takes absolute dominion over the stage...one of the best roles of her career, demonstrating her wide range." – *Guía del Ocio*

Chile:

"The omission of words permitted a potent and significant language." – *Cultura*

"They created thusly a magic world, in which a love story was born with an unexpected ending." /

"Death by love, or by laughter? That is the question." – *El Sur*

Puerto Rico:

"The characters [in the play] ... display the great artistic abilities of the actress (A. Meyer) in some most convincing portrayals" – *Revista Centro Bellas Artes Luís A. Ferré*

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