FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



He who is remembered never dies. . .

Diego Delascio and Roberto Arce in El Muerto Vagabundo

WHAT

Milagro presents the World Premiere of *El Muerto Vagabundo* Conceived and Directed by Georgina Escobar

WHEN

October 13 – November 6, 2016 Thursday – Saturday at 7:30 PM, Sundays at 2 PM Thursday, October 13, 7:30 PM — Preview Friday, October 14, 7:30 PM — Opening Night with reception catered by Tortillería Y Tienda De Leon's

WHERE

El Centro Milagro, 525 SE Stark Street, Portland, Oregon 97214

ADMISSION

Adult tickets are \$27 in advance, \$32 at the door. Tickets available at <u>milagro.org</u> or 503-236-7253. Discounts for students, seniors, veterans, groups 15+, and with the Oregon Trail card through the Arts for All program.

MORE INFORMATION

www.milagro.org or call 503-236-7253

MEDIA CONTACTS/MEDIA PASSES

Melissa Schmitz, Marketing & Communications Manager, <u>melissa@milagro.org</u> 503-236-7253 x117

STUDY GUIDE

http://milagro.org/study-guides/

High-resolution photos can be found

at: <u>https://www.flickr.com/photos/miracletheatregroup/albums/72157662269733212</u> or by emailing <u>melissa@milagro.org</u>

ABOUT THE PLAY

Milagro presents the World Premiere of *El Muerto Vagabundo* in its 21st Annual Day of the Dead celebration. This devised production explores the concept of "homeless" muertos and was inspired by an obituary of a homeless veteran without friends and family.

It is Day of the Dead in The City of Bridges when The Kid, a near homeless orphan looked after by his older sister, makes an ofrenda to summon his parents. What he encounters instead is a vagabundo; a tramp who mistakenly takes the offering for himself. As the kid chases after him, he ends up under a bridge, in a place called The Underworld where the forgotten, the lost and the dispossessed (Los Olvidados) lay down for a night's rest. Offering his innocent insight to each of his new, lonely friends, The Kid insists on building an altar and lighting a candle to honor their dead. The Kid learns the stories of those people who live or hide under bridges—real or fictitious. In this darkly-whimsical play, we encounter traditions through ritual, song, and good oldfashioned story-telling in a highly theatrical and metaphorical way.

Georgina Escobar is an Artist-in-Residence at Milagro this season, directing *El Muerto Vagabundo* and *El Payaso. El Muerto Vagabundo* also welcomes the return of many Milagro performers including Mariel Sierra (*Corrido Calavera*), Patricia Alvítez (*La Muerte Baila*), Giovanni Alva (*Broken Promises*), Carlos Manzano (*Contigo Pan y Cebolla, Into the Beautiful North*), and former staff member, Julieth Maya Buri.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Conversation with the cast and members of the creative team will take place immediately following the 2 PM matinee on Sunday, October 16.

Throughout the run, members of local agencies that serve the homeless population will be distributing information and resources in the lobby.

CAST

Giovanni Alva – EL MANOTAS Patricia Alvítez – LA CATRINA Roberto Arce – El VAGABUNDO Julieth Maya Buri – LA LLORONA Diego Delascio – THE KID Carrie Anne Huneycutt – THE PAN Carlos Manzano – EL MUDO Mariel Sierra – THE SISTER Julio César Velázquez – EL JORNALERO

PRODUCTION TEAM

Georgina Escobar – Director, Playwright Berl Dana'y – Stage Manager José González – Scenic Design Blanca Forzán – Lighting Design Sara Ludeman – Costume Design Emily Wilken – Props Design Lawrence Siulagi – Sound Design Estela Robinson – Production Manager

ARTIST INTERVIEWS

To arrange interviews with artists, contact Melissa Schmitz, Marketing and Communications Manager, 503-236-7253, x117, <u>melissa@milagro.org</u>

SEASON SPONSORS

Milagro's 2016 – 2017 Season is sponsored in part by The Kinsman Foundation, The Collins Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, US Bank Foundation, Ronni Lacroute/WillaKenzie Estate, Oregon Arts Commission, Regional Arts & Culture Council, Work for Art, Juan Young Trust, Oregon Community Foundation, Print Results, A to Z Wineworks, Portland

Roasting Coffee, Poster Garden, Nicholas Restaurant, The Oregonian, and El Centinela.

ABOUT MILAGRO

As the premier Latino arts and culture center of the Pacific Northwest, Milagro has provided extraordinary Latino theatre, culture, and arts education for the enrichment of all communities since 1985. Teatro Milagro, Milagro's touring & arts education program, presents its original bilingual plays and educational residencies to diverse and underserved communities across the nation. On the mainstage, Milagro produces a full season of regional or world premieres, including one Spanish-language play each year, as well as our long-running Día de los Muertos signature production. We entertain our audiences; we give them pause to think, feel and imagine; and, through the cultural lens of *latinidad*, we reflect the full spectrum of humanity.

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