



Press Contacts

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THE SOL PROJECT

ANNOUNCES COMPLETE SCHEDULE FOR
SOLFEST 2020: VIRTUAL EDITION
AUGUST 3-5, 2020

FEATURING NEW WORKS FROM
CHRISTIN EVE CATO
VIRGINIA GRISE
ROSALBA ROLÓN

**JULIANY TAVERAS
CÁNDIDO TIRADO
THE VOTING PROJECT ENSEMBLE
AND MORE**

(New York – July 30, 2020) **The Sol Project**, the national theater initiative dedicated to amplifying Latinx voices and building a body of work for the new American theater, announced today full details for the third annual **SolFest: A Latinx Theater Festival**, produced in partnership with **Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater (Pregones/PRTT)** and in collaboration with the **Play At Home** initiative and **North Star Projects**. In accordance with COVID-19 restrictions, the festival, which has been reimaged this year, will be held virtually for the first time on August 3rd, 4th and 5th.

SolFest Producer and Founding Member of The Sol Project **Adriana Gaviria** stated, “**SolFest 2020** explores artmaking in the digital space where we can easily connect with artists and audiences from all over the world, bring together our art and activism, and encourage multi-disciplinary collaborations and new ways of storytelling as we look forward with excitement to the future of Latinx voices in the American theater.”

SolFest 2020: Virtual Edition will include three days of Latinx work, including works in progress, film, panels, short plays, immersive and interactive projects and multi-disciplinary collaborations. Presentations will begin at 7:30pm ET each evening.

Pregones/PRTT's artistic director **Rosalba Rolón** shared, “Once again, Pregones/PRTT enthusiastically joins The Sol Project in celebrating another edition of SolFest. The dynamic roster of Latinx playwrights and plays participating in SolFest2020 adds an important dimension to the launch of our 20-21 Season and to our commitment to creating new works.”

On Monday, August 3, get a sneak peek of **Torched**, a new musical written by **Rosalba Rolón** with original music by **Desmar Guevara**, and featuring **Álvaro Benavides, Rosal Colón, Caridad de La Luz, Desmar Guevara, Gabo Lugo**, and **Omar Pérez**. The last in the **Pregones/PRTT's REMOJO 2020** series, this new work kicks off the first day of SolFest 2020: Virtual Edition.

Following **Torched**, watch **Stellar Shorts**, a hand-picked selection of Jury and Audience Award winners from the 21 Islands International Short Film Fest, curated by **Melissa Ramos**. **Stellar Shorts** will include **The Bathtub**, directed by **Jonay García** and **Noon Express**, directed by **Alberto Martín**.

On Tuesday, August 4, the Sol Project in collaboration with North Star Projects will feature a night of conversations, artsharing and new work from Latinx storytellers from different artistic perspectives and mediums including:

- **Bright Spots**, a tribute by **Teatro Luna** Artistic Director, **Alexandra Meda**, to honor the memory of actress, director, playwright, producer, and Sol Project Honorary Board Member **Diane Rodriguez**, who passed away earlier this year.
- A conversation and artshare presentation with **Miranda Gonzalez**, writer of **Back in the Day**, an 80s House Music Dancesical adapted from José “Gringo” Echevarria’s book *The Real Dance Fever*. **Back in the Day** was originally created and performed at **Urban Theatre Company**, located in Chicago’s historically Puerto Rican community of Humboldt Park and where Gonzalez serves as Artistic Director.
- Adapting Without Abandoning—A live performance of **I Don’t Speak Spanish** by poet Alexis Elisa Macedo.
- Caldo De Mosca (Housefly Soup)—A conversation and artshare presentation with **Jesus Mario Contreras**. 20th Century documentary filmmakers debated whether they represent flies on the wall or flies in the soup. Learn how 21st Century Docsters trade auto-biographical, longitudinal recipes for Housefly Soup, each based in their respective cultures and traditions.
- A presentation of **20 After 20: A Mock Into The Future (Part One)**, a short mockumentary hybrid piece which takes a look into the creation of a group that would radically transform American government—the rise of the Black & Brown Coalition Party, formally known as the Black & Brown Guerilla movement. Story and concept by **Christin Eve Cato**; devised by **Christin Eve Cato, Andres Santiago Pina, Ashley Marie Ortiz, Yadira De La Riva**, and **Caridad "La Bruja" De La Luz**.

- Specially customized for SolFest, an interactive and immersive sneak peek of ***Carla's Quince***, an immersive virtual theater experience to mobilize the Latinx vote, created collaboratively by **The Voting Project Ensemble**, featuring **Ashley Alvarez, Jason Aguirre** (co-facilitator), **Galia Backal** (associate director), **Yadira De La Riva, Jorge Donoso, Estefanía Fadul** (director), **Michael Leon, Camila Pérez Santiago, María Peyramaure**, and **Christina Watanabe** (designer).

