

TEATRO CÍRCULO

TEATRO CÍRCULO OPENS ITS 2026-2027 SEASON WITH A NEW TAKE OF
'PERIBÁÑEZ Y EL COMENDADOR DE OCAÑA' (PERIBÁÑEZ AND THE
COMMANDER OF OCAÑA) BY LOPE DE VEGA, IN A FREE VERSION BY
JOSÉ LUIS ALONSO DE SANTOS FROM SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 4, 2026
AT TEATRO CÍRCULO



In this new take on Lope's play, a young newlywed couple's lives are forever disrupted
by the Commander of Ocaña

NYC August 2026 – Fresh from their 5-city, sold-out tour of Spain and with a Special International Award from the 34th Teatro de Rojas Awards in Toledo, Spain, the troupe returns to New York City with a play about desire and abuse of power. At a time when a knock on the door can bring danger to the Latino community, José Cheo Oliveras, Founding Artistic Director of **Teatro Círculo**, has chosen to launch the 2026-2027 season with **Lope de Vega's PERIBÁÑEZ Y EL COMENDADOR DE OCAÑA** (Peribáñez and the Commander of Ocaña) in a free version by **José Luis Alonso de Santos** from **September 18 - October 4, 2026** at Teatro Círculo.

Founding Artistic Director, **José Cheo Oliveras**, *"I have always appreciated Spanish Golden Age Classics because their stories are universal. When I reread 'Peribáñez y el Comendador de Ocaña', the story seemed relevant to this particular moment in time. I so appreciate José Luis Alonso de Santos' free version, which emphasizes the play's themes while staying true to the intent of Lope's text."*

As Peribáñez and Casilda celebrate their wedding day, their joy is shattered by the

unexpected arrival of the powerful Commander of Ocaña. Captivated by Casilda the Commander becomes consumed by an obsessive desire that knows no bounds. Abusing his authority to possess what he cannot have, he sets in motion a chain of events driven by lust, honor, and vengeance, leading to devastating consequences.

Under Verse Director **Karmele Aranburu**, Teatro Círculo, continues to impress national and international audiences with its delivery of Spanish Golden Age verse, *"In this free version, the most captivating aspect is that orality and expressiveness are entirely contemporary. As we tell our story from a modern perspective, we're working to maintain the beauty and rhythm of words written 400 years ago."*, says Aranburu.

PERIBÁÑEZ Y EL COMENDADOR DE OCAÑA is directed by **Daniel Alonso de Santos** with an international stellar cast that includes **Israel Franco-Müller** as Peribáñez, **Fermín Suárez** as the Commander, **María Fontanals** as Casilda, **José Cheo Oliveras** as Leonardo, **Fernando Gazzaniga** as Luján, **Eva Cristina Vásquez** as Inés, **Luis Rivera Figueroa** as Bartolo and **Gabriel Leyva** as the Priest. **Caridad del Valle** is the Assistant Director and Stage Manager, and Israel Franco-Müller is the Production Designer as well.

Thanks to **Howard Gilman Foundation** and the support of the "State of New York", Teatro Círculo is offering their affordable access initiative ***Mi casa es tu casa*** providing **\$10 tickets to Saturday performances, using code ACCESS**; a FREE Community Night and Cast Party on Friday, September 18th after the performance; a FREE Spanish Golden Age Verse Workshop on Saturday, September 19th after the 7pm performance, and FREE post-performance discussions with Spanish Golden Age Scholars following the 2pm Sunday Matinees on September 20th and 27th.

Performances of **PERIBÁÑEZ Y EL COMENDADOR DE OCAÑA** will take place at Teatro Círculo's **64 East 4th Street** Mainstage Theater in Manhattan with **12 performances** from **September 18 to October 4, 2026**. Curtain times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7pm and Saturdays and Sundays at 2pm.

PERIBÁÑEZ Y EL COMENDADOR DE OCAÑA is made possible, in part, by the Howard Gilman Foundation, New York State, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, The Shubert Foundation, Lucille Lortel Foundation, Miranda Family Foundation, The Frederic Coudert Foundation and The Mosaic Network and Fund.

Tickets are available at teatrocirculo.org/tickets/

General Admission \$40, Students & Seniors \$35, Groups of 10+ \$30
SUBSIDIZED \$10 TICKETS for Saturdays September 19th and 26th and October 3rd at 2pm and 7pm, code ACCESS

For more information: teatrocirculo.org/peribanez-y-el-comendador-de-ocana/
ADA Accessible

WHAT: **PERIBÁÑEZ Y EL COMENDADOR DE OCAÑA** by **Lope de Vega**, a free version by **José Luis Alonso de Santos**

WHEN: From **September 18 to October 4, 2026**; Fridays and Saturdays at 7pm and Saturdays and Sundays at 2pm

WHERE: Teatro Círculo, **64 East 4th Street** in Manhattan, NYC

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