



ASSOCIATION FOR HISPANIC CLASSICAL THEATER, INC.

P.O. Box 4359, Bellingham, WA 98227

AHCT Newsletter

January, 2010

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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, 2010, the tentative schedule for the Chamizal National Memorial's 2010 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. The easiest way to pay dues and/or to register for the upcoming AHCT annual conference is online at the new AHCT echapters website for Association members. The site may be accessed via the following link:
<http://www.ahct.echapters.com>.

Annual Symposium. The 2010 AHCT Golden Age Theater Symposium will take place March 4-6, 2010 in El Paso, Texas. These dates coincide with the 2010 Siglo de Oro Theater Festival at the Chamizal National Memorial. Sessions will begin Thursday morning, March 4, and end Saturday afternoon, March 6, 2010. The meeting of the officers of the AHCT will take place Wednesday, March 3, 2010, from 9 am- 12 noon, and the meeting of the Board of Directors will take place the same day from 1:30-5:00.

This year's conference will feature several events of particular interest. The Donald T. Dietz keynote address will be given by Laurence Boswell, former Associate Director of both the Gate Theatre in London and of the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon. In recent years Mr. Boswell has gained renown as the pre-eminent director of Spanish Golden Age plays in English, and he also enjoys wide recognition as a translator. His production of *Fuente Ovejuna* was one of the highlights of the 2008 season of the Stratford Shakespeare Festival of Canada. More recently, he has also directed *Fuente Ovejuna*, in Spanish, for the Compañía Rakatá in Madrid, the same company for which he had earlier directed a highly lauded production of *El perro del hortelano*. A video of Mr. Boswell's remarks at the conference held in connection with the Stratford Festival production of *Fuente Ovejuna* may be found at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfLUHdc01Cg>.

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Joining Mr. Boswell in a second plenary session will be the distinguished translator, David Johnston, who will be making a much anticipated return visit to El Paso after his enthusiastically received address at last year's conference. Professor Johnston, who teaches in the Department of Hispanic Studies at Queens University, Belfast, 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 England in 2004 and by The Shakespeare Theatre Company of Washington, D.C., in February and March, 2009.

Still a third plenary session at this year's conference features Professors Harley Erdman and Gina Kaufmann of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Professor Erdman is the translator and Professor Kaufmann the director of Tirso's *Marta the Divine* which will be presented during the 2010 Chamizal Festival. Their session, in workshop format, will also include actors from the production.

Conference Hotel Reservations. The Symposium will take place at the Camino Real Hotel in El Paso, Texas. Hotel 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 2, 2010. Participants must mention the AHCT conference and request the group rate of \$90 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 2, 2010 to Saturday, March 6, 2010.

Conference Registration. You must be a member of the AHCT to register for the conference. Current membership dues are \$40 (or \$70 for two years) for faculty and \$30 (or \$50 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 \$105. A late fee of \$25 is assessed if registration is paid after February 8, 2010. 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 the theater performances. (Note: a special registration rate of \$30 applies to students who do not present papers or attend the banquet. An additional \$17, payable at the time of registration, purchases tickets for the banquet.)

To pay the registration fee, and/or pay dues for current year, please visit the [AHCT echapters website for Association members](http://www.ahct.echapters.com). The site is accessible at the following link: <http://www.ahct.echapters.com>.

Conference Updates. The program for the 2010 Symposium will be posted on the AHCT website (www.comedias.org) in early February, 2010. 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

Annual Siglo de Oro Drama Festival at the Chamizal National Memorial, March 3-March 7, 2010. This year the Siglo de Oro Drama Festival, marks its 35th anniversary. During each festival, the public is treated to a state of the art 500 seat theater with presentations by theater groups from around the world whose cast members traditionally perform in elegant baroque period costumes against a spectacular background of light and sound. As a diplomatic gesture of friendship, it has been customary to include at least one company from the country of Mexico among the invited international performing groups. Doors open at 6:30; performances begin at 7:00.

Tentative Schedule of Performances.

The following performances have been announced for this year's Siglo de Oro Drama Festival.

March 3, 2010	<i>ENTRE CLÁSICOS ANDA EL JUEGO</i> Escuela Superior de Arte Dramático, Murcia, Spain
March 4, 2010	<i>CASA CON DOS PUERTAS, MALA ES DE GUARDAR</i> Perro Teatro, México City, México

March 5, 2010 MARTA THE DIVINE
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts

March 6, 2010 CON QUIEN VENGO, VENGO
Escuela Superior de Arte Dramático, Murcia, Spain

March 7, 2010 EL CABALLERO DEL MILAGRO
Teatro Circulo, New York, New York

Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association, December 27-30, 2009. During the annual meeting of the MLA in Philadelphia in December, the Division on Sixteenth- and Seventeenth Century-Spanish Drama sponsored the annual banquet of the Comediantes, held at Amada restaurant, as well as three well-received sessions. The topics of the latter were: "Spaces and Places in the Early Modern Public Theater," "Early Modern Spanish Drama beyond the Public Playhouses," and "Polyphony in the Comedia."

Call for Papers, Annual Meeting of the MLA, January, 2011. 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 Los Angeles, California, January 6-9, 2011. The topics of the two sessions sponsored by the Division are as follows:

Roundtable on the Comedia and the Culture of the Baroque

Reconsiderations of the legacy of José Antonio Maravall on *comedia* studies and the shape of ideological/historicist approaches today.

Approaches to Early Modern Spanish Tragedy

Theoretical reflections on baroque Spanish tragedy; Spanish tragedy in a comparative European context; generic and cultural particularities.

One page abstracts should be sent to Laura Bass at: lrass@tulane.edu. Deadline: March 10, 2010

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 4359, Bellingham, WA 98227

With all good wishes for 2010,



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