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institut
ramon llull

HB

STUDIO

PLAYING TOGETHER

CATALONIA

AT HB STUDIO

PRESENTS





MEJOR AUTORÍA REVELACIÓN
MEJOR ACTOR



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PREMIOS BUTACA 2018
MEJOR ESPECTÁCULO PEQUEÑO FORMATO
MEJOR TEXTO
MEJOR DIRECCIÓN
MEJOR ACTOR



3
PREMIOS TB 2018
MEJOR TEXTO
MEJOR DIRECCIÓN
MEJOR ACTOR



1
PREMIO BBVA
MEJOR ACTOR



PREMIS DE LA
CRÍTICA

BARCELONA 2018
MEJOR ACTOR REVELACIÓN

BY DANIEL J.
MEYER

DIR. MONTSE RODRÍGUEZ
CLUSELLA

AKA

ALSO KNOWN AS

WITH LLUÍS FEBRER



ILUSTRACIÓN: IVAN LABANDA

Playing Together: Catalonia at HB Studio presents

A.K.A. (Also Known As)

Institut Ramon Llull and HB Studio bring together artists from the award-winning play A.K.A. (Also Known As) for an HB Public Conversation

Saturday

May 22, 2021

2:00 PM ET | 8:00 PM CET

with

Daniel J. Meyer, playwright

Montse Rodríguez Clusella, director

Lluís Febrer, lead actor

Moderated by Maria Fontanals

Edith Meeks, Executive & Artistic Director

Lorraine de Silva, Zoom Tech



NYC Cultural
Affairs



**Council on
the Arts**

Support for HB Studio's online programs is provided by the Noel Coward Foundation

This program is supported in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and many generous supporters.

PLAYING TOGETHER

CATALONIA AT HB STUDIO

HB Studio is pleased to partner with Institut Ramon Llull to present *Playing Together: Catalonia at HB Studio*, a special showcase of select Catalan plays followed by discussions with the artists, hosted by HB Studio.

Institut Ramon Llull was founded with the purpose of promoting Catalan language studies at universities abroad, the translation of literature and thought written in Catalan, and Catalan cultural production in other areas like theatre, film, circus, dance, music, the visual arts, design and architecture.

Playing Together: Catalonia at HB Studio features screenings of three select plays, including English subtitles, followed by in-depth discussions with the artists about their work and creative process. This is the first presentation of the series, which continues on Saturday, July 10th with a presentation of the play *MIVION* (Radio Sarajevo) by La Conquesta del Pol Sud.



HB PUBLIC EVENTS

Through free public events, including readings of new plays, performances, and public talks, we invite the community at large to share in a dialog about the range of efforts, intentions, and influences that drive theater artists in creating and producing their work.

View upcoming events: hbstudio.eventbrite.com

HB ONLINE CLASSES

HB Studio offers a series of 5-week and 10-week online classes in:

- Acting
- Acting with the Camera
- Actuar en Español
- Scene Study
- Speech & Voice
- Movement
- Musical Theater and Singing
- Playwriting & Screenwriting
- Acting for Young People
- Teatro para Jóvenes Adolescentes

HB Studio offers a variety of short-term workshops. Our list of upcoming workshops is updated regularly:

- Voice Over
- Audition Technique
- Stop-Motion Animation
- Acting in Accent
- Shakespearean Acting
- many more!

THE UTA HAGEN INSTITUTE

Full-time immersion in the practical approach to the acting craft that characterized Uta Hagen's legendary master classes and classic acting texts.

SUMMER TERM:

Jun. 12 - Aug. 22, 2021
 Part A: Jun. 12 - Jul. 18
 Part B: Jul. 19 - Aug. 22

FALL TERM:

Sep. 13 - Nov. 23, 2021
 Part A: Sep. 13 - Oct. 18
 Part B: Oct. 19 - Nov. 23

Sign up for either Part A or Part B independently (5 weeks each), or join both for the full 10-week term. You may join Part B without taking Part A.

AUDIT A CLASS

We offer the opportunity for new and existing students to audit online classes in order to observe the instructor's teaching style and the culture of the class before making the commitment to register. We encourage you to try virtual learning with us by auditing a class.

