

For Immediate Release

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Breath of Fire Latina Theater Ensemble presents
Our 2nd Annual New Works Festival of 2009, July 24-26

- A weekend dedicated to promoting, producing and celebrating the work of Latina/o playwrights!

Join us to hear original works from across the country. Last year's winner and top 2 finalist selections were selected to be produced as part of the BOFLTE 2009 Season - Winner & Season opener- *Hurricane in a Glass* by Kimberly del Busto, Top 2 Finalist - *Miss Lebron* by René Solivan and *The Medea Complex* by Patricia Crespin, both due later this fall. FESTIVAL OPENS...

Friday, July 24th

7:00 PM Opening Reception

7:30 PM *Somebody's Children* by José Casas - "Honorable Mention"

BOFLTE New Works Festival's acknowledges playwright - Jose Casas with an "Honorable Mention" for his work. We open our festival with the reading of Casas' *Somebody's Children* - *A play that envelopes us in the day and lives of homeless Orange County youth and the harsh realities in which they struggle to survive in; all the while doing so in the shadow of, The Happiest Place on Earth. Yet in the midst of it all, these children still have hope and dreams; reminding us all that hope continues to strive to exist in even the harshest conditions.* "Winner of the 2009 BONDERMAN - Theatre for Youth Playwriting Competition" & scheduled to be published in DRAMATIC PUBLISHING later this year. - Directed by Angela Cruz, NWF Chair

Saturday, July 25th

3:00 PM *Night Train* by Mel Nieves

At the crossroads of the world, on a dark rainy night, a boy and girl will meet, take a ride into the wee small hours and perhaps forever change the course of their tomorrows. Directed by Angela Mauro, Ensemble Member

5:00 PM *Breaststiculars* by Caroline Castro

A single mother and lingerie designer, Rosalinda Valle is tested and conflicted as she encounters the opportunity to fashion a brazier for post-op patients with implants rather than her usual tailor-made garments that meet each natural woman's specific measurements. Breaststiculars evokes girl & womanhood, companionship and identity and discovering how they all relate to one another. Directed by Elsa Martinez Phillips, Co-Artistic Director

7:30 PM *CHEAT* by René Solivan

Inspired by a true scandal. Blinded by ambition, two sisters and a young man struggle with cultural identity, morality and Catholic guilt as they pursue the American dream at any cost. Directed by Sara Guerrero, Artistic Director

Sunday, July 26th

1:00 PM *A Trip Through The Mind of a "Crazy" Mexican* by Alvaro Saar Rios

As The Royal Mexican Players, the most Mexican-est performance troupe in the world, are preparing for their newest show, an investigative reporter interrupts rehearsal in hopes of finding out the "true identity" of the members of the performance troupe and, most importantly, its founder "Crazy Mex." Directed by Ernest Lee, Ensemble Member

3:00 PM *El Tren De La Muerte* by Janine Salinas

Francisco is a lanky, awkward, teenage boy with enormous wings made of dirty feathers and trash. When civil war wipes out the small village in Mexico where he has been raised, he sets out on a journey to find his mother in the United States. Along the way he meets Chavo and Sweetie, two young brothers who know life on the tracks all too well. Together, these three outcasts discover the true meaning of adventure, family, and love. Directed by Sara Guerrero, Artistic Director

5:00 PM *The Not-So-Young and the Very Restless* by Liz Sandoval

The "plight" of the single person has many faces. Too many permutations to name. In the musical, "The Not-So-Young and the Very Restless", the universal principle that Comedy=Truth + Pain is illustrated through the stories of three central characters. Will they work through their personal trials--and ultimately find "love"? Directed by Angela Cruz, NWF Chair

General Admission is \$5.00 per reading, \$10 per day (Sat & Sun) or \$25 for the entire weekend.

Where: 310 W. 5th Street (2nd floor corner of 5th & Broadway, above the El Curtido Restaurant) Santa Ana, CA 92701

For reservations call (714)600-0129 or visit us at: www.breathoffire.org

Founded in 2003, Breath of Fire Latina Theater Ensemble is a 501(c)3 non-profit theater that creates opportunities and leadership roles for Latinas in the visual and performing arts. We aim to produce work that reflects impacts and empowers the Latina/o community. We believe in the transformative power of theater and aim to raise awareness of critical issues in the community, entertain and challenge, foster cross-cultural understanding, be a catalyst for social justice change, and spiritual healing.

- Recipient of the O.C. Human Relations Community Leader Award
 - Recipient of the Hoff Foundation Grant of 2008
 - The *only* Latina/o Theatre Ensemble in Orange County
 - Recognized as "Best New Theater Troupe of 2007" – OC Weekly
 - Front Page of the OC Register for their production of "Portrait of Ten Women"
 - Produced and developed the world premiere of The "Mexican" O.C. labeled as O.C.'s most significant play
 - Established New Works Festival to represent the work of today's Chicana/o and Latino/a playwrights
 - Hosted & Debut performance of OC of award winning Queer Chicana Playwright and Performer -Monica Palacios' and show, Greetings from a Queer Senorita"
 - Co-produced and developed for social justice play and production - "9ine Digits Away From My Dream"
 - Past members have gone to perform original work in NYC
- For more, visit: www.breathoffire.org/press.htm