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# The Association for Hispanic Classical Theater, Inc.

Newsletter: July 2021

Cordial greetings from the President and Board of Directors of the Association for Hispanic Classical Theater! This issue of the newsletter includes information concerning the recent virtual AHCT Symposium, news from the board meeting and information regarding conferences and events of interest to Spanish Golden Age enthusiasts.

## AHCT Symposium 2021: Recasting the Comedia: Confronting the Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century / Refundir la comedia desde los retos del siglo XXI:

The Annual Conference for the AHCT brought together *comediantes* from around the world on Zoom from July 5-9, 2021. The conference was divided into three lines of investigation: "Theater Practicalities: Innovation, Translation and Pedagogical Collaborations"; "The Intersectional Comedia: Questions of Race, Gender, Class on the Stage"; and "The Comedia under Siege: Confinements, Digitalization, and the Future" with thirty academics and practitioners participating in those conversations. Alongside the discussions, we were also treated to workshops on researching digitally, translating for the stage, preparing for administrative roles, and the use of podcasts/audiobooks, as well as roundtables with Natalia Menéndez, Julio Vélez Sainz, [EFE TRES Teatro](#), [Teatro de los Sótanos](#), and [Grumelot](#).



## News from the Board Meeting:

### 2022 Annual Conference:

Unfortunately, the board has been unable to ascertain if the Chamizal will be reopened in time for a 2022 festival, and even if so, when that would take place. As such, it was decided to try again for a conference in Almagro, in conjunction with the [Festival Internacional de Teatro Clásico de Almagro](#) in July 2022. A call for papers has been posted on the AHCT website in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#) and more details can be found below. ¡Ojalá a la tercera vaya la vencida!

### Upcoming Elections: VP for the Annual Conference

Esther Fernández (Rice University) announced at the annual board meeting that she will be stepping down as VP for the Annual Conference after five years of service. As in recent elections for officer positions, she will stay on in 2022 to help orient the new VP-elect. Elections will take place in the fall, stay tuned for more details, but in the meantime, if you would like to know more about what the position entails, please contact Esther directly: [ef14@rice.edu](mailto:ef14@rice.edu).

### 2021 AHCT Founders' Prizes Winners:



#### **The Walker Reid Comedia Production Prize: Teatro Inverso's *Rosaura***

The unanimous winner of this year's Walker Reid prize is Teatro Inverso's production of *Rosaura*, which reimagines *La vida es sueño* from the perspective of Rosaura. Ample evidence of its positive reception was provided with the nomination. The evaluators praised this two-actor production for its originality, creativity, and cultural relevance. As one reviewer noted, "Perfectly adapted for touring and fringe theater venues, *Rosaura* embodies all the criteria for this award."

#### **The David Gitlitz Comedia Prize in Pedagogy and Mentorship:**

**Winner: Glenda Y. Nieto-Cuebas, Ohio Wesleyan University**

This year's Gitlitz prize is awarded to Glenda Y. Nieto-Cuebas, whose nomination was supported by three different letters written by former students, all of whom cited her decisive influence on their academic and personal development, as well as for the passion for Hispanic Classical Theater that she brings to her students. The evaluators noted the broad range of students influenced by her, as well as her dedication to young AHCT scholars.



Also nominated: Erin Cowling, MacEwan University; Kerry Wilks, Wichita State University; Jason Yancey, Grand Valley State University

### 2022 Prizes:

This year we will call for nominations for the Franklin Smith Comedia Translation Prize and the Matthew Stroud Comedia Article Prize. Details will be available shortly on the AHCT website's [prize page](#).



## Upcoming CFPs for Conferences and Publications:

**RSA 2022:** The Renaissance Society of America's annual conference will take place in Dublin, 30 March – 2 April 2022. As an associate organization, the AHCT has the ability to sponsor four guaranteed panels. The committee is accepting both panel and individual proposals. Panels may include either three or four presenters. Submissions and presentations are welcome in Spanish or English.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- Power differentials
- Portrayals of authority (just and unjust)
- Gender politics
- Costuming and/or disguise
- Material culture
- Transatlantic exchanges
- Translation, adaptation, and performance in/of the Comedia
- Old and new performance spaces
- New Comedia Performance Spaces in the Digital Age.