HAGEN ACTOR'S LAB ONLINE

Jun. 6 - 13, 2021

HAGEN TEACHER'S LAB ONLINE

Aug. 1 - 8, 2021

HAGEN CORE TRAINING

Sep. 12, 2021 - Jun. 6, 2022



Dear Friends,

When New York City locked down in mid-March 2020, we little knew how long our quarantine would last. Outside that rapid shuttering of spaces and public interactions, we were also engaged in struggle with a long trend of narrowing self-interest and “America-first” policies which had disrupted and upended diplomatic ties, damaging our capacity to respond in unison to a devastating global crisis, both within our borders and as citizens of the world.

But when we began to find an unexpected foothold with online classes, a window opened which border walls could not keep closed, to artist colleagues around the world. We began to experience extraordinary opportunities to reconnect; to work and play together; to open our minds and hearts; to challenge one another with our ideas; to support, to hear, and to encourage one another in responding creatively to these times.

Our presentation and discussion of this award-winning play, A.K.A./ Also Known As, is the first in a series of presentations we are making with the generous cooperation and support of the Institut Ramon Llull, to spotlight plays from the theater of Catalonia. We are so grateful to HB faculty member, Maria Fontanals, for bringing her Barcelona world together with her HB world to make this connection possible, and for leading our discussion about A.K.A. Our heartfelt thanks to Jadranka Vrsalovic Carevic and her colleagues at the Institut, who responded with such magnanimous, ready grace to the invitation to “show us what is happening in your theaters.”

A.K.A. explores the devastating impact of anti-immigrant bias on the life and identity of a young man of Syrian origin raised as the adopted son of a Catalan family. It raises searching questions about how our identities are formed – do we own and control them or are they shaped for us through the limited views and cultural biases of others?

We are thrilled to welcome the play’s author, Daniel Meyer, its director, Montse Rodríguez Clusella, and the actor who has most recently been playing the role of Carlos in this solo tour de force, Lluís Febrer. They are speaking with us from across an ocean today and it is a great gift to be able to meet them in this virtual space.

Thank you for being here too!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edith Meeks', written in a fluid, cursive style.

Edith Meeks
Executive & Artistic Director

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Daniel J. Meyer

Daniel J. Meyer is a theater director from Buenos Aires, Argentina. He completed Acting and Theater Direction at COSATYC/ANDAMIO in Argentina, courses at L'Obrador de la Beckett, Eòlia Conservatory of Dramatic Arts, and a postgraduate degree at the UB for Production. He is the author of the award-winning play A.K.A. (ALSO KNOWN AS) which has been translated in English, German, French, Greek, and will be translated in Polish, Romanian, Italian and Hindi. He has directed and written all the works from Descartable Teatre: FUSELLS (an adaptation of SEÑORA CARRAR'S RIFLES by Bertolt Brecht), ABANS, and HISTORIA DE UNA REVENTADA ARGENTINA, among others. Other credits include: HISTORIA DE UNA REVENTADA (Versus Teatre, 2018); ABANS (Maldà Teatre, 2016 & Villarroel Teatre 2019); FUSELLS (Almeria Teatre, 2016); NESTEA CON VODKA (Café Salambó, 2013); COLA CON ANÍS (Café Salambó, 2013); DEFLACIONABLE (Nau Ivanow, 2012); DAIAN & GIGGY LIVE SEX (Fora de Temporada, Girona, 2011); DESCARTABLE (Nau Ivanow, 2011). He has been the Assistant Director of Àngel Llàcer and Manu Guix for the last 10 years in musicals (SINGING IN THE RAIN, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, LITTLE PRINCE, GERONIMO STILTON, and more). He has also worked with Rosa Novell and Alexander Herold, among others. A dramatic reading of

Continued on next page

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

his play SHOÀ was directed by Helena Pimenta at Sala Berlanga in Madrid. He is now writing and preparing three new plays to be released over the next year.



