

Fall 11-7-2014

# Juanita's Statue

Department of Theatre, Florida International University

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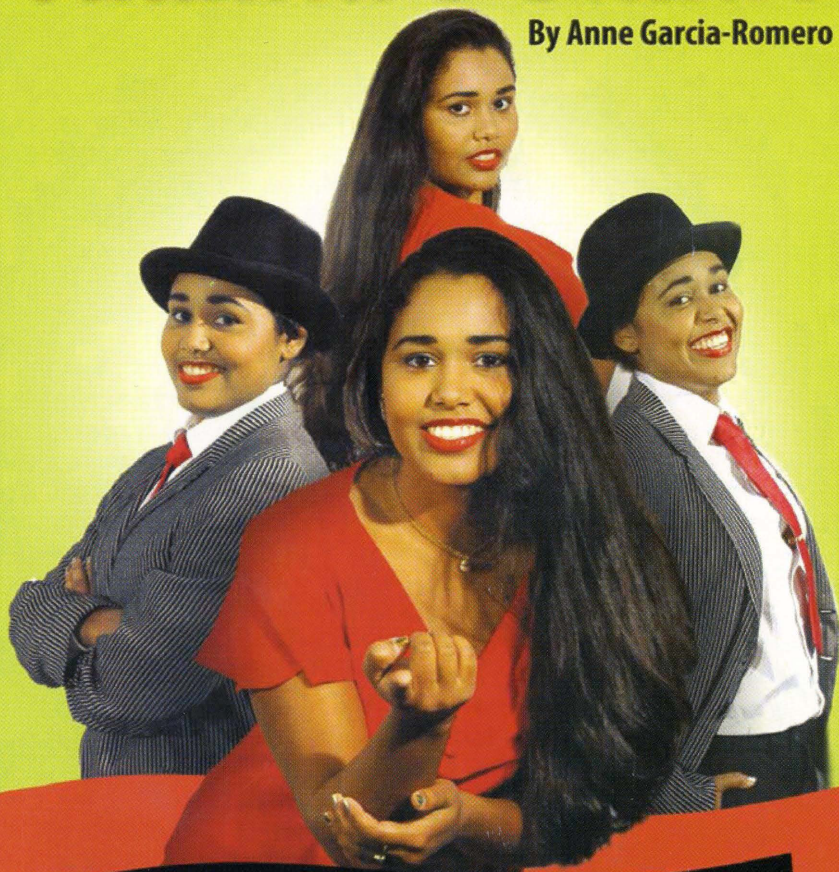
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**FIU THEATRE PRESENTS**

# Juanita's Statue

By Anne Garcia-Romero



**Everyone gets the Don Juan they deserve**

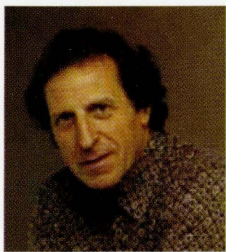
**Directed by Michael Yawney**

**November 7 through 16, 2014 • Wednesday - Saturday 8PM • Sunday 2PM**

**HERBERT AND NICOLE WERTHEIM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER BLACK BOX THEATRE  
10910 SW 17th St., Miami, FL 33199**

**FIU**

**Theatre**  
COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE + THE ARTS  
[theatre.fiu.edu](http://theatre.fiu.edu)



Phillip M. Church  
Chairperson

On behalf of the FIU Department of Theatre allow me to welcome and thank you for attending this performance of “*Juanita’s Statue*.” If you are a returning patron or are here for the first time we truly appreciate your support and interest in our program.

The 2014-15 season kicked off to a rollicking start with the production of Oscar Wilde’s, sociopolitical comedy, “*An Ideal Husband*.” We are now proud to bring you Anne Garcia-Romero’s hilarious comedy, “*Juanita’s Statue*” directed by Michael Yawney. This production constitutes the department’s participating entry into the prestigious **Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival**. Thanks to the continuing generosity of Dean Brian Schriener and the College of Architecture + the Arts, we have been able to take students to KCACTF conferences, competing against some of the strongest schools in the region. Citations for excellence in all areas of production have been consistently awarded to our students and faculty, bringing FIU hard-earned kudos on the national stage. The spring semester will offer a production of “*Six Characters in Search of an Author*” by Luigi Pirandello, adapted by Steve Moulds, directed by Wayne Robinson. Pirandello’s acclaimed post-WWII play analyzing the existential questions of reality and fiction makes this work contemporary in any age and will leave you with plenty to discuss long after the curtain falls. Finally, to round out the season the department has engaged professional actor and director **Matt Glass** to direct Neil Simon’s uproarious farce, “*Rumors*” and – yes – just as the title might suggest, you are in for a night of guessing whodunit. It has been a long time since the department presented a play by Neil Simon and this production is sure to remind us of exactly why Simon earned the tribute of being one of America’s greatest comedy playwrights.

