HERE presents

THE RECEPTION

Created by Sean Donovan and Sebastián Calderón Bentin, in collaboration with the company

Co-Directed by Sebastián Calderón Bentin and Sean Donovan
Performed by Jane Comfort, Leslie Cuyjet, Sean Donovan, Hannah Heller, Ishmael Houston-Jones

Set Design by Neal Wilkinson
Costume Design by Felix Ciprián
Lighting Design by Amanda K. Ringger
Sound Design by Brandon Wolcott and Tyler Kieffer
Stage Managed by Randi Rivera
Assistant Stage Managed by Caroline D’Angelo
Technical Direction by Carl Whipple

A HERE Resident Artist Production
Approximate Running Time: 60 minutes

The Reception is commissioned, developed, and produced through the HERE Artist Residency Program (HARP). Additional support provided by Art Matters Foundation, the Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Bushwick Starr, and the Tisch School of the Arts/NYU.
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– Adrienne Rich, Diving into the Wreck
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The Three Matadors by Sebastián Calderón Bentín (Creator, Director) is a New York-based scholar and performance-maker. He has been in collaboration with Sebastián Calderón Bentín for the past 13 years. Their work has been presented at JACK, Incubator Arts Project, FAE Festival in Panama, Stanford University, and New York University. Sebastián has performed with the International Contemporary Ensemble, Anna Deavere Smith, John Jesurun, Witness Relocation, Ann Carlson, Faye Driscoll, Gisela Cardenas, and the Institute of Failure led by Tim Etchells and Matthew Gough. As part of PERFORMA 07, he appeared in Allan Kaprow’s 18 Happenings in 6 Parts (Re-doing) directed by André Lepecki at Deitch Studios which won Best Performance by the International Association of Art Critics/USA. He performs regularly with the Chicago-based theater company Every House Has a Door including most recently The Three Matadors (2017), 9 Beginnings: Chicago (2014), and 9 Beginnings: Bristol (2014, 2012). Sebastián received a BFA in Theater and an MA in Performance Studies from the Tisch School of the Arts/NYU. He holds a PhD from the Department of Theater and Performance Studies at Stanford University and has taught in the Department of Drama at New York University. The Charles and Cerise Cohen Foundation Inc., John B. Haney, Wayne Hainsworth, the Builders Association, Paul Zimet, and Robert LaPorte. They have been Resident Artists at HERE since 2014.

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Neal Wilkinson (Set Design) Recent set design credits include Mata Hari by Paul Peers and Matt Marks (PROTOTYPE Festival), The Builders Association’s Elements of Oz (3LD), Kaija Saariaho’s Emile (Finnish National Opera), Ryan Elizabeth Reid’s Henri (Smith Center Lab), and Jack Hitt’s Making Up The Truth (Soho Festival). Neal is also the founder of Corps Liminis, a production management and design firm working in the theater and art communities. Recent credits for Corps Liminis include Target Margin’s Mourning Becomes Electra (Abrons), Broadway Asia’s China Goes Pop (Chinese Tour), Tony Ourlser’s Imperdorable (MoMA), Lisa Dwan’s Beckett Trilogy (US Tour), Anri Sala’s Ravel Ravel (The New Museum), Sankai Juku’s Umusuna (US Tour), Live Ideas Festival curated by Laurie Anderson (New York Live Arts), Michael Gondry’s Electra (Barbican), Robert Wilson’s Zinnias: The Life of Clementine Hunter (Montclair Peak Performances), and Karen O’s Stop the Virgins (Sydney Opera House).

Felix Ciprián (Costume Design) holds a BFA in Theater from Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. He is an interdisciplinary visual artist deeply interested in history and racial identity. He aims to face the absurd political realities of the United States, his home, head-on and unbowed. Having recently returned to New York from Mass MoCA where he was an Artist in Residence, he is thrilled to be collaborating with such talented artists to create The Reception. His work has been exhibited at Chashama Art Space, Art Gotham, Real Art Ways, as well as the Angel Orensanz Foundation, and was twice selected to participate in the Dietch Art Parade. His theatre design and art performances have appeared on the stages of Brooklyn Arts Exchange, HERE, Ontological-Hysteric Theater, Flamboyan CSV Theater, BAAD NY, Theater of The New City, and Dixon Place. Felix currently lives in Brooklyn (but misses the Caribbean beaches of his youth).

