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The Association for Hispanic Classical Theater, Inc.

Newsletter: January 2018

Cordial greetings from the President and Board of Directors of the Association for Hispanic Classical Theater! This issue of the newsletter includes information concerning the upcoming AHCT Symposium and the Chamizal play festival, and news on conferences, gatherings, plays, and translations of interest to Spanish Golden Age enthusiasts.

The 2018 International Siglo de Oro Drama Festival, Chamizal National Memorial Theater

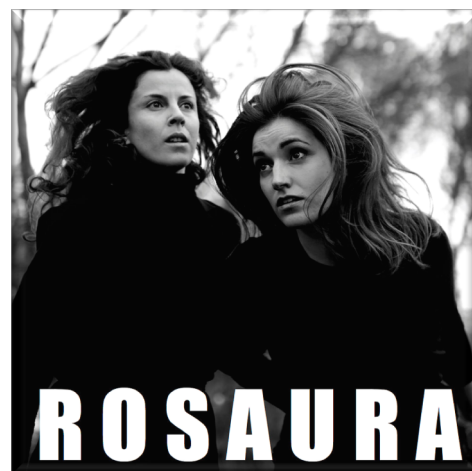
The 43rd annual Siglo de Oro Festival at the Chamizal will take place Wednesday, April 11, through Saturday, April 14, 2018, with all shows beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Festival will feature:

La vida es sueño, Wednesday, April 11, by Jazz Vilá Projects, Cuba, directed by Jazz Vilá. From La Habana, Cuba, Jazz Vilá is an award-winning stage, television, and film actor as well as an accomplished director, producer, and dramatist. He brings his unique style to Calderón's classic for the Chamizal public.

<http://jazzvilaprojects.com/es/acerca-de/>.

Fuenteovejuna, Thursday, April 12, by Telón de Arena, Mexico, directed by Perla de la Rosa. "A casi cuatro siglos de ser sido escrita, *Fuenteovejuna* está vigente desafortunadamente, pues el poder contra el que Lope ejerció su coherente crítica permanece en todos los rincones del mundo. Y justo hoy, en nuestro país ensangrentado, la voz de los pobladores de este mítico pueblo, se vuelve eco en lo profundo de nuestros corazones, en la entraña de nuestra fecunda patria traicionada..."
(www.telondearena.org).

Rosaura, Friday, April 13, by Teatro Inverso, Madrid and London, directed by Paula Rodríguez and Sandra Arpa. This innovative work retells Calderón's *La vida es sueño* from the perspective of its female protagonist, Rosaura. The directors explain: "Interpretamos el personaje de Rosaura bajo nuevas luces y desde una perspectiva poética que resuena



Rosaura, by Teatro Inverso. Photo courtesy of Paula Rodríguez and Teatro Inverso.



El Merolico, by EFE Tres Teatro.
Photo by Pedro Pazarán,
courtesy of EFE Tres Teatro.

en el contexto político actual, como metáfora de la necesidad de cambio" (<http://www.xper teatro.com/>).

El Merolico: Entremeses Bululuados, Saturday, April 14, by EFE Tres Teatro, Mexico, directed by Fernando Villa and Fernando Memije. A traveling snake-oil salesman offers three sure-fire cures for all ailments: Cervantes's entremeses *El viejo celoso*, *El retablo de las maravillas*, and *La cueva de Salamanca*.
<https://www.facebook.com/EFETRETeatro/>.

AHCT Symposium 2018 Plenary

"Del verso clásico a la performance: Una nueva forma de habitar los clásicos." The 2018 Donald Dietz Plenary Address will take place on Thursday, April 12, 1:30 – 3:00pm. This year's featured speakers will be Paula Rodríguez and Sandra



Paula Rodríguez.
Photo courtesy of
Teatro Inverso.

Arpa of Teatro Inverso, based in Madrid and London. Rodríguez and Arpa are co-directors, producers, actresses and playwrights of the company, which they co-founded in 2015 to foster and disseminate Spanish classical theater. Part

Sandra Arpa.
Photo courtesy
of Teatro Inverso.



presentation and part workshop, their plenary will introduce us to their unique methodology, "Bodily Poetics," which combines the theories and practices of storytelling, anthropological theater, viewpoints method, and performance art in order to engage the spectator physically, emotionally, and intellectually. In formulating their approach, Rodríguez and Arpa draw upon years of formal education and stage experience with prestigious institutions and companies in Madrid, Argentina, London, and New York. Their unique brand of Golden Age theater "builds a bridge with the past and gives a contemporary voice to the beauty and apparent distance of Golden Age language to today's audiences." For more information see <https://youtu.be/Wz-B9YHkqxo> and follow <https://www.facebook.com/ttinverso/>.

