TEATRO**CÍRCULO**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEATRO CÍRCULO OPENS ITS FALL SEASON WITH THE DEBUT OF THE SPANISH THEATRICAL MASTERPIECE 'LA VIDA ES SUEÑO' (LIFE IS A DREAM) FROM NOVEMBER 26 TO DECEMBER 12, 2021

SHOWTIMES

Fridays: November 26, December 3 and 10, at 8pm Saturdays: November 27, December 4 and 11, at 3pm & 8pm Sundays: November 28, December 5 and 12, at 3pm

TICKETS

\$35 General Admission | \$30 Students & Seniors | \$25 Groups of 10+ To purchase tickets, visit <u>www.teatrocirculo.org</u>

PRESS KIT >

NEW YORK, NY, October 19, 2021 - Teatro Círculo, one of New York City's leading Spanish language classical and contemporary Latino theatres, is excited to announce the return of in-person performances, after more than 22 months of remote programming, with the presentation of 'La vida es sueño' (Life is a Dream) by famed Spanish dramatist Pedro Calderón de la Barca. From November 26 to December 12, 2021, theater-goers can enjoy this iconic masterpiece of the Spanish "Golden Age" theater and contemplate the philosophical allegory about the boundaries of the real and unreal worlds, right and wrong, and life and death. The play will be performed in Spanish with English overtitles. For more information and tickets, visit www.teatrocirculo.org.

Directed by acclaimed Spanish director Mariano De Paco Serrano, 'La vida es sueño' (Life is a Dream) stars award-winning actors Eva Cristina Vásquez (Puerto Rico), María Fontanals (Spain), Juan Luis Acevedo (Puerto Rico), Fernando Gazzaniga (Argentina), Jerry Soto (Puerto Rico), Daniel Alonso (Spain) and Catherine Núñez (Cuba). Israel Franco Müller will be the production designer for the show.

Published in 1636 and considered one of the best-known theatrical works of Spanish theater during the Baroque period, the piece relates the story of Segismundo, Prince of Poland, who has been imprisoned by his father, King Basilio, following a dire prophecy that the prince would bring disaster to the country and death to the King. Basilio briefly frees Segismundo, but when the prince goes on a rampage, the king imprisons him again, persuading him that his temporary release was all a dream. The classical performance challenges us to question what are dreams and what is reality; and what are truths and what are lies. Inquiries that are especially prevalent during this time.

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"In recent years, especially during the pandemic, our concept of reality has been placed into question. Calderón de la Barca's classical work presents us with a work that beautifully encodes human confusion while presenting us with a sobering option: free will," said Cheo Oliveras, Founding Artistic Director, Teatro Círculo.

Teatro Círculo's rendition draws inspiration from past performances, while offering a contemporary interpretation in a modern setting. Audiences enter an amorphous space where, like in dreams, different realities converge, boundaries are blurred and where the timeline of past and future collapses into the present. Characters, played by any given number of actors, are represented as neutral genderless entities only definable by stylized wardrobe and masks, whose time and place are defined by the throw of special theatrical lights and chiaroscuro effects. A characteristic typical of the Baroque era to which the play belongs.

'La vida es sueño' (Life is a Dream) will perform Fridays at 8pm; Saturdays at 3pm and 8pm; and Sundays at 3:00pm at Teatro Circulo (64 East 4th Street, NYC). General Admission tickets are priced \$35 to all performances. Proof of vaccination and ID is required to enter. Face coverings must be worn at all times. To purchase tickets, visit www.teatrocirculo.org or call 212-505-1808.

'La vida es sueño' (Life is a Dream) is generously supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Hispanic Federation, and the Consulate General of Spain.

ABOUT TEATRO CÍRCULO

Founded in 1994 by Founding Artistic Director José Cheo Oliveras, Teatro Círculo is New York City's premier Spanish language classical and contemporary Latino theatre company. Recognized for its artistic excellence with more than 95 ACE, HOLA and ATI Awards, Teatro Circulo's productions continue to amplify the rich mosaic of Iberian and Latino cultures demonstrating the pluralism and artistic vitality of our people both here and abroad.

The Company is located on New York's famous Fourth Arts Block at 64 East 4th Street. To connect with Teatro Circulo via Social Media, follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. For more information, please visit <u>www.teatrocirculo.org</u>.

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