



ASSOCIATION FOR HISPANIC CLASSICAL THEATER, INC.

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AHCT Newsletter

January 2009

Dear Colleague:

Cordial greetings from the officers and board of the AHCT, and very best wishes for the New Year. This issue of the newsletter contains information about the Golden Age Theater symposium that will be held in El Paso in March, 2009, the tentative schedule for the Chamizal National Memorial's 2009 Siglo de Oro Drama Festival, a brief report on the annual meeting of the MLA just concluded in San Francisco, and a Call for Papers for next December's meeting of the MLA in Philadelphia.

Reminder. The AHCT budget depends almost entirely on members' dues which support, among other things, the annual conference, the AHCT journal *Comedia Performance*, the video library, the *Comedia* Bulletin Board, the AHCT webpage, the biannual newsletter, and the Everett W. Hesse Endowment. Your dues are paid through the date indicated on the mailing label of the newsletter. If it is time for you to renew, please use the enclosed payment form and remit to Anita Stoll at the address indicated on the form. Please note that this form is also the registration form for the upcoming El Paso conference.

The AHCT Spanish Golden Age Theater Symposium, El Paso, TX, March 5-7, 2009. The 2009 AHCT Spanish Golden Age Theater Symposium will take place March 5-7, 2009 in El Paso, Texas. These dates coincide with the 2009 Golden Age Spanish Theater Festival at the Chamizal National Memorial. Sessions will begin Thursday morning, March 5, and end Saturday afternoon, March 7, 2009. The meeting of the officers of the AHCT will take place Wednesday, March 4, 2009 from 9 am.-12 noon, and the meeting of the Board of Directors will take place that same day from 1:30-5:00.

This year's symposium will feature not just one but two distinguished plenary speakers: Edward H. Friedman and David Johnston. Chancellor's Professor of Spanish and Comparative Literature at Vanderbilt University, editor of the *Bulletin of the Comediantes*, and author of innumerable studies on the *Comedia* and Golden Age fiction, Professor Friedman will give the Donald T. Dietz keynote address, the title of which is "The High Anxiety of Influence: Zayas, Caro, and Sor Juana." Complementing the address of Professor Friedman will be that of Professor Johnston, who teaches in the Department of Hispanic Studies at Queens University, Belfast. Professor Johnston is a specialist in both Spanish classical theater and contemporary Spanish and Spanish American theater and is the translator of over thirty plays from Spanish, Portuguese, and French, including Lope's *The Dog in the Manger*, which was produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company in 2004 and which will be presented by The Shakespeare Company of Washington, D.C., in February and March, 2009. The title of his talk is "Lope in English Performance: The Tasks of the Translator."

AHCT Conference Registration: You must be a member of the AHCT to register for the conference. If you are not currently a member, please send membership dues of \$30 (faculty) or \$20 (Retired Members/Students) when registering. The registration for the conference for all faculty attendees, as well as for graduate students who are reading papers or participating in a special session, is \$95. A late fee of \$15 is assessed if registration is paid after February 9, 2009. Registration includes conference attendance, the annual banquet of the AHCT, transportation to and from the Chamizal National Memorial every evening for the Siglo de Oro Spanish Drama Festival, and refreshments in the Hospitality Room after theater performances. (Note a special registration rate of \$30 applies to students who do not present papers or attend the banquet. An additional \$15, payable at the time of registration, purchases tickets for the banquet.)

Registration payment may be made either by check or by Visa or MasterCard. To register for the conference, please fill out the enclosed form and mail it to: Professor Anita Stoll, First Vice President, AHCT, 2081 Lamberton Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 (a.stoll@csuohio.edu).

Conference Updates: The program for the 2009 Symposium will be posted on the AHCT website (www.comedias.org) in early February, 2009. For additional information about the conference, please contact the AHCT Conference Director, Professor Angel Sánchez, Arizona State University, Department of Languages and Literatures, PO Box 870202, Tempe, Arizona 85287-0202. TEL: 480-965-4576 (office) or 480-786-4633 (home). E-mail: Angel.Sanchez@asu.edu.