Happenings

AHCT Board Member Harley Erdman's anthology of translations, *Women Playwrights of Early Modern Spain*, edited by Nieves Romero-Díaz and Lisa Vollendorf, won the 2016 Josephine Roberts Award for the Best Scholarly Edition in the field of early modern women and gender from the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women. Harley will also publish a translation of Luis Vélez de Guevara's *La Serrana de la Vera* in a bilingual edition in the Aris and Phillips Hispanic Classics series, edited by Jonathan Thacker, with Liverpool University Press in 2018.

Call for Papers: Theaters of Marginality. University of Massachusetts Amherst and Amherst College, September 21-22, 2018. The Iberian Theater and Performance Network (ITPN) is devoted to the study of Iberian theater and performance from a trans-historical perspective, bridging Golden Age theater (1580-1700) with contemporary playwriting, performance, and theatrical practices in the plurinational setting of the Iberian Peninsula. ITPN invites abstracts for 20-minute papers (in English or Spanish) on a broad variety of topics and methodological approaches that treat the theme of "Theaters of Marginality" from disciplines including theater and performance studies, literary studies, musicology, history, art history, philosophy, cultural studies, religious studies, gender and sexuality studies, and critical theory. Topics may include but are not limited to: sexuality, queerness, displacement and immigration, race and ethnicity, religious minorities, socio-economic status and inequality, disability, aging, spatial and temporal liminalities, and marginal genres and performance practices. To propose a paper, please submit an abstract not exceeding 250 words to the program committee at <https://itpn.mla.hcommons.org/>. The proposal should include the speaker's name, e-mail address, and academic affiliation. Proposals must be received by the end of the day on Friday, March 16, 2018. For more information, see <https://itpn.mla.hcommons.org/2018/01/02/cfp-theaters-of-marginality-amherst-ma-september-21-22-2018/#more-130>.



MLA 2018. The 133rd MLA Annual Convention took place January 4-7, 2018, in New York City. Sessions related to Spanish Golden Age Drama included "Marginality in Spanish Theater," "Comedia in and for the Twenty-First Century," and "Staging Insecurity: Early Modern Spanish History Plays as Resistance to Precarity."

The Comediantes Banquet took place Friday, January 5, at Sin Igual in New York City, site of the 2018 MLA Convention. Amy Williamsen and Barbara Simerka organized a wonderful evening of delicious dining and delightful company for Golden Age enthusiasts. Barbara writes: "A dozen hardy souls braved single digit temperatures to dine at Sin Igual, where we feasted on contemporary Mexican cuisine. There were several newcomers, and we all toasted the memory of Everett Hesse as founder of BCom and of the banquet tradition." This AHCT-sponsored event continues a long and honored tradition of food, fun, and collegiality. Look for announcements for next year's banquet in Chicago; it is sure to be a memorable event!

Enrique VIII y Catalina de Aragón: La cisma de Inglaterra, by Pedro Calderón de la Barca, will be performed by Bilingual Foundation of the Arts, Los Angeles, April 13-22, 2018. For details and tickets, go to: <http://www.bfatheatre.org/>.

Valor, agravio y mujer, by Ana Caro Mallén de Soto, directed by Leyma López. Repertorio Español, New York. Repertorio Español's 50th season began in October with their production of Ana Caro's masterpiece, which runs through May 10, 2018. In 2013, López directed an innovative and high-energy production of Lope de Vega's *El loco por fuerza*, and in the summer of 2017, she directed a series of dramatic readings of plays by Spanish women dramatists at Repertorio Español, including Caro's *El Conde Partinuplés*, Leonor de la Cueva y Silva's *La firmeza en la ausencia*, Sor Marcela de San Félix's *Muerte del apetito*, and María de Zayas's *La traición en la amistad*.