Montse Rodríguez Clusella

Montse Rodríguez Clusella is a theater director and actress with a degree in Dramatic Art from the Theatre Institute of Barcelona. In theater, she has performed in ¿BAILAMOS? and ESPERANTO with Sèmola Teatre; FIGURES D'AIGU, RINCONETE Y CORTADILLO by Cervantes, RETALLS DEL TER, LA CELESTINA by Fernando de Rojas, ENTREMESES by Cervantes and Lope de Rueda, PRECIPICI by Monse Albàs, and COR by Montserrat Mas with CorCila Teatre; NITS DE SERRALLONGA by Marc Angelet with Agraïts d'Aguantar-nos; AVI RAMON and SOMNIS D'ALÍCIA by Víctor Borràs with Theatre Nu; DIES IRAE; EN EL RÉQUIEM DE MOZART with Marta Carrasco; TRANUITES CIRCUS and NÀUFRAGS/LA CASA DE L'ÀNIMA by Lluís Danés with Lluís Danés; (SIN) PECAT with Víctor Borràs; and DANCE TO DEATH by Alberto Velasco with La Caldera. In visual arts, she worked in DELINCUENTES TORPES by Àngel de la Cruz; CUBICLES by Jair Domínguez and Sergi Prat; EL SUEÑO DE ELANOR and TRANUITES CIRCUS by Lluís Danés; LA CONJECTURA and CON UN SEIS Y CON UN CUATRO by Xevi Vila, to name a few. She directed A.K.A. by Daniel J. Meyer; ANTÍGONES 2077 by Aina De Cos Estrada; CAIXES by Marc Artigau; RICHARD DE 3RD by À trois teatre; NOÈ HAC,

Continued on next page

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

#LIKE_UNFOLLOW, SÓC UNA MÀQUINA and SALVEU LES NOSTRES ÀNIMES by Gerard Guix; PUNXES A LA SORRA by Jordi Roca; and RETALLS DE TER by herself.



Lluís Ferbrer

Lluís Ferbrer is an actor and model born in Menorca. He speaks English, as well as Spanish and Catalan. His TV credits include MERLÍ, COM SI FOS AHIR and MAS DE 100 MENTIRAS. In 2020, he was part of the cast of the international feature film AMERICAN CARNAGE by Diego Hallivis, shot in English. Over the past year he was cast as a new member of A.K.A. (winner of two Max Theatre Awards) which allowed him not only to act in Barcelona but to go on a Spanish tour. He is still on the project, working to explore new frontiers with his performance. His training as an actor began at the early age of 15 at the Escuela de Arte Dramático de Menorca and the Universidad de Arte Dramático de las Islas Baleares. At the age of 17, he moved to Barcelona where he began to use his training as an actor for his first professional jobs. He studied in different schools such as Laura Jou Estudi per a l'Actor and Nancy Tuñon. He continued his training in Madrid at the Escuela Internacional del Gesto and Work in Progress. He has also been part of several theater companies such as Assaltem l'Escenari, where he performed three shows at the Teatre Tantarantana or the improvisation company Impromagia.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Maria Fontanals

Maria Fontanals is a Spanish actress and faculty member at HB Studio where she teaches Uta Hagen's technique. She currently also serves on the Artistic Council at HB Studio. She is the co-founder of Corezon, a successful and independent theatre and audiovisual company based in NYC.

Maria is a graduate of the prestigious Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona with a degree in Economics and a masters in Cultural Management. She began her career working in corporate finance. However, her interest in theater never waned. While working, she nurtured her acting avocation by earning a Bachelors in Fine Arts from Barcelona's Eòlia Conservatory of Dramatic Arts and performing in several theater productions in Barcelona. Ultimately, her inner voice nagged relentlessly prodding her to leave the security of her corporate post and pursue her passion for acting in earnest. She set out for New York's prestigious HB Studio, to pursue the Hagen Core Training program in acting (awarded for a scholarship). Once immersed in the HB Studio's intensive study of acting, and exhilarated by the inspirational professionals teaching the experiential curriculum, she finally found her groove! She was part of the HB Ensemble and is proudly part of the Hagen Institute alumni.

Continued on next page

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

As a stage actress, Maria has extensive experience on stage in the United States and Europe. She has performed leading roles with renowned theaters such as Repertorio Español (LA CASA DE BERNARDA ALBA by Federico Garcia Lorca), Julia de Burgos Performance Art Center (TIERRA DEL FUEGO by Mario Diament), Dixon Place (CASABLANCA ON THE HUDSON by Pamela Enz), Theater for the New City (CITY GIRLS OF DESPERADOES by Pamela Enz co-starring Austin Pendelton and Julie Atlas Muz), Teatro SEA (EL DIVÁN by Fernando Travesí winner of a Latin ACE Award for Best Drama Actress), Teatro Círculo (SEIS by Federico Roca winner of five FuerzaFest Awards, including Best Play and Best Actress and three HOLA Awards 2017, including Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor), Russian Arts Theater, IATI, HB Playwrights Foundation, to name a few. In Film and TV, Maria played the lead role for the criminal series SIX DEGREES OF MURDER (ID Discovery Channel) and was cast in the film THE MIDDLE OF SOMEWHERE, winner of the Royal Film Award 2018 and the short film Latiner, Selected Official for the Latino Short Film Festival. In voice over Maria has been the voice for the SUPER WINGS: BARCELONA BIRDHOUSE.