Amanda K. Ringer (Lighting Design) has lived in New York since 1997, designing locally and internationally with artists such as Faye Driscoll, Doug Elkins, Cynthia Oliver, Jennifer Archibald, Antonio Ramos, LMKO, Alexandra Bellar, Deborah Loeb, Donnell Oakley, Molly Poerstel, Kota Yamazaki, Nora Chipaumire, Laura Peterson, Julian Barnett, 10 Hairy Legs, Timothy Hamilton, Darragh Carr, and cakeface, among others. She received a BA from Goucher College in Baltimore, MD and an MFA in Lighting Design from Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. She is the recipient of a 2009 “Bessie” award for her collaboration on Faye Driscoll’s 837 Venice Boulevard at HERE.

Brandon Wolcott (Sound Design) is a NYC-based sound designer and composer. Off-Broadway: The Profane (Playwrights Horizons) Venus, Everybody, Signature Plays (Signature); The Record, The Fever (600 Highwaymen/Public Theater); Coriolanus, Hit the Wall (Broom Street); Kiss Floor (LCT3); The Nether (Lortel nomination, MCC); Good Person of Szechwan (The Public); Titus Andronicus – Ruin (Park Avenue Armony), Equlivocation (MTC). Collaborations with Abramovic, Laurie Anderson, Faye Driscoll, Nicolas Jaar, Elizabeth Streb, Woodshed Collective, Jane Comfort, Red Bull, New Georges, Clubbed Thumb, and many more.
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Tyler Kieffer (Sound Design) is a Brooklyn-based sound designer whose credits include Counting Sheep (Ruhfrestspiel Festival; Recklinghausen, Germany); Made In China (Wakka Wakka); A Dog Story (The Davenport Theatre); Every Morning I Wake Up and Seem to Forget (Body & Soul Music Festival, Ireland); Little Shop of Horrors (Berkshire Theatre Group); The History Boys (Palm Beach Drama Works); I Wasn’t Going to Tell Anybody and Then I Told Everybody, Buried, All’s That Ends Well (NYU: Tisch); Deer and the Lovers, Peter Pan, and The Troublesome Reign of King John, (Yale School of Drama); Arcadia (Yale Repertory Theatre); Ain’t Gonna Make It (Ars Nova).

Randi Rivera (Stage Management) is a native New Yorker. She holds a BA in Theater from Hamilton College, studied Technical Theater at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, and Production Management at Universidad San Pablo CEU in Madrid. Randi is the Stage Manager & Lighting Director for Brooklyn-based theater company Half Straddle, traveling both internationally and domestically with their work since 2012. She is the Stage Manager for Phantom Limb Company, traveling both internationally and domestically with their work since 2011. Randi also works as the touring & NYC-based Stage Manager/Lighting Director for various contemporary dance companies - favorites include Keigwin + Company, Faye Driscoll Group, Sidra Bell Dance NY, LMnO3, and Doug Elkins Choreography Etc. Randi is delighted to work again at HERE, this time with Sean, Sebastian, and their wonderful team. All of her work is for her family.

Caroline D’Angelo (Assistant Stage Management) is thrilled to be joining the team on The Reception! Recent credits include: Beardo with Pipeline Theatre Company, Shadowland 2 with Pilobolus Dance Theatre; Regional; Deathtrap (Engeman Theatre), The Little Prince, Two Gentlemen of Verona, Henry IV (Part 1), Tartuffe (Monmouth). Opera: La Bohème and Iphigénie en Taurid (DePaul Opera Theatre). Other favorite credits include In the Blood, directed by Nathan Singh; A Free Man of Color, directed by Phyllis E. Griffin; Our Town, directed by Damon Keel; A Wrinkle in Time, directed by Ernie Nolan; Barrio Grrrl, directed by Lisa Portes; The Misanthrope, directed by Mark Pinarse; Intimate Apparel, directed by Phyllis E. Griffin.

CAST

Jane Comfort (Performer) is a choreographer, writer, and director. She is a Guggenheim Fellow, and has received a “Bessie” Award. Doris Duke Award for New Work through ADF, and multiple artist fellowships from the NEA and NYFA. Her company, Jane Comfort and Company, has toured throughout the US and abroad, and will be celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2018. Jane also works in theatre and opera, and choreographed the Broadway musicals Passion by Stephen Sondheim, and Amour by Michel Legrand, as well as Shakespeare in the Park’s Much Ado About Nothing (2004) and the opera Salome with Deborah Voigt, among others. She is delighted to be working with the wonderful artists in The Reception. janecomfortandcompany.org
Leslie Cuyjet (Performer) is a dancer and choreographer living in Brooklyn. She has performed and collaborated formally and informally with contemporaries, legends, and counterparts on rooftops, good and bad floors, and alleyways in film, in galleries, on tour, and on the fly since 2004. Her independent work has been presented in New York by THE CURRENT SESSIONS (La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival), Gibney Dance (DoublePlus), CPR (Fall Movement), Movement Research (Fall Festival, Judson Church), UNTENS (REALness, Populous), and Danspace (Draftworks). She has a long-standing performing and touring history with Cynthia Oliver and Jane Comfort, and is currently developing work with David Thompson, Yanira Castro/boan canari tos, Kim Brandt, A.O. Movement Collective, and Stephanie Acosta and James Tate of Intrisic Grey. She is a 2017 Artist-in-Residence at Movement Research.

