

Teatro de la Luna

—al mejor estilo latinoamericano

—with the best Latin American style

4020 Georgia Avenue, NW • Washington, DC 20011 • (202) 882-6227

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TEATRO DE LA LUNA

Invites you to the Play Reading of

“LAND OF FIRE”

by Mario Diament

TEATRO DE LA LUNA has the pleasure of announcing the second play in the PLAY READING SERIES in Spanish, “Land of Fire” by Argentinean playwright Mario Diament, under the direction of Mario Marcel, one of the Bilingual Acting and Playreading Workshops instructors. These workshops are geared towards the mental and physical preparation of the actor. The participants who will be performing in the play reading presentations are Graciela Rivas, Marco Echeverria, Rodin Ruiz, Zarko Retamal and Maribel Woodward with Luzmaría Esparza in the role of the narrator. The final presentations will take place at Teatro de la Luna, 4020 Georgia Ave., NW, Washington DC 20011 on Saturday December 2 at 7pm and Sunday December 3 at 3pm. These performances are done in Spanish only and tickets are “Pay What You Can”.

About the Play Inspired by true events, “Land of Fire” narrates the story of an Israelite ex-stewardess who was victim of a terrorist threat, leaving her hurt and her best friend dead. 22 years later, she decides to meet up with the perpetrator of the threat, who is living out a life sentence in a London prison. The script proposes a reflection on the need to listen the other side of the story, the one of the enemies, as a necessary condition in order to begin a dialogue and begin mapping out peace and having a peaceful living situation. A proposal to reflect on the causes and consequences of military political violence, in one of the hottest places on Earth, and about the place and value that dialogue holds as a means to peaceful living and justice among people. A relevant story by the dedicated Mario Diament, whose current significance exceeds the limited contour of conflict of the Middle East. “Land of Fire” has been produced in many theatres in and outside of Argentina.

About the Playright **Mario Diament** (April 17, 1942) is an Argentine playwright, journalist, narrator, essayist and screen writer. He has lived in New York and Israel. As a journalist, he began at the newspaper La Opinion where he was Chief Editor. He was Director of the newspaper El Cronista, the Expreso Magazine and worked at El Clarin newspaper, The New Herald in Miami, among others. He is a permanent writer at the La Nación newspaper of Buenos Aires, lives in Miami and is professor and dean of the School of Journalism and Communication at Florida International University. He received the Konex Award – “Honorable Mention 2014”, as one of

the five best theatre writers between 2004-2008. In 2006, he published the novel “Martin Eidan”. As a playwright, his works include “The Book of Ruth”, “Lost Tango”, “Chronicle of a Kidnapping”, “Smithereens”, “Blind Date”, “Houseguest”, “Equinox”, “A Report on the Banality of Love”, “Small Infidelities” and many others. He was in charge of the screenplay for the 1976 “What is autumn?” by David José Kohon with Alfredo Alcón and in 2014, there was the co-production between Argentina and Spain “Inevitable” directed by Jorge Algora, based on his play “Blind Date”.

About the Director Mario Marcel, director, actor, teacher, Teatro de la Luna founder, he has countless productions to his name and a life dedicated to culture. Of a solid and singular artistic background in our community, he has directed, adapted and performed in plays of the universal repertoire in various styles and genres. He passes on his dedication to the theatre as a director and teacher to other actors of any age and origin. He has received numerous acknowledgements and awards for his artistic work throughout his career.

Teatro de la Luna, founded in 1991, produces performing arts and other events that celebrate Latin American culture and seeks to connect Spanish-speaking and English-speaking communities. La Luna has been recognized for its cultural contributions on several occasions. La Luna Director Mario Marcel received the *Elizabeth Campbell Award* for advancement of the arts from the American Association of University Women’s Arlington Chapter. On two occasions, La Luna was honored with the STAR prize from the Arlington County Commission for the Arts for its administrative excellence and service to the community; In 2017, received the “Working for the Community” award from NBC4. La Luna Producer Nucky Walder received the *Latina Woman Leadership 2009* award and the *2018 Lifetime Achievement Award* from DC Mayor Muriel Bowser through the Office of Latino Affairs. In 2020, Teatro de la Luna was interviewed by Channel 7 WJLA and in 2021 by Telemundo-Channel 64. Recently, the director Mario Marcel received a recognition from Fundación Nueva Esperanza. The goal of bridging the Spanish-speaking and English-speaking communities is achieved by promoting dialogue and involving community members in these cultural bilingual events.

INFO & RESERVATIONS: (202) 882-6227

www.teatrodelaluna.org

info@teatrodelaluna.org

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