

SED en la CALLE del AGUA

BY NILO CRUZ

ARCA IMAGES is a non-profit artistic production organization founded by Alexa Kuve in 2001 in the city of Miami.

Between 2013 and 2023, we have successfully presented more than 15 works by Nilo Cruz, the first Latin American to receive the prestigious Pulitzer Prize in Drama, all under his direction and among which are: "Hortensia and the Museum of Dreams," the world premiere of "Sotto Voce" (in collaboration with New York's Theater for the New City), "Hurricane," "Beauty of the Father," "The Color of Desire," "Farhad or the Secret of Being," "Lorca in a Green Dress," "Sotto Voce," "Bathing in Moonlight," and "Two Sisters and a Piano." Other productions include Anton Chekhov's "Uncle Vanya" and Jean-Luc Lagarce's "Love Story" (directed by Nilo Cruz); as well as "René's Story" by René Ariza, "Neva" by Guillermo Calderón, "In the Next Room" by Sarah Ruhl, and "I Was Home Waiting for the Rain to Fall" by Jean-Luc Lagarce, (directed by Larry Villanueva), all in co-production with the Miami-Dade County Auditorium.

In 2021, the world premieres of Joel Cano's "Fallen Angels" (presented at the Theatre de Nesle in Paris), Abel González Melo's "Tell Me Everything Again" and Nilo Cruz's "Hotel Desiderium" (commissioned by Arca Images) took place. In 2022, we commissioned and produced the world premieres of Abel González Melo's "Abyss," directed by Carlos Celdrán (presented at Teatro Lagrada in Madrid) and "Kisses through the Glass," written and directed by Nilo Cruz. We closed the year with the successful presentation of Eugene Ionesco's "The Bald Soprano." In 2023, we presented the South Florida premiere of Sergio Blanco's "Tebas Land," directed by Carlos Celdrán, (presented at Teatro Lagrada in Madrid), the U.S. premiere of "Iron," written and directed by Carlos Celdrán, and for the first time in Spanish, "A Park in Our House" by Nilo Cruz, under the direction of its author.

As evidence of our growth, in the last 4 years we have commissioned 6 world premieres and, with local talent, we have presented on stages in Spain and France.

With more than 85 productions, our work includes a short film, concerts, plastic arts exhibitions, staged readings, and more than twenty-five pieces directed by Larry Villanueva in co-production with School of Arts and Minds and for Arca's acting workshop.

MIAMI DADE COUNTY AUDITORIUM opened its doors in 1951. Since then, it has become one of the best performing arts centers in South Florida. This popular theater, decorated in the Art Deco style, adapts to multiple uses. The 2,372 seat auditorium lends itself to staging major dance, theater, and music productions.

In the "mid-stage" modality, it has room for 450 spectators, ideal for small concerts and dance and theater shows, thus satisfying the needs of medium sized organizations, while the On.Stage Black Box, where both the public and the artists occupy the stage, comprises 250 seats and is ideal for more intimate presentations and experimental pieces. Since January 2012, the Miami Dade County Auditorium has been administered by the Miami Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, an agency with a history of supporting innovation and artistic excellence.

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council foster cultural excellence, diversity, and participation throughout the county by creating and promoting opportunities for artists and cultural organizations, and for residents and visitors that make up your audience. The Department directs the Art in Public Places program and its board of directors, the Art in Public Places Trust, which commissions, maintains, and promotes the county's award-winning collection of public art. Through its staff, board of directors, and programs, the Department, Council, and Board of Trustees promote, coordinate, and support more than a thousand nonpro-fit cultural organizations and thousands of resident artists through grants, technical assistance, public information, and interactive community planning. The Department receives funding through the Miami Dade County Mayor and Commission, the Children's Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida through its Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and Council for the Arts and Culture, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Additional support and services are provided by TicketWeb (for the Culture Shock Miami program), the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the South Florida Cultural Consortium, and the Tourist Development Council.

CAST (BY ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

- **Carlos Acosta Milián** as Dr. Thomas Grace
- **Claudia Tomás** as Emma Rose
- **Daniel Romero** as Joaquín
- **Orlando Urdaneta** as Don Morales

ARTISTIC AND PRODUCTION TEAM OF ARCA IMAGES

TEXT AND DIRECTION:	Nilo Cruz
EXECUTIVE AND ARTISTIC PRODUCTION:	Alexa Kuve
SCENIC DESIGN:	Frank Oliva
SCENOGRAPHY CONSTRUCTION:	Oliva Design Group
COSTUME DESIGN:	Gema Valdés
LIGHTING DESIGN:	Ernesto Pinto
SOUND DESIGN:	Nilo Cruz
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AND STAGE MANAGER:	Oriana Urdaneta
GRAPHIC DESIGN:	Pilar Fernández Melo
PUBLIC RELATIONS:	Robert Rossenberg
PROMOTION AND MEDIA:	Heber Siquieros
PHOTOGRAPHY:	Roberto Santamarina
SPANISH TRANSLATION:	Alexa Kuve
SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION:	Jackie Guldreis