Within the past few years, she has been awarded the national Latin ACE Award 2019 for Best Drama Actress – HOLA Award 2018 and 2017 for Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor – ATI Award 2018 for Best Actress – FUERZAFest Award 2017 for Best Actress – Latin ACE Award 2017 for Best Comedic Actress.

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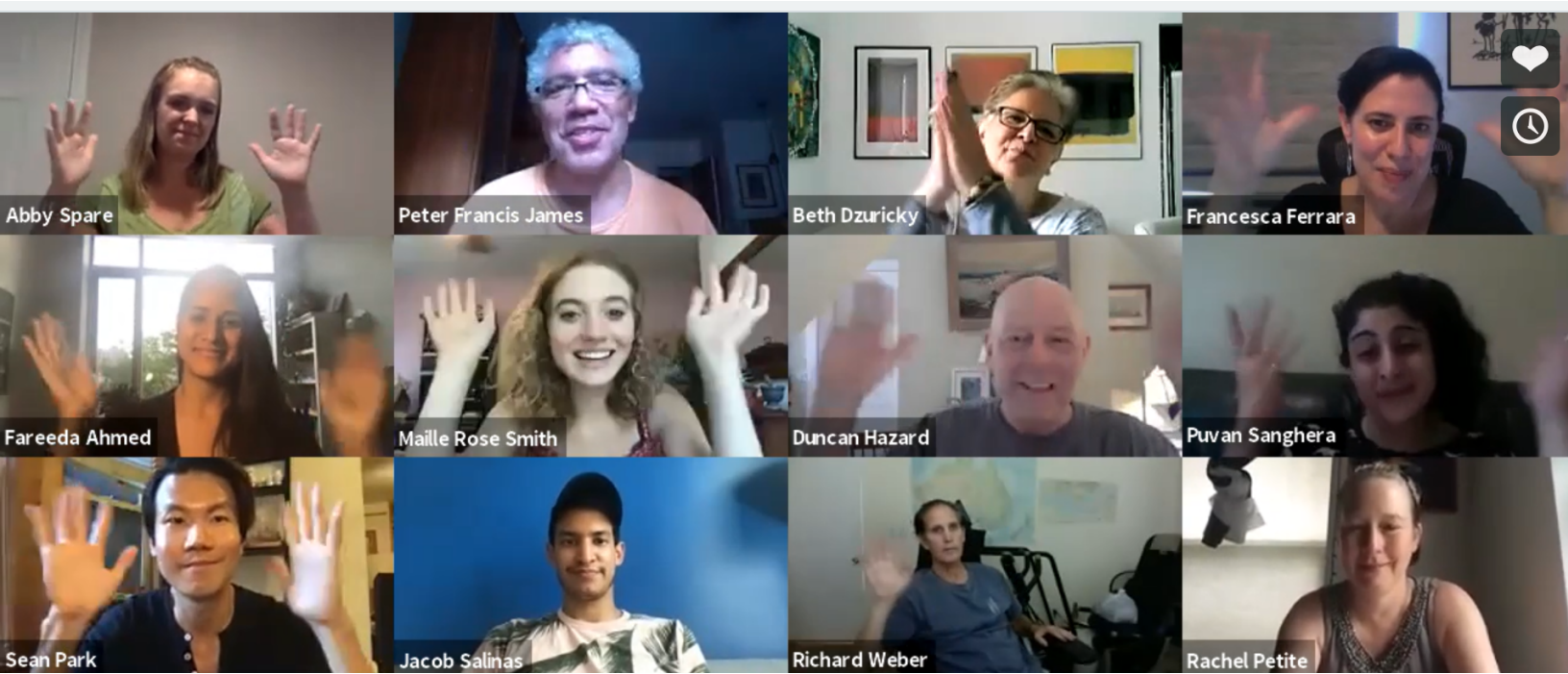
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HB Studio is a vital resource for the NY and global theater community, offering employment, continuity, and creative connection for performing artists through online classes, workshops, performance opportunities, and free online public programming. With students and audiences joining us virtually from across North America, Asia, Europe, South America, and Africa, we are reflecting on this global crisis together and forging meaningful connections that inspire us to look ahead to brighter days. Help us continue our mission-driven work by making a donation today.

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