Please include the required information below with your proposal to [Rob.turner@usd.edu](mailto:Rob.turner@usd.edu)

Conference presenters must be members of the Association for Hispanic Classical Theater and the Renaissance Society of America.

For more information about the RSA Dublin 2022 conference click here:

<https://www.rsa.org/page/RSA Dublin 2022>

**Deadline for submission is July 31, 2021.**

### Submission of proposals:

- If you are submitting a **Panel**, please include:
  - Panel Title (15 word maximum)
  - Organizer(s)
  - Panel Chair (maximum 2 co-chairs)
  - Respondent (optional, maximum 1)
  - Discipline area
  - Please include **ALL** individual information for each panel participant as well.
- If you are submitting as an **Individual**, please include:
  - Paper title (15 word maximum)
  - Abstract text (150 word maximum)
  - CV (.pdf or .doc)
  - PhD completion data (past or anticipated)
  - Full name, current affiliation, and email address

## Comedia Performance:

### A special announcement from the Founding Editor, Bárbara Mujica:

After 18 years at the helm of *Comedia Performance*, Bárbara Mujica, the founding editor, has decided to step down. The 2022 issue will be guest edited by Esther Fernández, Glenda Nieto-Cuebas, and Erin Cowling (details below).

2022 Special Issue: Recasting the *Comedia*: Confronting the Challenges of the 21st Century  
(Selected papers from the 2021 Association for Hispanic Classical Theater/Almagro Festival Virtual Conference)

In conjunction with the AHCT Virtual Symposium 2021, select papers from the three conference topics will be printed in the 2022 issue of *Comedia Performance*. All panelists will be invited to submit their revised papers based on the below deadlines. Papers must follow the regular style guidelines for CP. For more information, please contact the guest editors.



**Guest Editors:**

Erin Alice Cowling (MacEwan University) [cowlinge@macewan.ca](mailto:cowlinge@macewan.ca)

Esther Fernández (Rice University) [ef14@rice.edu](mailto:ef14@rice.edu)

Glenda Y. Nieto-Cuebas (Ohio Wesleyan University) [gynietoc@owu.edu](mailto:gynietoc@owu.edu)

**Timeline:**

Full Drafts: September 1, 2021 (**send to editors via email**)

Revised papers submitted to CP online system: October 30, 2021

Expected Publication: April 2022

**Please note:** The journal will also publish its regular features such as interviews, performance reviews, and book reviews. To submit these materials, please visit: <http://editorialmanager.com/comedia>. The online system will guide you through the steps to upload your submission to the editorial office. The subscription price is included in the annual AHCT membership dues. Additional copies are \$20 each and may be purchased online by way of PayPal at <http://www.wordpress.comedias.org/comedia-performance/>. Institutional subscription pricing information is available at [https://www.psupress.org/journals/jnls\\_CP.html](https://www.psupress.org/journals/jnls_CP.html).

*Comedia Performance* also advertises recently published books, performances, study abroad programs, and conferences. Ads are \$100 for a full page; checks should be made out to AHCT and sent to the AHCT treasurer. Send camera-ready ads to Barbara Mujica at: [mujica@georgetown.edu](mailto:mujica@georgetown.edu). You can email book review editor Sharon Voros: [sdvoros@gmail.com](mailto:sdvoros@gmail.com) for an updated list of available books.

## **AHCT Annual Conference (in Almagro, Spain): The Comedia Between Two Worlds/ La comedia entre dos mundos**

Versión [en español disponible aquí.](#)

**Tentative dates: July 2022 (Exact Dates TBA Shortly)**

**The Association for Hispanic Classical Theater (AHCT) invites submissions for a symposium taking place in tandem with *The Almagro International Classical Theatre Festival* in July 2022.**

For next year's conference we will hold a traditional-style symposium. Nonetheless, presentations will be limited to **15 minutes papers** to allow ample time for discussion.

In this globalized era in which we live, thinking about the *comedia* straddling two "worlds" invokes an infinite number of critical possibilities that can open new ways to approach a genre with a complex ideological charge. By "worlds" we refer not only literally to geographical locations but also to broader and more abstract and metaphorical ideologies. It is specifically that liminal position embraced by sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Hispanic theater that continues to make it surprisingly suggestive in our present times.

With this in mind, we invite contributions that studies the *comedia* and its performance/staging from dualities or "worlds" that are or seem to be in contradiction. To cite a few examples, these may be:

different geographical spaces or continents, historical moments, social ideologies, cultural trends, religious beliefs, or theoretical and aesthetic approaches.