Besides our main season, we will hold our annual **New Playwrights Festival** in February 2015 and, as always, in April we offer the work of our graduating seniors as they showcase their **Senior Projects**, original solo-performances and/or design portfolios to which all our patrons are invited with free admission.

Finally, last year CARTA entered into two significant public/private partnerships; with **Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd (RCCL)** and multiple Carbonell Award-winning **Gablestage**. With RCCL’s presence on FIU’s Biscayne Bay Campus, aided by generous scholarship opportunities, internships and workshops and with a new educational partnership with Gablestage due to take up residence at a future reconstructed Coconut Gove Playhouse, a globally-connected MFA theatre program will finally take shape in South Florida. There is little doubt that the Department of Theatre is ready to turn the corner by becoming a truly national presence, one that will enrich its students while ultimately giving back to a community that remains eager to experience an ever-widening and diverse cultural experience in theatre. We thank you again for your attendance and support.

FIU Theatre is fully accredited by the National Association for Schools of Theatre (NAST.) NAST is an organization of schools, conservatories, colleges and universities which aim to establish national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials. They provide other information to potential students and parents, consultations, statistical information, professional development and policy analysis.

## Juanita’s Statue

By Anne Garcia-Romero

### Cast (In order of appearance)

- Ignacio** - Ernesto Gonzalez (BFA Performance)
  - Juanita** - Juanita Olivo (BFA Performance)
  - Don Pedro** - Gonzalo Garcia-Castro (BFA Performance)
  - Dona Alma** - Maria Laura Manino (BFA Performance)
  - Hortensia** - Melanie Menendez (BFA Performance)
  - Carmela** - Danielle Rollins (BFA Performance)
  - Huckster/Tomas** - Brandon Hoffman (BFA Performance)
  - Alejandra/Dona Lola** - Shelley Miller (BFA Performance)
  - Rufino/Eduardo** - Justin Brackett ( BFA Performance)
  - Edwina/Activista** - Karen Figueredo (BFA Performance)
  - Manuel/Statue** - David Forest Neale (BFA Performance)
  - Beatriz/Elena** - Krystal Aleman (BFA Performance)
  - Rosa/Leonora** - Lisset Riera (BA)
- Director** - Michael Yawney
  - Vocal Direction** - Rebecca Covey
  - Costumer** - Blair Brown
  - Costume Designer** - Lena Rodriguez (BFA Costume Design)
  - Scenic Designer** - Paul Steinsland (BA)
  - Lighting Designer** - Jordan Vera (BFA Lighting Design)
  - Sound Designer** - Mario Alonso (BFA Lighting Design)
  - Stage Manager** - Liana Sierra (BA)
  - Assistant Director** - Rommel Arellan-Marinan (BA)

### SHAKESPEARE IN STRATFORD:

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM  
SUMMER 2015!



The Department of Theatre announces the tenth annual **SHAKESPEARE IN STRATFORD/LONDON** Study Abroad Program. Summer B Semester. Bed & breakfast in Stratford-Upon-Thames, attend five plays by the Royal Shakespeare Company, Globe Theater & West End productions, visit Shakespeare’s Birthplace, Anne Hathaway’s Cottage, Warwick Castle, Blenheim Palace and a day trip to the City of Oxford. Experience education through a thrilling and unforgettable cultural immersion.

For more information call:  
**Phillip M. Church 305-348-3358**  
or visit: [HTTP://THEATRE.FIU.EDU](http://theatre.fiu.edu)



### Front and Center

Joseph Haj (Class of '84) is currently the Producing Artistic Director of PlayMakers Repertory Company in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He has directed and performed in theatres throughout the United States as well as overseas, including directing productions at different maximum security prisons regionally. He has conducted numerous workshops, won and been nominated for various awards. American Theater Magazine named him "one of 25 theatre artists who will have a significant impact on the field over the next quarter century." Haj was recently honored with the 2014 Zelda Fichandler Award from the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC), where he was unanimously chosen from 62 other nominated directors for this coveted accolade.

The Haj family moved to Miami from New Jersey, when Joseph was quite young. Growing up in South Florida, Joseph did not find his true calling until his senior year of high school, when he registered for a drama class. As a child of Palestinian immigrants this passion for the theatre came as somewhat of a surprise to his family who presumed that he would pursue a career in medicine, law or engineering. However, it was the theatre that provided a much needed outlet for his teenage anger, frustration and loneliness. Joseph earned his BFA Performance degree from FIU in a remarkably short time and went to earn his MFA from University of North Carolina.