Extended Deadline of the Call for Papers: There are still a few openings available on the symposium program for 2009. College and university faculty are asked to send paper titles with one-page abstracts and/or proposals for special sessions to Prof. William R. Blue at Pennsylvania State University. Submissions should be sent via e-mail as attachments in Word. Professor Blue's e-mail address is: wrb10@psu.edu. The extended deadline for receipt of all submissions is January 15, 2009. Please note that this deadline does not apply to graduate student submissions.

The Association for Hispanic Classical Theater particularly encourages studies on all aspects of performance of Siglo de Oro dramatic texts, though proposals for papers or special sessions at the annual symposium on other topics related to Spanish Golden Age theater are welcome. Papers should be 20 minutes in length, and may be delivered in Spanish or English. Those submitting proposals should indicate a preferred day for their presentation, as well as any special equipment needs that they may have.

Hotel Reservations. The 2008 conference will be held at the Camino Real Hotel in El Paso, Texas. Reservations may be made by phone at 1-800-769-4300 or 1-915-534-3099, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm (MST). The deadline for the conference room rate is February 4, 2009. Participants must mention the AHCT conference and request the group rate of \$94 for a single or double room, or \$109 for a triple room, or \$124 for a quadruple room. Rollaway beds may be requested for an additional charge of \$15 per night. All rates are subject to a 15.5% tax. The group rate applies Tuesday, March 3, 2009, to Saturday, March 7, 2009.

Tentative Schedule of Performances. The following performances have been announced for this year's Siglo de Oro Drama Festival. Specific dates have yet to be determined.

El perro del hortelano
By Lope de Vega
Compañía de Repertorio 2Rc Teatro
Gran Canaria, Spain

Los locos de Valencia
By Lope de Vega
Compañía Teatro y Punto, A.C./INBA
Mexico, D.F.

Fuenteovejuna
By Lope de Vega
El Aula de Teatro de la Universidad de Murcia
Murcia, Spain

La Castro Corona de Sangre
By Antonio Ferreira
Teatro Ibérico y Candilejas del Desierto
Portugal/Ciudad Juárez

Canto Rodado
By various Siglo de Oro authors
Teatrela
Caracas, Venezuela

Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association, December 27-30, 2008. During the annual meeting of the MLA in San Francisco in December, the Division on Sixteenth- and Seventeenth Century Spanish Drama sponsored the annual banquet of the Comediantes, held at Maya Restaurant, as well as three well-attended sessions. The topics of the latter were: "Staging and Performance of Early Modern Spanish Theater"; "Breaking New Ground in *Comedia* Studies: Innovative Theories, Original Approaches, Inventive Applications, Imaginative Inquiries"; and "Manuscripts, Editions, Translations: A Roundtable on Textual Issues and Early Modern Spanish Theater."

Call for Papers, Annual Meeting of the MLA, December, 2009. The Division on Sixteenth- and Seventeenth Century Spanish Drama of the Modern Language Association is pleased to announce an open Call for Papers for the annual meeting of the MLA to be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 27-30, 2009. The topics of the three sessions sponsored by the Division are as follows:

Spaces and Places in the Early Modern Public Theater

Creation of dramatic space in the *Comedia* through deixis, diegesis, and visual images, within the context of the theaters' physical spaces.

Polyphony in the *Comedia*

Multiple voices, points of view, plots, forms of speech, meters, and sounds, and their relation to the organicity of *comedias*, their dramatic effects, reception, etc.

Early Modern Spanish Drama beyond the Public Playhouses

Court, private, church, convent, Jesuit, university, and street theaters: their influences and dramatic traditions, theatrical assumptions, venues, audiences, etc.

One page abstracts should be sent to Donald R. Larson at: larson.3@osu.edu. Deadline: March 15, 2009

Donations to AHCT: Donations in support of any of AHCT's projects and activities are deeply appreciated. To contribute, please send a check or credit card information to: AHCT, P.O. Box 2701, Flagstaff, AZ 86003.

With all good wishes for 2009,

Donald R. Larson
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