#### Submission of proposals:

- Abstracts should not exceed 300 words, including name and institutional affiliation.
- To submit an abstract, visit this [LINK](#) and fill out an abstract submission form.
- The deadline for receipt of all submissions (abstracts and graduate student papers) is **December 15th, 2021, without exception**. There will be no extension of deadline for this conference, so that we may evaluate the submissions over the winter break. We will notify participants by **January 30, 2022**.
- Graduate students: For all graduate students, abstracts are due **December 15th, 2021**. **Full papers will only be required in the following situations:**
  1. If you want to be considered for the Hesse Award for Best Graduate Essay,
  2. If you want to be considered for the Hesse Registration Awards,
  3. If you would like to have a member of the AHCT give you feedback on your paper.

\*\* If any of the above apply to you, please submit an abstract within the regular deadline and your full paper by February 15, 2022 with the heading "AHCT GRADUATE SUBMISSION" to Judith Caballero at [cabalj@millsaps.edu](mailto:cabalj@millsaps.edu). Please remember that essays should be between 8 and 9 pages in length (not including the works-cited page).

The conference committee will facilitate purchasing of tickets for the performances at a special discounted price.

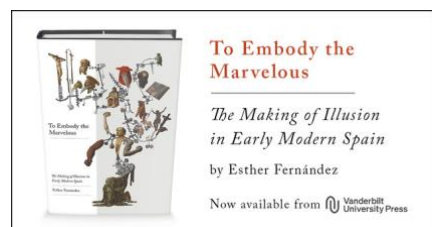
Questions can be sent to: Esther Fernández ([ef14@rice.edu](mailto:ef14@rice.edu))

Conference presenters must be members of *The Association for Hispanic Classical Theater*  
<http://www.wordpress.comedias.org/>

## New Publications by Members:

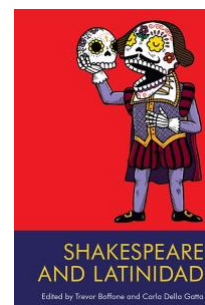
### Books:

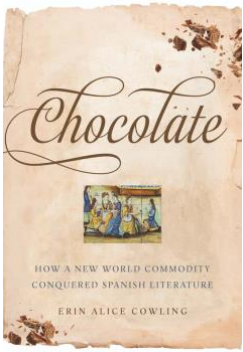
Bárbara Mujica has two new edited volumes scheduled for publication next year by Vernon Press: *Staging and Stage Décor: The Theater of Early Modern Spain* and *Staging and Stage Décor: Early European Theater*.



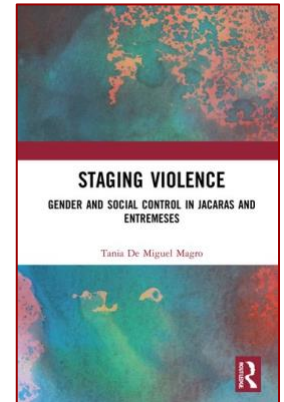
Esther Fernández's new book: [\*To Embody the Marvelous: The Making of Illusion in Early Modern Spain\*](#) is now available for purchase from Vanderbilt UP.

Ed. Carla Della Gatta and Trevor Boffone, [\*Shakespeare and Latinidad\*](#).  
Edinburgh UP, 2021.





Erin Alice Cowling, [\*Chocolate: How a New World Commodity Conquered Spanish Literature\*](#), U Toronto P, 2021. Blogpost with a short description [here](#).



Tania de Miguel Magro, [\*Staging Violence Gender and Social Control in Jácara and Entremeses\*](#), Routledge, 2021.

[\*Teatro, personaje y discurso en el Siglo de Oro\*](#), ed. Dann Cazés Gryj and Aurelio González, Universidad Iberoamericana A.C., 2020.

[\*Signos vitales: procreación e imagen en la narrativa áurea\*](#), Enrique García Santo Tomás. Iberoamericana Vervuert, 2020.

