

Acheron: The River of Tragedy, is a play about identity and immigration. Leonardo dreams of crossing the river Acheron to get to the other side and live the Death-Dream. His desires are halted, however, when a mysterious migra (immigration agent) catches him. The agent, Nicanor, stands in the way of Leonardo's crossing, yet nevertheless Nicanor becomes at different times Leonardo's friend, his enemy, his guardian, his transgressor and even his victim.

Directed by **Martín Balmaceda**

Written by **Xavier Villanova**

Featuring **Aline L. Bernal** and **Cinthia Pérez Navarro**

Choreography **Cinthia Pérez Navarro, Aline L. Bernal**

Sound Design **Aline L. Bernal, Martín Balmaceda, Eduardo Vásquez**

Photography and design **Siddharta Studio, Hugo Freeman**

Video **Hugo Freeman**

Production **XIPE COLECTIVO ESCÉNICO**

ARTIST BIOS

Martín Balmaceda is an award winning theatre director and educator based in New York City with an MFA in theatre from Sarah Lawrence College. His work focuses on directing contemporary theater through a multidisciplinary approach. Martín's projects are hybrid theatrical productions that encourage collaboration, interpretation of the works of emerging and established theater artists, exploration of new media, and ensemble acting. He has directed plays by Jose Rivera, Juan Radrigán, Marco Antonio de la Parra, and Diana Raznovich among others, and has worked at BAM, La MaMa, The Bushwick Starr, The New Ohio Theater, Dixon Place, and IATI Theater. He is a Lincoln Center Directors' Lab alumnus, and co-founder of NYC based La Micro Theatre Company devoted to Latin American works.

Xavier Villanova is an International Writers Program Fall 2017 resident at the University of Iowa. His work has been staged in Mexico, US, and Venezuela. In 2011 the LARK in NY workshopped his "Acheron: The River of Tragedy". In 2010, he won the National Playwright Award given by the UANL (Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León) and received a grant from Fundación para las Letras Mexicanas. In 2016, he was a resident artist at UDLAP (Universidad de las Américas Puebla), where he wrote and directed "La Retórica del Silencio". At the same time, his play "#ComandanteOtelo", directed by Lisha Montañó Weaver, was premiered on stage at the Teatro de

la Ciudad in Puebla. This year, "#ComandanteOtelo" was the winning play of the Muestra Estatal de Teatro in Puebla and is going to be presented at the Muestra Nacional de Teatro. He teaches theatre history at Universidad de la Comunicación in Mexico City and also co-creator of Movimiento Íntimo, bringing performances to non-conventional spaces, specially households. He has been the director of the theatre company Oscura y Verde Realidad for 10 years now. He has lectured, conducted workshops and directed plays at colleges and universities in USA, Mexico and South America, including Northwestern University, The New School University, Sarah Lawrence College, Lehman College, UDLAP Universidad de las Américas Puebla MX, Universidad del Desarrollo, and Universidad ARCIS, Chile.

Aline L. Bernal graduated from the Universidad de las Américas Puebla (Cum Laude) with a Theatre Degree. In 2015, she is part of the generation of the Ibero-American Seminar on Dramaturgical Experimentation and Scenic Creation TRANSdrama at Mexico City and San Luis Potosí. During 2016, she worked with different theater companies in Puebla such as Gaudenti Teatro, ConstruArte and Ranas de Laboratorio. She was a member of the collective ResPública in charge of the director Juliana Faesler, presenting "The Tempest" by William Shakespeare; guest work of the Muestra Estatal de Teatro in Puebla. In 2017, through Rizoma Gestión Cultural and Delfos Danza Contemporánea, she is part of the "Aprendiendo a leer" program with the children's play "Hurañita" by Mariano Cabrera, where she has had the opportunity to perform in different stages of the Mexican republic. She is currently a member of XIPE Colectivo Escénico and continues her work with Ranas de Laboratorio performing in "S'embrasent" by Luc Tartar, which was premiered at the second edition of Butaca Llena: Independent Theater Festival.

Cinthia Pérez Navarro is originally from Puebla City. Graduated from a Dance Degree at UDLAP, Cholula, Mexico. She has participated in international festivals such as Performática (2007 - 2016), American Dance Festival (2010), International Festival of Contact Improvisation Uruguay (2011), SOMA Fest (2012), On-Site / In-Sight Dance Festival (2016 - 2017) and 1st - 2nd National Gathering of Contact Improvisation in Mexico (2016 - 2017). Since 2014 she has been a member of the Chicken Bank Collective, an international interdisciplinary art collective, with whom she collaborates through creation, management and production of artistic residences and performances. In 2016, she was awarded as the best Feminine Performer at the Fifth Choreography Competition 4x4 Tj Night. Subsequently begins her collaboration with XIPE Colectivo Escénico for the play Acheron: The River of Tragedy, having season in Cholula, Puebla and Mexico City. She currently lives in Puebla City, and is attending to the 2nd year of the Body Mind Movement Training as a Somatic Educator. Finally, she organizes the community of Improvisación de Contacto Puebla, through regular sessions, outdoor sessions, intensive workshops and JAM's for free practice.

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... and to all our ANONYMOUS, family and friends.
Thank you

Join us for a workshop with Xipe!

DRAMATURGY of THE BODY

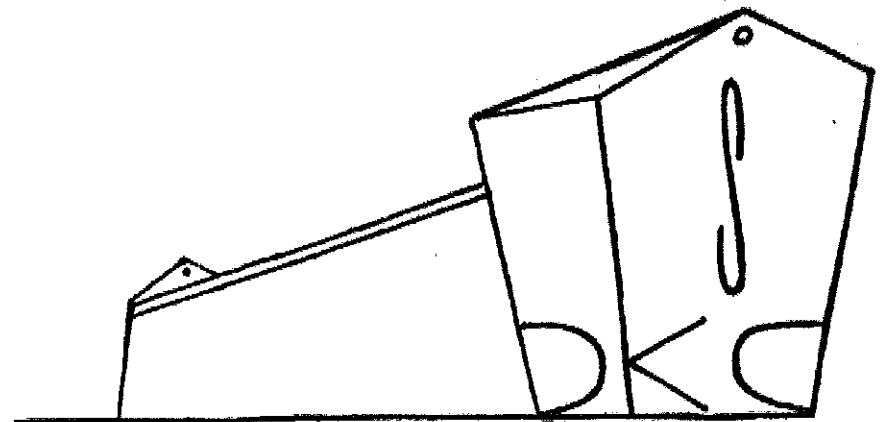
Introduction to Improvisation Practices of Movement
and Viewpoints

Saturday May 25, 12-2pm - \$20

More info at bksd.org/events

The workshop is open to adults and theater professionals to enhance various aspects of the performing arts. The workshop seeks to bring together professional artists and community members to cultivate new skills and knowledge which can be applied to all aspects of the creative life.

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**Brooklyn Studios for Dance
Presents**

Acheron: The River of Tragedy

By Xavier Villanova
Directed by Martín Balmaceda

May 24th & 25th, 2019