TECHNICAL TEAM MDCA

SOUND ENGINEER:	José Alvarez
LIGHT OPERATOR:	Jahkelta Lloyd
STAGEHAND:	Alex Hanson
PRODUCTION MANAGER:	Valentine Medina
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT:	David Solomon
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR:	Haydn Diaz

Carlos Acosta Milián

Graduated from the ENA in 1986. That same year he joined the Cuban Theater Movement, participating in several national and international tours. In 1990 he was part of the successful North American Theater Trilogy, under the direction of Carlos Díaz. In 1992 he founded, together with a prominent group of artists, the “El Público” theater, gathered around the figure of Díaz. In 2000 he moved to San Sebastián, Spain, where he served as a professor at the San Sebastián Performing Arts Workshop and taught acting classes until 2008. He has developed an extensive and successful career in theater, film and television. Since 2012 he has resided in Miami. At the recently celebrated 40th Miami International Film Festival he premiered “Havana Stories [La Operación Payret]” where in addition to being an Actor, he serves as Co-Producer of the film. With Arca Images we have enjoyed it in “El cuento de René”, directed by Larry Villanueva, the works of Nilo Cruz, “Lorca in a Green Dress”, “Baño de Luna”, “Exquisita Agonía” and “Two Sisters and a Piano”, all under the direction of Cruz, and recently in “Hierro” by Carlos Celdrán, directed by the author.

Orlando Urdaneta

Orlando Urdaneta is, in short, a creative being par excellence who has managed to develop his talent, becoming one of the most prestigious figures in Venezuelan entertainment. Actor, entertainer, broadcaster, playwright, and plastic artist. With over fifty films starring in Italy, USA, Mexico, and Venezuela, more than thirty soap operas and many other plays, some of his own, Urdaneta completes half a century in a career that began before his tenth birthday. He recently incarnated Cardinal Ágatho Zuliani in the First Season of Los Enviados (Paramount) directed by Juan José Campanella. On the radio “Orlando de todo tomo los tocos” marked the beginning of the voice of permanent protest, with laughter ahead. He is named among the first intellectuals of humor, in every appointment that is made of the greats, on the subject.

His firm political position against the Castro-Chavista narco regime has removed him from Venezuela for more than fifteen years.

He currently hosts, produces and directs his own shows.

He tours the country with his stand-ups and his dramatic and humorous theatrical monologues.

And he performs for his YouTube channel (Orlando Urdaneta) his show *Almorzando con Orlando*.

Claudia Tomás

Cuban actress, graduated from the ENA and the ISA. Since 2011 she joined the “El Público” Theater Company, under the direction of Carlos Díaz, where she worked on the productions: “Twelfth Night”, by William Shakespeare; “Peer Gynt”, by Ibsen; “The Decameron”, by Boccaccio; “The bitter tears of Petra von Kant”, by Fassbinder, among others. She has worked in television and film in the soap opera “Más allá del límite”, the series “Rompiendo el silencio”; and in the films “El Mayor”, by Rigoberto López and “Inocencia”, by Alejandro Gil, for which she won the “Award for Best Choral Performance at the Latin American Film Festival of Trieste, Italy, 2019” and the “Prize of the Audience (Coral Award/40th International Festival of New Latin American Cinema/ 2018.)” She recently completed filming “Plantadas”, by director Lilo Vilaplana and in theater we enjoyed her in Arca Images’ productions of “The Bald Soprano”, by Ionesco and “A Park in Our House”, by Nilo Cruz.

Daniel Romero

Cuban actor, graduated from the ENA and the ISA. Since 2012 he joined the Argos Teatro Company, under the direction of Carlos Celdrán, where he worked on the 10 million productions (Hola Award for Excellence in Theater for Best Latin Performance given by the Hispanic Organization of Latin Actors in New York and award Independent Theater Artists (ATI) as Best Actor in a visiting group, also in New York), Mysteries and small pieces and Hierro, written and directed by Carlos Celdrán. He has worked in television and film in works such as the series Zoológico and in the feature films José Martí: El Ojo del Canario, by director Fernando Pérez (Ariel Award for Best Ibero-American Film, 2011); Last Days in Havana, by director Fernando Pérez; El Mayor, by director Rigoberto Lopez; La Joven Novicia, by director Arturo Soto, and Plantadas, by director Lilo Villaplana. We recently enjoyed it in Tebas Land by Sergio Blanco, Hierro by Carlos Celdrán, both directed by Celdrán and “A Park in Our House”, written and directed by Nilo Cruz; all produced by Arca Images.

Nilo Cruz

PLAYWRIGHT & DIRECTOR

He premiered “Anne in the Tropics” on Broadway with Jimmy Smits in the lead role, and was the first Latino to win a Pulitzer Prize for this play. He is the author of more than 16 plays and four translations, and earned a master’s degree in theater from Brown University. Additionally, he is an accomplished theater director who has frequently staged his own plays and directed other classical and contemporary pieces. Cruz’s works have been performed at the Public Theater of New York, the New York Theater Workshop, and the McCarter Theatre, among others. His numerous honors include two NEA/TCG National Theater Artist Residency Fellowships, a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship, a Kennedy Center Fund Award, and a PEN/Laura Pels International Foundation for Theater Award. He has taught playwriting at Brown, Iowa, Yale, and Miami Universities. With Arca Images, he served as Artistic Director for 8 years and has presented and directed more than 13 pieces he authored, including the recent world premieres of “Hotel Desiderium” and “Kisses Through the Glass”, commissioned and produced by Arca Images.

