

ALLEY THEATRE

For release: March 30, 2018

Alley Theatre Presents New Latinx Initiative with Production of MISA FRONTERIZA (BORDER MASS)

Performing at the Alley Theatre from April 12-15, the play is part of El Zócalo, a city-wide endeavor that includes an array of engagement activities

HOUSTON – The Alley Theatre launches El Zócalo, a Latinx initiative that includes the production *Misa Fronteriza*, the first production performed entirely in Spanish on the Neuhaus Theatre stage. The play runs for four performances April 12-15 and will be performed in Spanish with live simultaneous English translation. Tickets are \$24 and are available at alleytheatre.org or by calling the Box Office at 713-220-5700.

Travelling from Monterrey, Mexico, Gorguz Teatro & Universiteatro's *Misa Fronteriza* is a satirical comedy, structured like a Catholic mass, about life near the US-Mexico border. The performance reflects upon and confronts the difficult realities about the border with sharp humor and a compelling point of view. In addition to the Alley Theatre, the troupe will hold performances at venues across Houston including [MECA](#), [BakerRipley](#), and [Talento Bilingue](#).

Along with the production, Alley Theatre will present a comprehensive array of engagement activities including: an online [Alley Re-Sourced](#) guide, interactive lobby displays, pre-show performances from local musicians, post-show talk backs with the artists, and a panel discussion with community leaders.

The *Misa Fronteriza* actors and musicians include Jorge Antonio Segura Gomez, Vicente Rosas Galindo, Alvaro Ayala, Edgar Ayala, and Francisco Serna. *Misa Fronteriza* is adapted and directed by Alberto Ontiveros and is based on the essay by Luis Humberto Croswaite.

Misa Fronteriza is presented in partnership with Alley Theatre as part of the Alley's El Zócalo Initiative. El Zócalo is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts and funded in part by the City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance.

As a part of the El Zócalo initiative, the Alley Theatre joins together with well-established cultural and community organizations MECA, BakerRipley, and Talento Biligue to foster community and steward Houston's presence as a diverse arts center that serves all of its community in every neighborhood. El Zócalo establishes new spaces for Latino theatre in communities that might otherwise feel excluded by larger arts institutions and provides a platform for creative, compassionate dialogue within Houston's Latino community.

TICKETS: Tickets to *Misa Fronteriza* are now on sale and are \$24. Discounted tickets are available for military and senior, and any student, regardless of age, with a valid student ID for designated performances. Tickets can be ordered online (alleytheatre.org) or by phone (713.220.5700).

ABOUT EL ZÓCALO

Inspired by the traditional meeting places found all over Latin America, including Mexico City's central square that dates back to the Aztecs, metaphoric El Zócalo's are establishing all over Houston this April. Funded by the Mayor's office and the National Endowment for the Arts PlaceMaking Grant the Alley Theatre is delighted to be organizing a city-wide endeavor designed to give voice, create space and

celebrate Houston's far-reaching Latinx Community. Community partners, MECA, Talento Biligüe, and BakerRipley join forces with the Alley Theatre to realize a shared vision to provide a platform for sharing Houston's rich Latinx heritage.

CONNECT WITH US: #MisaFronteriza @AppliedTheatreAlley

VIDEO CLIPS: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fRO8xf_0N4

PHOTOS: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ma1flt4m129s4kd/AAANlhOKa8CpoFjrjSCB3XApa?dl=0>

ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading not-for-profit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Interim Artistic Director James Black and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. The Alley produces up to 16 plays each year in its newly renovated theatre, ranging from the best current work, to re-invigorated classic plays, to new plays by contemporary writers. The Alley is home to a Resident Company of actors. In addition, the Alley engages theatre artists of every discipline – actors, designers, composers, playwrights – who work on individual productions throughout each season as Visiting Artists.

The renovation of the Hubbard Theatre at the Alley was completed in October 2015 – and created a new 774-seat state-of-the-art performance venue. Matched with the newly renovated 296-seat Neuhaus Theatre, the Alley offers nearly 500 performances each season. The Company reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performance and education programs. Its audience enrichment programs include pre-show and post-performance talks, events, and workshops for audience members of all ages.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Whitney Spencer, Public Relations & Communication Manager (whitneys@alleytheatre.org)
713.315.5454