

GALita presents VOLCANO: Cuentos de El Salvador / Tales of El Salvador

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Washington, D.C. - GALita a program of GALA for the entire family, is proud to present **VolcanO – Tales of El Salvador** by **Cornelia Cody**. Commissioned by GALA Hispanic Theatre and directed by Ms. Cody, this bilingual production will be presented at GALA Theatre, 3333 14th Street NW, Washington, DC 20010 from **March 3 through March 17, 2018**. The theater is located one block north of the Columbia Heights Metro station on the Green and Yellow lines. Parking is available at the Giant Food garage on Park Road NW.

For generations, the popular Salvadoran folk tales of the *cadejos*, the magic dogs of the volcanoes, have been passed down from family to family. With lively music and movement, the stories of the *cadejos* now come to life on stage as they protect Salvadorans at home and abroad from eruptions of volcanoes, thieves in the night, and journeys across borders.

“Volcanoes,” states playwright Cornelia Cody, “are beautiful, dangerous, frightening, and a part of the Salvadoran landscape. They are like folktales, stories that are often charming and a little scary. The play, *VolcanO*, combines folktales with a real-life immigration experience and its expressions of longing and dreams told through music, poetry, song, and dance.”

Student matinees for are scheduled week days on **March 5 - 9 and March 12 - 16, 2018 at 10:30 am**. Performances for the general public are on **Saturday, March 3; Saturday, March 10; and Saturday, March 17 at 3 pm**. The duration of this family show is approximately 45 minutes and is appropriate for ages 5 through 10.

ABOUT PLAYWRIGHT, DIRECTOR AND PRODUCTION

Cornelia Cody, born in El Salvador, is a poet, playwright, and the author of children's books, textbooks, and academic papers on humor. She has written and/or adapted bilingual scripts for GALA, Discovery Theatre at the Smithsonian, Theatre Hopkins, and Children's Theatre Association. For GALA, she has adapted *Bodas de sangre*, *Platero y yo* (named one of the best D.C children's play in 2014), and *Las aventuras de Don Quijote*. As an actress, Cody has performed at The Shakespeare Theatre, Center Stage, Arena Stage, The Kennedy Center, and in numerous television commercials. At GALA, she had lead roles in *La zapatera prodigiosa*, *Doña Rosita la solterona*, *Don Perlimplín*, *Eloisa está debajo de un almendro*, and *Entre mujeres*.

Cody taught theatre studies at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts for over 20 years. Her one-woman show, *Mongrel: The Life and Words of Dorothy Parker*, was performed off-Broadway at the York Theatre and at Goucher College where she has directed, taught, and led workshops on bilingual theater. She earned a Master of Arts from The Johns Hopkins University (Writing), New York University (Performance Studies), and University of Maryland (American Studies), where she pursued her Ph.D. She now lives in the Netherlands.

VolcanO features GALA company members **Karen Morales**, who appeared in *Blancaflor-The Girl Wizard*;

Platero y yo and *Que las hay, las hay...Believe it or Not!*; **Delbis Cardona** and **Karen Romero**, who appeared in *Blancaflor –The Girl Wizard*; and **Thais Menéndez**, who appeared in *Las nuevas aventuras de Don Quijote de la Mancha*. Appearing for the first time with GALita is **Christian Linares**.

Scenic Design is by **Brian Gillick**, who was Assistant Scenic Designer for *Cervantes – El Ultimo Quijote* at GALA. Lighting Design is by **Mary Keegan**, who designed *Séneca: Ratón de biblioteca*, and Sound Design is by **William D'Eugenio**, who designed for *Crónica de una muerte anunciada* at GALA. Costume Design and Properties are by **Alicia Tessari**, who designed *Blancaflor-The Girl Wizard* and *Séneca: Ratón de biblioteca* for GALita. **Ártemis López** is Stage Manager; **Lena Salins** is Production Manager; and **Devin Mahoney** is Technical Director. **Hugo Medrano** is Producer.

ON EXHIBIT

La Esquina

An exhibition of photographs by Rick Reinhart documenting the Latino history of Mount Pleasant and based on interviews of long-time residents of the neighborhood. The exhibition is sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution.

ABOUT GALita

Since 1980, GALita has produced children's theater by Hispanic playwrights in both Spanish and English that inspire a sense of joy, discovery, pride and identity in our community's children. GALita

also has commissioned new works and adaptations based on classic Hispanic literature, presented international theater companies such as Teatro Gayumba from the Dominican Republic, produced several children's film festivals, and collaborated with Kids Euro Festival on children's programming.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets are \$10 each (children), Adults \$12 (general public performances). For more information call 202-234-7174 or visit www.galatheatre.org.

This production is supported by Target, the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs and is in collaboration with the Embassy of El Salvador and the Casa de la Cultura of El Salvador.

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