Alexa Kuve

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Candidate for a doctorate in Philology and Adjunct Professor at Florida International University, she has a master's degree in Hispanic American Literature and is a graduate of the School of Modern Languages in the specialty of Spanish, also at this institution. She started as a producer with Fresco Productions and Venevisión Internacional, she was production coordinator at Gems TV, Sánchez & Levitán, Zubi Advertising and Siboney USA. In 2001 she founded Arca Images and, since that date, she has served as its executive director of production, leading the coordination of artistic and administrative areas. With Arca Images she has produced more than eighty shows, including plays, fine arts exhibitions, dramatized readings and concerts. As a theater actress, she has starred in multiple works, including: *Love Story*, by Jean Luc Lagarce; *Uncle Vania*, by Anton Checkjov; *The color of desire* by Nilo Cruz; *Chamaco*, by Abel González Melo; *A Streetcar Named Desire*, by Tennessee Williams; *The House of Bernarda Alba*, by Federico García Lorca and *The Galas of the Deceased*; from Valle Inclán. She has worked on more than twelve soap operas for Telemundo and other production companies, as well as the short films *Chambelona* and *Fade Out*. We recently enjoyed her as Mrs. Smith, in Ionesco's *The Bald Soprano*.

Frank Oliva

STAGE DESIGNER

Award winning Cuban-American Stage Designer. Arca Images debut. Recent work includes world premieres and new productions in New York, Miami and across the United States. His practice spans theatre, film, opera, music and fashion. Associate Designer on large-scale projects for Broadway and international productions. Frank is the recipient of Carbonell, Silver Palm and Innovative Theatre Awards, and was the recipient of the 2021 OperaAmerica Director/Designer Prize. Henry Hewes, Audelco and 3-time Carbonell Award Nominee. His work has been featured at the Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and profiled in *Vulture*, *VoyageMIA* and *Visa Magazines*. Member of Wingspace Theatrical Design, United Scenic Artists and a proud graduate of New York University. Frank lives and works in New York City. www.frankjoliva.com // @frankjoliva

Ernesto Pinto

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Prolific Venezuelan lighting designer and programmer, currently based in Miami. Renowned for his versatility, during his more than twentyfiveyear career he has designed and operated lighting for theater, musicals, opera, ballet, concerts, and events. His most recent works include the tour of the musical *Piaf, voz y delirio* through Latin America, Spain and the United States; *Dos hermanas y un piano*, *Hotel Desiderium*, and *Kisses Through the Glass*, *Mozart y Salieri*, *Abismo*, *Tebas Land*, and *Hierro*, produced by Arca Images (Miami-Dade County Auditorium); *Gente ociosa y Puras cosas maravillosas*, (Colony Theater). He has worked in concerts for artists such as Caramelos de Cianuro, San Luis, Voz Veis, Frank Quintero, Franco De Vita and Ricardo Montaner, among others. His lighting workshops contributed to training lighting technicians

between 2010 and 2015. Winner of the Avencrit Award in 2017 as the best lighting designer in his country and holder of two Latin Grammy Award certificates for his participation as lighting designer and director of photography in *Una noche común y sin corriente* and *Entre amigos 2*. |

Gema Valdés

COSTUME DESIGNER

Coming from the fashion industry, Gema discovered her love for theater when Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Nilo Cruz asked her to design costumes for his Spanish version of *Hortensia y el Museo de Sueños*, produced by Arca Images. Since then he has collaborated with Arca designing the costumes for *Hurricane*, *Belleza del Padre* (nominated for the Miami Life Awards), *El color del deseo*, *Baño de luna*, *Fallen Angels*, *Tebas Land*, *Hierro* (nominated for a Carbonell Award for “best design wardrobe”) and “*A Park in Our House*”. Gema has collaborated with GableStage on *Indecent* and *El Huracán* and currently is the costume technician, draper, and costume atelier supervisor at the University of Miami’s Jerry Herman Ring Theater, where she collaborates with designers and instructs students on costumes for theater productions.

Oriana Urdaneta

DIRECTOR’S ASSISTANT & STAGE MANAGER

Barry University alumni who graduated with a Bachelor’s in Music. Oriana currently works in Production Management at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Previously, she has worked as a stage manager and/or theater technician for shows and events with Barry University, Miami City Theatre, Arsht Center, Actors Playhouse at Miracle Theatre, YoungArts, Broward Center, SoundCloud, The Carbonell Awards, and more. Oriana’s first work for Arca was Nilo Cruz’ *A Park in Our House*.

Our gratitude to Roberto Santamarina, Jesús Felipe, Ulises Peña, and especially to the administrative and technical staff of MDCA, our home for more than ten years.