FIU Theatre is sincerely proud to call Joseph Haj one of our own and we wish him continued success as he strives to bring equity and inclusion to the stage in terms of stories, voices, directors and designers. It is rare to hear someone declare their love for their career and the people they work with, but love epitomizes Joe's feelings about the theatre. It is truly inspirational to listen to someone describe their career as a 'calling.'

### Alpha Psi Omega

Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society is a collegiate society which encourages academic and professional success amongst college theatre students. The Theatre Department at Florida International University is pleased to announce that we are currently in the process of establishing a chapter of Alpha Psi Omega. The requirements to become a member are: 2 semesters of work on productions at the FIU Theatre Department and a minimum 2.5 GPA. If you have any questions about becoming a member, getting involved with the chapter's upcoming activities, or partnering with the chapter, please email Luisa Rodriguez at [lulusings@bellsouth.net](mailto:lulusings@bellsouth.net).

### Merchandise and Concessions!



Support our theatre students and stop by the concessions stand for snacks and beverages. At the same time, why not consider buying an FIU Theatre T-Shirt, hoodie or polo shirt for yourself or as a gift?

**All proceeds directly benefit student activities and conferences.**

Key chains \$4 Magnets \$4 Buttons \$2 Tape Measures \$1 Coffee Mugs \$10  
Hats \$10 Flashlights \$5 Water Bottles \$5 T-Shirts \$15 Sweatshirts & hoodies \$25  
AND MORE

### Production Staff

- Assistant Stage Managers** - Samuel Iglesias (BA), Sarah Nouri (BA)
- Props Master** - Samantha Llanes (BFA Scenic Design)
- Props Run Crew** - Suzanna Faraj (BA), Melanie Llanes (BFA Costume Design), Ashley McGuire (BA)
- Set Construction/Paint/Sound/Electrics Crews** - Anderson Freitas (BFA Performance), Lucia Sassone (BA), Lisset Riera (BA), Juan Alfonso (BA), Ernesto Gonzalez (BFA Performance), Emily Llerena (Theatre Minor), Reginald Baril (BFA Performance), Sarah Nouri (BA), Nicholas Alexander (BA), Melany Knowles (BA), Sofi Sassone (BFA Performance), Danielle Rollins (BFA Performance), Casey Hughes (BA), Justin Brackett (BFA Performance), Lovanni Gomez (BFA Performance), Lisset Riera (BA)
- Set Run Crew** - Patricia Contreras (BA), Joseph Ganguzza (BA), Alfonso Vieites (BA)
- Sound Board Operator** - Nelly Torres (BA)
- Light Board Operator** - Gabriel Gonzalez (BFA Lighting Design)
- Costume Crew Head** - Pia Isabell Vicioso-Vila (BA)
- Costume Cleaning Crew Head** - Erik Rodriguez (BFA Performance)
- Costume Crew** - Alissa Riley (BA), Ana Maria Garabitos (BA), Jayssa Williams (BA), Alexandra Mirage Hess (BFA Scenic Design), Rachel Lauren Willis (BFA Performance), Nanushka Rivera Torres (BA)
- Costume Construction Crew** - Lena Rodriguez (BFA Costume Design), Juanita Olivo (BFA Performance), Daniel Lopez (BFA Performance), Ashley Joseph (BA), Alfonso Vieites (BA), Dante DiGiacomo (BA), Erik Rodriguez (BFA Performance), Karen Figueredo (BFA Performance)
- House Manager** - Monica Abreu (BFA Performance)
- Merchandise and Concessions** - Chelsea Cosio (BA)
- Box Office Manager** - Rei Capote (BA)
- Box Office Assistant** - Chantal Denoun (BA)
- Head Usher** - Roselyn Moreno (BA)
- Front of House Staff** - Diego Cardenas (BA), Caroline Frias (BFA Costume Design), Matthew Alexander (BFA Performance)
- Marketing Assistant** - Pia Isabell Vicioso-Vila (BA)

### Department of Theatre Faculty & Staff

- Phillip M. Church, Department Chairperson
- Jesse Dreikosen, Head of Design and Production
- Wayne E. Robinson Jr., Head of Performance
- Michael Yawney, Dramaturgy
- Lesley Ann Timlick, Voice
- Daniel Mitan, Stage Combat
- Rebecca Covey, Vocal Director
- Tony Galaska, Lighting
- Chris Goslin, Technical Director
- Geordan Gottlieb, Assistant Technical Director
- Robert Duncan, Technical Production Assistant
- Marianna Murray, Office Manager
- Paulette Rivera, Office Assistant
- Natasha Neckles, Marketing/Publicity
- Kirstie Gothard, Events & Operations Manager
- Gaby Lopez, Assistant Events Manager

### Adjuncts

- Stephen Neal
- Israel Garcia
- Ivan Lopez
- Crystal Patient
- Janet Raskin
- Aaron Alpern

## Notes from the Director

Have there not been enough Don Juans? We ought to be done with him already. But he keeps coming back to every generation because we want to know if love is still the same. Juanita's Statue is a Don Juan for us, here in Miami, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We still want love, but are we willing to take what comes with it?

