LATIN AMERICAN THEATRE REVIEW

a Journal Devoted to the Theatre and Drama of Spanish and Portuguese America

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Critical studies: 25 pages Reviews: 500 words for critical study Interviews: 2000 words 750 words for published play Festival Reports: 2000 words 1000 words for play collection

Performance Reviews: 500 words plus photos

Submissions that exceed these limits will be returned without consideration.

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Abstracts

William Acree, "Hemispheric Travelers on the Rioplatense Stage"

In mid-July 1886 Sarah Bernhardt arrived to Buenos Aires, where she gave a limited number of functions before traveling to nearby towns and across the Río de la Plata to Montevideo. Her tour tells us about her fearlessness to brave Transatlantic travel. But beyond this quality of her character, her time in the Plata river region reveals a rich entertainment market whose performers followed a circuit including Rio de Janeiro, Porto Alegre, and, above all, Montevideo, Buenos Aires, and smaller towns along the tributary rivers leading to the Río de la Plata. The decade of 1880 was a moment of significant growth in the number of participants in this entertainment market, but by this time it already had a history half a century deep. Beginning with Bernhardt's tour and then working backward to uncover the widespread presence of Italian, French, and North American performers in Argentina and Uruguay, this article showcases performance circuits and hemispheric travelers who staged opera, the bizarre, and circus and equestrian spectacles, and who were especially successful in attracting crowds. The result was the emergence of an entertainment market that ignited a passion for attending the circus and the theater.

Julie Ward, "Staging Postmemory: Self-representation and Parental Biographying in Lagartijas Tiradas al Sol's *El rumor del incendio*"

Mexico in the 1970s was at the peak of what Vargas Llosa called its "perfect dictatorship" under the Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI). This perfection, however, did not preclude resistance from student groups, militias, and peasant movements. Decades later, theatre company Lagartijas Tiradas al Sol would stage this rebellion in their documentary play El rumor del incendio (2010) and its accompanying textual and digital publications. Director and actor Luisa Pardo plays both herself and her real-life mother, Margarita, in the play. This study examines the strategies used to convey the family ties between Margarita and Pardo, which include documentary evidence, bodily relationships, and genealogical connections. It shows the way that theatrical self-representation challenges the auto/biographical genre by blurring lines between biography and autobiography, as well as redefining drama, asking spectators to consider the stage as an alternative source of historical fact.

Sarah Piazza, "Musicalized Metatheater: The *Bolero* as Intertext in *Quíntuples* by Luis Rafael Sánchez"

The present article analyzes the ways in which the drama *Quintuples* (1984) by Puerto Rican playwright Luis Rafael Sánchez uses the *bolero* as an important intertext. The essay traces the parallels between the *bolero* as a culturally syncretistic musical genre and *Quintuples* as a fusion of dramatic and narrative elements. The play's narrative elements include the incorporation of an author figure, monologue, and metaliterary comments. This article examines how spectator and reader involvement in *Quintuples* relates to the *bolerista*'s

affective communication with the audience. The analysis focuses on the three most ostentatiously melodramatic characters, who reveal connections to the entertainment industry and enact different characteristics of the *bolero*: Dafne, Mandrake, and Papá Morrison. The article ultimately explores how the characters deconstruct the act of performing, inviting readers to reflect on the nature of theater and the necessary complicity between actor and spectator, writer and reader.

Daniel Vázquez Touriño, "Frustración magnífica y drama puro: el teatro de Legom"

The characters that populate the plays of Legom (Luis Enrique Gutiérrez Ortiz Monasterio) pertain to a family of literary beings who are unable to adapt to a dysfunctional society. This phenomenon links to the concept of the "pelado" featured in Cantinflas films and to the "utopia of the hunter" described by Zygmunt Bauman as a postmodern, hegemonic system that excludes and alienates. The tension between local and global is a fundamental aspect in the characters created by Legom. While the use of uniquely Mexican vulgarities establishes the "mexicanness" of his characters, their ideals and aspirations, albeit twisted and often misunderstood, are unmistakably transnational. Critics tend to use the term *narraturgia* to describe Legom's dramatic production, yet closer analysis suggests that the playwright indeed strives to exclude the extra-dramatic in the creation and development of his characters.