On Wednesday, August 5, the final evening of SolFest will feature presentations of three short plays commissioned as part of the Play at Home initiative. The evening will include:

- ***Soñar es luchar*** by **Virginia Grise**, directed by **Kendra Ware**, featuring **Patricia Espinosa Artilles, Marlene Beltran, Lydia Li** and **Carissa Pinckney**.
- ***the human is sad; let's start a band*** by **juliany taveras**, directed by **Georgina Escobar**, featuring **Rayanne Gonzalez, Andrea Negrete, Tanya Perez, Cristina Pitter, Imani Russell** and **Jackie Torres**.
- ***Magic Garden*** by **Cándido Tirado**, directed by **Eddie Torres**, featuring **Karen Aldridge, John Burgos, Rinska Carrasco, Milton Cordero, Gabrielle Flores, Eddie Martinez** and **Gabe Ruiz**.

After the readings, the evening will continue with a panel discussion facilitated by SolFest Producer **Adriana Gaviria** featuring the three featured playwrights and past SolFest playwrights, including **Guadalís Del Carmen, Cusi Cram, Evelina Fernández, Darrel Alejandro Holnes** and **Karen Zacarías**.

To register for **SolFest** and receive streaming links to view these works, visit the Sol Project's website at www.solproject.org. Because of the experimental and interactive nature of this year's festival, links will be emailed closer to the event dates. All events are free of charge.

ABOUT PREGONES/PUERTO RICAN TRAVELING THEATER

Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater (Pregones/PRTT) is a multigenerational performing ensemble, multidiscipline arts presenter, and owner/steward of bilingual arts facilities in The Bronx and Manhattan. Our mission is to champion a Puerto

Rican/Latinx cultural legacy of universal value through creation and performance of original plays and musicals, exchange and partnership with other artists of merit, and engagement of diverse audiences. Pregones was founded in 1979 when a group of artists led by Rosalba Rolón set out to create and tour new works in the style of Caribbean and Latin American colectivos or performing ensembles. Established as a Bronx resident company five years later, Pregones remains in the vanguard of an arts renaissance radiating throughout and beyond The Bronx today. Spurred by stage and film icon Miriam Colón, PRTT was founded in 1967 as one of the first bilingual theater companies in all the U.S. It is credited for nurturing the development of hundreds of Latinx theater artists, legitimating creative connections throughout the Spanish-speaking world, and pioneering models for genuine and lasting community engagement. Following merger in 2014, our New York season plays a decisive role in empowering underrepresented artists and audiences to claim a place at the front of the American theater. Rosalba Rolón, Artistic Director. Alvan Colón Lespier and Jorge B. Merced, Associate Artistic Directors. www.pregonesprrt.org

ABOUT NORTH STAR PROJECTS

North Star Projects is a new arts initiative whose mission is to create a better world, one project at a time, by engendering experiences that empower, inspire, and build community through various platforms including live events and digital media. Founded by Producing Artistic Director Adriana Gaviria, North Star Projects works in partnership with artists, cultural leaders, organizations and leading theaters around the country to make a positive social impact in our communities on a local, regional and national level. www.northstarprojects.org

ABOUT THE SOL PROJECT

The Sol Project is a national theater initiative dedicated to producing the work of Latinx playwrights in New York City and beyond. Founded by Artistic Director Jacob G. Padrón and driven by an artistic collective, The Sol Project works in partnership with leading theaters around the country to amplify Latinx voices and build artistic homes for artists of color. Through the writers we champion, The Sol Project aspires to create a bold, powerful, and kaleidoscopic body of work for the new American theater. The Sol Project launched with the world premiere of *Alligator* by **Hilary Bettis** in collaboration with New Georges, followed by the New York premieres of *Seven Spots on the Sun* by **Martín Zimmerman** (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater) and *Oedipus El Rey* by **Luis Alfaro** (The Public Theater). In the fall of 2018, The Sol Project partnered with Yale Repertory Theatre to produce the world premiere of *El Huracán* by **Charise Castro Smith** and in early 2020 partnered with Baltimore Center Stage and The Playwrights Realm to produce the world premiere of *Richard & Jane & Dick & Sally* by **Noah Diaz** and with LAByrnth Theater Company for the world premiere of *Bees and Honey* by **Guadalís Del**

Carmen. The artistic collective includes: Adriana Gaviria, Rebecca Martinez, David Mendizábal (Associate Artistic Director), Julian Ramirez, and Laurie Woolery. Joey Reyes is the Associate Producer. Brian Herrera is the Resident Scholar. Stephanie Ybarra is the Resident Dramaturg. Our partners include: Baltimore Center Stage, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Cara Mía Theatre Company, LAByrinth Theater Company, Magic Theatre, MCC Theater, New Georges, New York Theatre Workshop, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Playwrights Horizons, Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater, The Playwrights Realm, The Public Theater, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Soho Rep., WP Theater and Yale Repertory Theatre. www.solproject.org

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WWW.SOLPROJECT.ORG

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