## Articles/Book Chapters:

Esther Fernández has also published two book chapters this year: "Confessing on the Move: Journey to Parnassus and 'Appendix to the Parnassus'." In [\*The Oxford Handbook of Cervantes\*](#). Ed. Aaron M. Kahn. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2021; and "Más allá de la cuarta pared: Augusto Boal y la reinterpretación social del teatro clásico español." [\*Shakespeare y otros clásicos contemporáneos: una mirada shakesperiana al teatro mexicano actual\*](#). Eds. José Ramón Alcántara Mejía Et. al. Ciudad de México: CITRU-Universidad Iberoamericana, 2021.

Melissa Figueroa recently published "[\*Passing as Morisco: Concealment and Slander in Antonio Mira de Amescua's El mártir de Madrid\*](#)" in the Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies.

Frederick A. de Armas, "Ecos y reescrituras de Calderón en El conde Partinuplés de Ana Caro: La gran Cenobia, La dama duende y La vida es sueño," [\*Anuario calderoniano\*](#) 13 (2020): 229-248.

Frederick A. de Armas, "Constructing Don Juan's World: Women and the Cosmos," [\*Immature Playboys and Predatory Tricksters: Studies in the Sources, Scope and Reach of Don Juan\*](#) eds. Carmen García de la Rasilla and Jorge Abril-Sánchez. Newark, DE: Juan de la Cuesta, 2020: 61-78.

Manuel Delgado Morales (2021) "[\*En torno a la virtud moral del Duque de Ferrara en El castigo sin venganza de Lope de Vega\*](#)", Bulletin of Spanish Studies, 98:2, 169-191.



## Other Events of Interest:

Mini-Symposium on Music & Dance this September

On September 17, three members of AHCT will lead a two-hour symposium that reports new research, shares rare video/audio clips, and features expert demonstrations by musicians and dance historians.

Yuri Porras (Texas State) will highlight the tradition of strategically plotting music into theater performances that came to the Americas with the earliest Spanish explorers, as he examines the dramatic power written into late 16<sup>th</sup> century songs by Juan del Encina.

Ivy Walters (North Central College) will foreground the dramatic work of music in the *comedia nueva*, using plays by Lope de Vega from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century to illustrate her points.

The FSU Early Music Ensemble (Sarah Eyerly, director) will connect scholarship with soundscapes, describing the process (and displaying the results) of research reconstructing the sonic world of Florida's Spanish missions in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century.

Chad Gasta (Iowa State) will continue the theme of using dramatic music to track cultural exchange as he carries the chronology into the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, showing video of indigenous communities in South America performing transatlantic opera.

Piffaro the Renaissance Band will join these experts to perform musical extracts on period instruments.

Authorities on the transmission of music between Europe and the New World, internationally acclaimed for recordings of early modern Spanish dance music, and inventors of such ear-opening programs as "The Musical World of Don Quixote," Piffaro will bring 40 years of experience with early modern music to the symposium.

Dance historians Nena Couch, Paige Whitley-Bauguess, Thomas Baird, and Idy Codington will demonstrate Renaissance, Baroque, and Regency dances – the pavaues, galliards, branles, chaconas, zarabandas, escarramanes, and country dances that playwrights wrote into performances while Spain ruled Florida (1513-1821).

This mini symposium celebrates the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dr. Wiley Housewright's groundbreaking *History of Music & Dance in Florida, 1565-1865*, and serves as the overture to Theater with a Mission's two-day Loco for Love Festival focused on Music, Dance, & Diversity in Florida History.

Registration is free. Tickets are available to attend in person (limited capacity) and online at [www.theaterwithamission.com](http://www.theaterwithamission.com).



## AHCT Reminders:

**Benefits of AHCT Membership:** You can renew your membership easily on the AHCT webpage at <http://www.wordpress.comedias.org/ahct-membership-inquiry/>. Members of AHCT whose dues are up to date may borrow or stream videos from the archive of performances of Golden Age plays, receive the Association's annual journal, *Comedia Performance*, and access the semiannual AHCT Newsletter. To update your member profile, please access your file via your username and password, and update your record at <http://ahct.echapters.com/>. If your email address has changed, re-subscribe to the listserv at: [http://mail.comedias.org/mailman/listinfo/comedias\\_comedias.org](http://mail.comedias.org/mailman/listinfo/comedias_comedias.org)



This newsletter was prepared and submitted by Erin Alice Cowling, Secretary of the Association for Hispanic Classical Theater in July 2021. Any corrections, questions, or notes for future news, please direct your correspondence to [cowlinge@macewan.ca](mailto:cowlinge@macewan.ca).