

TEATRO DE CIERTOS HABITANTES

MÉXICO

QUIXOTE, ON THE CONQUEST OF SELF

by

Mónica Hoth and Claudio Valdés Kuri

Directed by

Claudio Valdés Kuri

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www.ciertoshabitantes.com

PRESENTATION

*"A conquest of the self,
the greatest conquest to be desired"*
Don Quixote

On the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the death of Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra's, Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes was commissioned by the Cervantino International Festival to create the play *Quixote, on the Conquest of Self*.

Through a playful montage, filled with humor and perspicuity, Don Quixote uses the evocative power of his book as a means of transport that, when opened randomly, leads the audience to fascinating episodes within the world of this foundational text of the Spanish language. The famous errant knight, unmatched example of humanity's ability to go beyond themselves, fills the audience with the courage to achieve their noblest dreams and aspirations.

SYNOPSIS

"If you don't try, how will you achieve it?"
Carlos Fuentes (in relation to Quixote)

Don Quixote de la Mancha has remained alive since the time he was conceived by Cervantes until today. He wonders if he has a life of his own or is just an invention by his author. The ingenious, errant knight—in the company of some spectators who participate in the performance—will be involved in a whirlwind of adventures based on Cervantes and contemporary stories throughout which he will go after his greatest enemy, the sage Festoon, who today has become the Giant of Apathy who crushes the desires of the audience.

Through a virtuous acting performance, *Quixote, on the Conquest of Self*, offers a bold, fun, and moving adventure, in which viewers become an essential part of the staging, which will lead them to rediscover the joy of reading, to find new meanings about failure, and reclaim longings for the common good.

PROGRAM

Credits

TEATRO DE CIERTOS HABITANTES

QUIXOTE, ON THE CONQUEST OF SELF

By

Mónica Hoth* and Claudio Valdés Kuri*

Directed by

Claudio Valdés Kuri

With

Rodrigo Carrillo Tripp

Xóchitl Galindres

Director

Claudio Valdés Kuri

Choreography

Alicia Sánchez* and Irene Akiko

Lighting Designer

Sebastián Solórzano / Josafat Aguilar

Costume Designer

Ximena Fernández

Producer

Josafat Aguilar Rodríguez

Dramaturge

Analola Santana

General Coordination

Fabrina Melón

* Members of the Sistema Nacional de Creadores de Artes FONCA
Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes has the support of the program "México en Escena"
FONCA.

Program Notes

Never before in the history of humanity we have had access to so much information, and amid so much noise, we have forgotten ourselves, our dreams and our immense power. Something we call "reality" seems to be beyond us, whimsically determining our well-being.

We are overwhelmed by indolence, abuse, resignation, and helplessness. And among these desolate plains, we see in the distance a strange character dressed in armor, spear and shield that comes forward, towards me, towards us, to face the evils that afflict us today, the monsters of our time: he is Mr. Don Quixote.

THE COMPANY

TEATRO DE CIERTOS HABITANTES

Founded in 1997, Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes (Certain Inhabitants Theatre) has had a singular trajectory based on the premise of many hours of laboratory research that produce few and highly recognized productions worldwide.

In their constant search for renewal, each staging of this iconic collective has been conceived by way of different challenges and artistic processes. The company has maintained a commitment to its conception and vision of art as service, even though the content and form of each stage production is vastly different. Likewise, the company has constantly privileged the development of a multidisciplinary performer - demanding the best of their abilities - as the primary form of communication with the spectator.

The company has trained multiple artists, creative producers and promoters of all nationalities, who in turn they have brought the experiences acquired to their own projects. Throughout more than two decades, Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes has opened unexplored routes for Mexican theatre and has innovated forms of stage production, inspiring and motivating many other companies. In addition to their stage work, the company has created fiction and documentary films, television programs, radio series, book editions, recordings, conferences, and workshops.

With the validation and the experience accumulated through the years, the current interests of the company have extended to the transmission of knowledge, and the active participation in social and ecological projects through its center for creation, education, and collaboration in the performing arts: ArtBoretum.

Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes has performed in more than 200 cities, in the most prestigious festivals and theaters of the world, as well as in remote towns often excluded from theatrical experiences. The company has the support of the "México en Escena" program by the FONCA (National Fund for Culture and Arts).

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PRESS

An audacious and ambitious performance that would intrigue any student of the Spanish literary diaspora, and might well greatly move you, as it did to me.

Chris Jones, Chicago Tribune

This version of Don Quixote is one of the most imaginative plays I've ever seen.

Seth Arkin, Seth Saith Chicago

You will love this work and it may make you want to find a copy of the original story and re-read part of the adventure that Cervantes created.

Al Bresloff, Around the Town Chicago

Incredible monologue. A reflection that penetrates the soul. A true delight.

JC Segundo, Guía del Ocio

Don Quixote de la Mancha is an ideal and the work presented by the Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes was in charge of stoking it.

Vanguardia, Saltillo

A fun bet that, with truth as the protagonist of the text, defends the validity of universal values such as solidarity and justice.

Susana Fernández, Interescena

The image of the gentleman of the sad figure gives rise to a fun, current, relevant, creative, disturbing, and different reflection.

Hugo Hernández, Milenio

CONTACT

Antonio Gallardo, public relations.
antonio@ciertoshabitantes.com
Cel. +52.55.26895690

Josafat Aguilar Rodríguez, producer
josafat.aguilar.rodriguez@gmail.com
Cel. +.52.55.27383107



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