Everyone working on Juanita's Statue has put their entire heart into this project. What you see tonight is a true collaboration between designers, actors, technicians, and stage management. Please join me in thanking them all for all their hard work, insight, and imagination.

Enjoy the show.

Michael Yawney

### Sunday Sidebar Series

Be a part of our Sunday Sidebar Series and engage with the director and cast in lively talkback sessions that explore the building of a production, the plays themes and personal commentary from the artists involved.

*Juanita's Statue*, Sunday, November 9

*Six Characters in Search of an Author*, Sunday, January 25

*Rumors*, Sunday March 1

### Behind-the-Scenes with Rebecca Covey

Rebecca Covey is the Vocal Director for the Department of Theatre. A Vocal Director's role is to help the actors convey the action, images and life of a play through the voice. A great deal of research about the play and textual analyses is required to provide useful vocal direction. Factors to consider include the character's age, geographical location, socio/economic status, physicality and education. It is Rebecca's responsibility to ensure that each actor understands vocal placement, articulation, and pronunciation and is able to maintain the necessary accent/dialect consistency throughout a performance. She teaches actors' the intricacies of making necessary vocal adjustments when yelling or crying or because of costume restraints, such as corsets. Rebecca works with actors' to find appropriate techniques to ensure vocal freedom, clarity and a sense of timing so they can honor the rhythm of the language. To accomplish this task, she attends the first reading of each production to understand the play and determine which vocal issues will need to be addressed. Next Rebecca consults with the director to establish a clear set of requirements. This is followed by individual coaching sessions with the actors'. Finally, she attends rehearsals to see if any vocal adjustments need to be made before opening night.

Rebecca says about the play, "*Juanita's Statue* presents an intriguing vocal challenge. The language of the play includes many instances where the characters exchange rapid-fire phrases that build to a climax – modern examples of the ancient Greek form of "stichomythia." Throughout the play, the author employs alliteration – the repetition of consonant sounds – to reveal the characters' emotional states, particularly when they are falling under Juan (or Juanita's) spell. Language in *Juanita's Statue* serves as verbal seduction – as characters start to connect – they start to use each others' sounds and imagery. In addition, the Spanglish sprinkled throughout the play, adds a distinct flavor and sense of place to the piece, and allows many students to either develop a Spanish accent or utilize their own bilingual skills."



# The Kennedy Center

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

*The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival™ 46*, part of the *Rubenstein Arts Access*

Program, is generously funded by  
**David and Alice Rubenstein.**

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; the National Committee for the Performing Arts; the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust; and Beatrice and Anthony Welters and the AnBryce Foundation

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

### Upcoming Events

**Six Characters in Search of an Author**  
by Luigi Pirandello, adapted by Steve Moulds  
directed by Wayne E. Robinson Jr.  
January 23 - 25 & January 28 - February 1

**Rumors**  
by Neil Simon, directed by Matthew Glass  
February 27 - March 1 & March 4 - 8

For additional information, please call 305-348-2895

## Public and Private Partnerships

The College of Architecture + The Arts and The Department of Theatre are proud to announce two significant community partnerships aligned to benefit our students and the future of the pre-professional theatre training program.

In the spring of 2015, Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. (RCCL) will be taking up residence in their new 130,000 square foot production, rehearsal and performance facility on FIU's Biscayne Bay Campus and with it comes generous scholarship support, together with professional workshops and technical internships. The Department of Theatre extends its gratitude to RCCL's administration and staff for making this partnership possible. We are excited to see where performance and production will lead us on the high seas.



Last year, award winning theatre company Gablestage was tapped to take up residence in a future, renovated Coconut Grove Playhouse and the Department of Theatre is to be the Playhouse's educational partner. For many years, South Florida has been in need of a permanent MFA theatre program. FIU Theatre now has the opportunity to develop such a program, serving graduates from across the country, while supporting our own local secondary school teachers. An FIU/Gablestage/Coconut Grove Partnership guarantees the region added prestige, drawing attention to the ever-expanding cultural life of Miami.

We encourage all our patrons of the arts to support Royal Caribbean Cruises and Gablestage when considering your next vacation or theatergoing plans.

### Special Thanks

Dean Brian Schriener, College of Architecture + The Arts  
Paula Franco for marketing/PR assistance

Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center  
10910 SW 17th Street, Miami Florida 33199  
Tel: 305-348-2895  
Fax: 305-348-1803  
Website: theatre.fiu.edu