

Teatro de la Luna

—al mejor estilo latinoamericano

—with the best Latin American flavor

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Theater Troupe from Spain Tackles Immigration—Then and Now

Immigration is, was and maybe always will be a provocative topic. *Letters from the Swallows* (Cartas de las Golondrinas) dips into the personal stories of people who have uprooted their lives—from the Spanish who went to the Americas to the Latin Americans who make their way to the United States—to explore the dreams and destinies of immigrants. Are they enterprising? Reckless? Or both?

Is this a history that will continue to repeat itself?

In a rare U.S. visit, Spanish theater troupe Escena Miriñaque performs the complicated, and sometimes humorous, drama by playwright Blanca del Barrio. Actors Noelia Fernandez and Esther Aja play show their range as they switch from character to character with a change in posture, a shift in tone, a new attitude. Exposed to fragments of immigrants' private letters and recollections, the audience deepens its understanding of why people leave their homes and what it's like to try to carve out a new life in a new country.

Letters from the Swallows is the third of seven plays showcased in the 15th International Festival of Hispanic Theater, which presents DC, Maryland and Northern Virginia audiences with the unusual opportunity to see some of the best in Latin American and Spanish theater performed by award-winning actors and theater groups from Spanish-speaking countries. The ongoing festival, produced by Teatro de la Luna (in Spanish with simultaneous English dubbing), runs through Nov. 17 at Gunston Arts Center-Theater Two, 2700 S. Lang Street in Arlington.

Still to come in the festival, which has shows at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. on Saturdays, are:

Nov. 1-3 **Ecuador:** Zero no Zero Teatro troupe presents *Fragrances from the Past* (Agüita de Viejas).

Nov. 3 **United States:** Miami's Teatro Doble presents a special Spanish-language children's theater production of *I Call Her Rusita Rojas* (Yo la Llamo Rusita Rojas).

Nov. 8-10 **Venezuela:** I.E. Producciones C.A. presents *Killing Words* (Palabras Encadenadas).

Nov. 15-17 **Argentina:** Gazpatxo Producciones presents *First Time Mother* (Madre Primeriza).

TICKETS: **Regular \$35; Students and Seniors (over 60 years old), \$30**
 3-Ticket Pass \$95/\$80
 Children's show: **Adults \$15, Children under 13, \$10; Children under 4 free.**

Note: Courtesy tickets are available for journalists.
Please call in advance.

INFORMATION: 703-548-3092 o 202-882-6227; www.teatrodellaluna.org

For photos of actors and plays in the 15th International Festival of Hispanic Theater, please visit our web page: www.teatrodellaluna.org/prensa and follow the instructions under the box for **Photographs**.

Teatro de la Luna is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit. The 15th Internacional Festival of Hispanic Theater receives support from the Cultural Affairs Division of Arlington Economic Development, the Arlington Commission for the Arts, United Airlines, ZGS Communications, Telemundo-Channel 64, Radio América, Radio El Zol, embassies and individual donors.

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