Valor, agravio y mujer, by Repertorio Español, directed by Leyma López. Photo used by permission of photographer Michael Palma Mir and Repertorio Español.

AHCT Reminders

Comedia Performance, AHCT's annual journal, publishes articles on topics related to the performance of the Spanish Golden Age *comedia*. The subscription price is included in the annual AHCT membership dues. Additional copies are \$20 each and may be purchased online by way of paypal at <http://www.wordpress.comedias.org/comedia-performance/>, or through the mail by making a check out to AHCT and sending it to Managing Editor Dr. Tania de Miguel Magro, Dept. of World Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics, P.O. Box 6298, 216 Chitwood Hall, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506-6298 (tania.demiguelmagro@mail.wvu.edu). Institutional subscription pricing information is available at https://www.psupress.org/journals/jnls_CP.html. Submissions are due by September 1. Please follow the guidelines at the front of the journal. Submit articles to the editor, and book reviews, theater reviews, and interviews to the editors of each of those sections. *Comedia Performance* also advertises recently published books, performances, study abroad programs, and conferences. Ads are \$100 for a full page; send camera-ready ads to Barbara Mujica at: mujica@georgetown.edu.

Benefits of AHCT membership. You can renew your membership easily on the AHCT webpage at <http://www.wordpress.comedias.org/ahct-membership-inquiry/>. Members of AHCT whose dues are up-to-date may borrow or stream videos from the archive of performances of Golden Age plays, receive the Association's annual journal, *Comedia Performance*, and access the semiannual AHCT Newsletter. To update your member profile, please access your file via your username and password, and update your record at <http://ahct.echapters.com/>. If your email address has changed, re-subscribe to the listserv at: http://mail.comedias.org/mailman/listinfo/comedias_comedias.org.



Nuestra Herencia (detail, mural on exterior of the Chamizal National Memorial), Carlos Flores, 1992. Photo by C. Gascón.

The AHCT Annual Spanish Golden Age Theater Symposium April 12–14, 2018, Hilton Garden Inn, El Paso, TX.

The dates of the Symposium coincide with the Siglo de Oro Spanish Theater Festival at the Chamizal National Memorial, April 11–14, 2018. Sessions will begin Thursday morning, April 12, and end Saturday afternoon, April 14. The meeting of the officers of the AHCT will take place Wednesday, April 11, from 9am–12 noon, with the meeting of the Board of Directors to follow, from 1:30–5pm.

Hotel Reservations. The Symposium will once again take place at the Hilton Garden Inn El Paso/ University, 111 West University Avenue, El Paso, 79902. A special conference rate of \$115 is available to participants that reserve by March 16, 2018; the rate applies to single/double/triple/quad rooms, and includes a hot buffet breakfast for up to two people per room (request breakfast coupons at reception desk upon check-in). All rates are subject to a 17.5% tax. Parking is complimentary. The group rate applies Monday, April 9 through Saturday, April 14, 2018. Reservations may be made online at www.elpaso.stayhqi.com (the group rate code is "AHCT"), or by calling the hotel directly at 1-915-351-2121.

AHCT Conference Registration. You must be a member of the AHCT to register for the conference. Current membership dues are \$65 (or \$120 for two years) for faculty and \$55 (or \$100 for two years) for retired members and students. The registration fee for the conference for all faculty attendees as well as for graduate students who are reading papers or participating in a special session is \$125. A late fee of \$50 is assessed if registration is paid after March 1, 2018; if registration is not paid in full by March 15, 2018, the participant will be dropped from the program. Registration includes conference attendance, the AHCT annual banquet, transportation to and from the Chamizal Wednesday through Saturday evenings for the Drama Festival, and the Friday evening post-performance reception. (Note: a special registration rate of \$40 applies to students who do not present papers or attend the banquet. An additional \$25 payable at the time of registration purchases tickets for the banquet. The aforementioned late fee also applies to auditor registration.) Registration fees and dues can be paid by way of PayPal at <http://www.wordpress.comedias.org/conferences/2018-el-paso/>.

Conference Updates. Further details regarding the symposium will appear on the 2018 conference page on the AHCT website as they become available. For special inquiries, please contact the AHCT Conference Director, Esther Fernández, at ef14@rice.edu.

With best wishes for 2018,
Chris Gascón
AHCT Recording Secretary
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