

## **GALita presents PICASSO: A World Premiere written and directed by Cornelia Cody**

**Entertainment** 2019-02-18 12:30:41

**Washington, D.C.** - GALita, a program of GALA for the entire family, is proud to present ***Picasso*** by **Cornelia Cody**. Commissioned by GALA Hispanic Theatre and directed by Ms. Cody, this bilingual production will be presented at GALA Theatre, 3333 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC 20010 from **March 9 through March 23, 2019**. 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.

GALita's production of *Picasso* presents the art and life of the creative genius through his memories of family and friends and his love of bullfights, the circus, and all types of performances. Using music, dance, and puppets, *Picasso* explores the artist's life and what inspired him.

"Central to the play," states playwright Cornelia Cody, "is Picasso's feelings and thoughts concerning children and childhood." "I could paint like Leonardo da Vinci by the time I was 13," said Picasso. "But it has taken me a lifetime to paint like a child."

Student matinees for *Picasso* are scheduled week days on **March 11 - 15 and March 18 - 22, 2019 at 10:30 am**. Performances for the general public are on **Saturday, March 9; Saturday, March 16; and Saturday, March 23 at 3 pm**. The duration of this family show is approximately 55 minutes and is suitable for ages 5 through 105!

### **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 written *VolcanO*, and 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.

***Picasso*** features GALA company members **Karen Morales**, who appeared in *Between Earth and Sky*, *VolcanO*, *Blancaflor-The Girl Wizard*; and *Platero y yo*; **Delbis Cardona** and **Karen Romero**, who appeared in *Between Earth and Sky*, *VolcanO*, and *Blancaflor –The Girl Wizard*; **Camilo Linares**, who appeared in *Between Earth and Sky* and *VolcanO*; and **Adrian Iglesias**, who appeared in *Blancaflor-The Girl Wizard*. Appearing for the first time with GALita is **Teresa**

**Dansky.**

Scenic Design is by **Jonathan Dahm Robertson**, who designed for *Séneca: Ratón de biblioteca* at GALA. Lighting Design is by **Alberto Segarra**, who designed *Between Earth and Sky*, and Costume Design is by **Jeanette Christensen**, who designed *Blueberries for Sal* at Adventure Theater MTC. Projections are by **Kelly Colburn** and Choreography is by **Alvaro Palau**. Properties are by **Alicia Tessari**, who designed *VolcanO* and *Blancaflor-The Girl Wizard*. **Rachael Sheffer** is Stage Manager; **Tony Koehler** is Production Coordinator; and **Devin Mahoney** is Technical Director. **Hugo Medrano** is Producer.

## **IN THE LOBBY**

Evelyn Manzano, author and illustrator of “Piti Finds Picasso”, will sign her children’s book in the GALA lobby during the run of the production. An educator in the Arlington Public Schools in Virginia, Ms. Manzano’s book is dedicated to those who have overcome life’s obstacles.

## **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](http://www.galatheatre.org).

This production is supported by Target, the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, the Harman Family Foundation, and the Mayor’s Office on Latino Affairs.

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## **CONTACT:**

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