

# PLAYING TOGETHER CATALONIA AT HB STUDIO P R E S E N T S MIVION (RADIO SARAJEVO)



Playing Together: Catalonia at HB Studio presents

## MIVION (RADIO SARAJEVO)

Institut Ramon Llull and HB Studio bring together artists from the documentary play MIVION (RADIO SARAJEVO) for an HB Public Conversation

## Saturday July 10, 2021 2:00 PM ET | 8:00 PM CET

with

Carles Fernández Giua, director Eugenio Szwarcer, set and video designer Arza Suljic, performer, co-creator

Moderated by Maria Fontanals

Edith Meeks, Executive & Artistic Director Melisa Kucevic, Stage Manager







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.

#### **MIVION (RADIO SARAJEVO) CREDITS**

- Created by: Slobodan "Boban" Minic, Azra Suljic, Marc Soler & La Conquesta del Pol Sud
- Performed by: Slobodan "Boban" Minic, Azra Suljic, Marc Soler
- Stage Direction: Carles Fernández Giua
- Set & Video Design: Eugenio Szwarcer
- Movement: Ariadna Montfort
- Lighting Design: Luis Martí
- Sound Design: Damien Bazin
- Live Stream Video Operator: Xavi Domènech
- Assistant Director: Mònica Molins
- Executive Production: Carol Murcia
- Booking & Communication: Lidia Giménez
- Stage Photography: Alfred Mauve

Presented by La Conquesta del Pol Sud and Institut Ramon Llull with the support of the Catalan Institute for Cultural Companies (ICEC) and Terrassa Arts Escèniques, with the collaboration of Taula de cultura de les Escoles Velles i l'Ajuntament de Sant Esteve de Palautordera & of Nau Ivanow. With appreciation to: Dina Minic, Goran Minic, Borchi Minic, Vera Bilbija, Sifa Suljic.

# PLAYING TOGETHER CATALONIA ATHB 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 second presentation of the series, which continues on Monday, October 18th with a discussion with the artists of SOLITUD and SOLITUD IN STROMBOLI.



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 documentary play, MIVION (RADIO SARAJEVO), is the second 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 the play. 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."

Our discussion takes place one day before the anniversary of the Srebrenica massacre on July 11, 1995. Thank you for joining us to remember and to learn through the stories of those involved.

What strikes me about MIVION (RADIO SARAJEVO) is that it takes shape through the curiosity and attention given by a young person raised in Catalonia to the lived experience of Sarajevo's refugees. The play is so much about seeing the other's experience, about taking it in and fathoming the losses and traumas that another has suffered. There are so many ways that the particulars of this exchange with Sarajevo in Catalonia amplify our own need to see beyond America's cultural blindspots, to bear witness to the journeys of those who come to build new lives among us. It is a beautiful, astute, and haunting production.

We are thrilled to welcome the play's co-creators Carles Fernández Giua, Eugenio Szwarcer and Arza Suljic for this discussion. Please enjoy! We look forward to seeing you at the next Playing Together: Catalonia at HB Studio event on October 18th.

Edith Meeks Executive & Artistic Director

## **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**



#### **Carles Fernández Giua**

Carles Fernández Giua has a degree in Law and Theater Direction. After studying Art History and visual arts (sculpture), he chose the theater for the possibility it offers to integrate the different live and plastic arts. In 2009 he created, alongside with Eugenio Szwarcer, the company La Conquesta del Pol Sud. From its origins, the company's work has explored the connection between many compelling themes of daily life using the theater as a space for collective debate.



#### **Eugenio Szwarcer**

Eugenio Szwarcer studied in Argentina and Barcelona. He combines set design with video design in numerous productions. The essential themes of his work are the interaction between the action on stage and projected image and the use of space as an expressive element and engine for resistance and movement. Abroad he has recently worked with premier international creators like Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui (MILONGA, 2013; SHELLSHOCK, 2014) and in Catalonia he has collaborated with directors such as Carme Portaceli, Joan Ollé, Josep M<sup>a</sup> Pou, Toni Casares and Rafel Duran.

## **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**



#### Arza Suljic

Arza Suljic was born in Bosnia, but flew with her mother to Spain because of the war. She has a Bachelor's degree in Translation and Interpretation from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. She has further education through the University of Perpignan Via Domitia and is a specialist in environmental governance in African countries (Master's degree from the University of Geneva). She is passionate about language learning, as well as about environmental protection through community management of natural resources. Through dance, she has always been involved in the performing arts, although MIVION is her first professional experience on stage.



#### **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 cofounder 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 *Continued on next page* 

## **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

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.

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 costarring 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.



### **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!

#### 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.

## 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: <u>hbstudio.eventbrite.com</u>

## THE UTA HAGEN INSTITUTE

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HAGEN SUMMER INTENSIVE Jun. 27 - Aug. 8, 2022

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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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