



ASSOCIATION FOR HISPANIC CLASSICAL THEATER, INC.

P.O. Box 4359, Bellingham, WA 98227

AHCT Newsletter

January, 2011

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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, 2011, the provisional schedule for the Chamizal National Memorial's 2011 Siglo de Oro Drama Festival, a brief report on the annual meeting of the MLA just concluded in Los Angeles, and tentative information about next January's meeting of the MLA in Seattle.

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 first day of the month 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 e-chapters website for Association members. The site may be accessed via the following link: <http://www.ahct.echapters.com>.

Annual Symposium. The 2011 AHCT Spanish Golden Age Theater Symposium will take place March 3-5, in El Paso, Texas. These dates coincide with the 2011 Siglo de Oro Spanish Drama Festival at the Chamizal National Memorial. Sessions will begin Thursday morning, March 3, and end Saturday afternoon, March 5, 2011. The meeting of the officers of the AHCT will take place Wednesday, March 2, 2011, 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 conference will feature two plenary sessions. The Donald T. Dietz keynote address will be given by the eminent scholar and teacher, Luciano García Lorenzo. A specialist in Spanish theater, both classical and modern, as well as nineteenth century prose fiction, Dr. García Lorenzo, currently Professor at the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas in Madrid, is the author, editor, or co-editor of numerous books, including *Autoras y actrices en la historia del teatro español*, *El figurón: texto y puesta en escena*, *La criada en el teatro español del Siglo de Oro*, *El teatro clásico español a través de sus monarcas*, *Diccionario de la comedia del Siglo de Oro*, and *La construcción de un personaje: el gracioso*. The title of Dr. García Lorenzo's address is "El médico de su honra y los inicios de la Compañía Nacional de Teatro Clásico."

The second plenary address will feature the distinguished actor, director, playwright, and translator Dakin Matthews. Well known to members of the AHCT for his long list of stage, film, and TV credits, as well as for his previous highly anticipated participations in the annual symposium, Matthews will speak this year about his adaptation of Lope's *The Capulets and the Montagues*, which will be presented in

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performance at the 2011 Siglo de Oro Drama Festival, Saturday evening, March 5, by the ANDAK Stage Company under the direction of Anne McNaughten. It is expected that several members of the company will be present with Mr. Matthey during the plenary session.

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 January 30, 2011. 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 for an extra party may be obtained for an additional charge of \$15 per night. All rates are subject to a 15.5% tax. The group rate applies Tuesday, March 1, 2011 through Saturday, March 5, 2011.

AHCT 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 7, 2011. 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 performances, including the performance Saturday evening. (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.)

The easiest way to pay dues and/or to register for the upcoming conference is online at the AHCT e-chapters website for Association members. Use of the website for these transactions, rather than downloading paper forms, will ensure speed and accuracy and help to preserve our natural resources. To access the site please use the following link:
<http://www.ahct.echapters.com>. <<http://www.ahct.echapters.com>./>

Conference Updates. The program for the 2011 Symposium will be posted on the AHCT website (www.comedias.org), in early February, 2011. 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 2-March 6, 2011. This year the Siglo de Oro Drama Festival, marks its 36th anniversary. During the 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 period costumes, although occasionally in modern dress, 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 schedule of performances at the 2011 Siglo de Oro Spanish Drama Festival, subject to change, is as follows:

Wednesday March 2, 2011

Jazz Club Polonia (Spanish) (Based on *La Vida Es Sueño* by Pedro Calderón de la Barca)

Acting Group: EdeStreno (Trujillanos, Spain)

Director: Jesús Manchón

Thursday March 3, 2011

Peribáñez (Spanish) by Félix Lope de Vega

Acting Group: Los Barracos (Madrid, Spain)

Director: Amaya Curieses

Friday March 4, 2011

Senor Quijote Mio (Spanish) (Based on the novel by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra)

Acting Group: Perro Teatro (Mexico City, MX)

Director: Gilberto Guerrero

Saturday March 5, 2011

The Capulets and the Montagues by Félix Lope de Vega, English adaptation by Dakin Matthews

Acting Group: ANDAK Stage Company (Hollywood, USA)

Director: Anne McNaughton

Sunday March 6, 2011

El Burlador de Sevilla (Spanish) by Tirso de Molina

Acting Group: Escuela Nacional de Arte Teatral (Mexico City, MX)

Director: Carlos Corona

Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association, January 6-9, 2011. During the annual meeting of the MLA in Los Angeles in early January, the Division on Sixteenth- and Seventeenth Century-Spanish Drama sponsored the annual banquet of the *Comediantes*, held at the Border Grill Downtown Restaurant, as well as two well-received sessions. Some thirty-five people attended the banquet, which was ably organized by Baltasar Fra-Moliner. The topics of the two sessions held by the division were: "The *Comedia* and the Culture of the Baroque: Reconsiderations of the Legacy of José Antonio Maravall" and "Approaches to Early Modern Spanish Tragedy." Other special sessions of interest to scholars of early modern Spanish theater were "Cervantes and Performance" and "The Spanish *Comedia* rewrites the Hebrew Bible."

Annual Meeting of the MLA, January, 2012. For next year's meeting of the MLA in Seattle the Division on Sixteenth- and Seventeenth Century Spanish Drama is proposing to sponsor, or co-sponsor, three sessions. Exact titles and descriptions of the sessions have not been determined as of this writing, but the tentative topics are as follows:

Comedy and Satire in the *Comedia*: Comparative Approaches

War and Armed Conflict in the *Comedia*

Court and Convent Drama in Early Modern Spanish Theater (A Roundtable)

Definitive titles of the three sessions, along with information about the submission of abstracts, will be announced on the MLA Forum page shortly.

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 the New Year,,



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