Hannah Heller (Performer) is a New York based actor, dancer, and writer. She is so happy to be on her second project with Donovan & Calderon, having been previously seen in The Climate Chronicles (The Ontological/NYC). Other theater credits include The Builder’s Association’s Elements of Oz (3LD/NYC), both Nellie Tinder’s Emily Climbs: Machine Machante (The Brick/NYC), and Evelyn (Bushwick Starr/NYC), Jess Almacy’s Tiger Tiger (Dixon Place, NYC), Grand Lady Dance House’s Actress Fury (Bushwick Starr, NYC), Ripetime’s The World is Round (BAM, NYC), and The Ride Down Mt. Morgan (Old Castle Theater/VT). FILM/TELEVISION: Lemon (Killers Film), Hard World For Small Things (WEVR), Jeff and Some Aliens (Comedy Central). Hannah has worked with choreographers Savion Glover, Michelle Dorrance, and Jane Comfort, and she choreographed Half Central). Hannah has worked with choreographers Savion Glover, Michelle Dorrance, and Jane Comfort, and she choreographed Half Central). Hannah has worked with choreographers Savion Glover, Michelle Dorrance, and Jane Comfort, and she choreographed Half Central).

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PROTOTYPE: Opera/Theatre/Now receives leadership funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional generous support from The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, The Amphin Foundation, the Association of Performing Arts Presenters Cultural Exchange Program, The Augustine Foundation, BAM Foundation, Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, Fresh Sound Foundation, Ann & Gordon Getty Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Francis Goelet Charitable Lead Trusts, Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation, OPERA America’s New Works Exploration Grant, The Reed Foundation, The Ted Snowden Foundation, and the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation. Additional public support is provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. PROTOTYPE receives generous corporate support from Edison Properties.

SPECIAL THANKS

There are many people to thank for the creation of this work. We’d like to thank Kim Whitener and Kristin Marting and the entire staff of HERE for their incredible support. A big thank you to Mark Dendy whose humor and creativity are woven into the material. Thank you to Noel Allain and the Bushwick Starr for their support of the project.
Thank you to Allyson Green and the Tisch School of the Arts for their vital support. Thank you to Alexandra Nikolchev, Abigail Browde, and Laura Stinger for lending their incredible skills and insight. Thanks to Frank LoCasto for tickling the ivories. And thank you to our families and friends without which we could not have made this work.

Thank you to our generous supporters:

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- Francois Sauvouin
- Vivian Sarratt
- Paul Sepuya
- Kris Soto
- Jason Shelton
- Michael
- Silverstone
- Garret Smith
- Alisa Snidman
- Laurel Snyder
- Valerie Stinger
- David Suarez
- Randy Thompson
- Nadia Tyukulos
- Brian Walsh
- Marianne
- Weems
- Adam White
- Kim Whitener
- Craig Wilse
- Brandon Woolf
- Colin Wright
- Wendy Yang
- Jesse Zaritt

HERE’S 16-17 Season Sponsor is

Murray’s

HERE, in partnership with Resident Playwright Taylor Mac, is a participant in the National Playwriting Residency Program, funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. HERE is also a participant in the Leadership U: Continuing Ed program, funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and administered by Theatre Communications Group, the national organization for the professional not-for-profit American theatre.
HERE PRODUCTION STAFF
Production Manager: Julie Shelton
Technical Director: Ben Elling
Production Technical Director: Carl Whipple
Master Electrician/Programmer: Stephanie Byrnes Harrell
Production Intern: Madeleine Flieger
Scenic Construction: JAG Fabrications
Wardrobe Management: Caroline D’Angelo

HERE STAFF
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, DREAM MUSIC
Basil Twist
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
Brenna C. Thomas
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE
Liene Camarena Fogle
DEVELOPMENT FELLOW
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MARKETING & GRAPHICS ASSOCIATE
Katie Dean
MARKETING ASSISTANT
Julia Levine
RESIDENT DRAMATURG
Pete McCabe
RESIDENT LIGHTING DESIGNER
Ayumu “Poe” Saegusa
FOUNDRERS
Barbara Busackino
Tim Maner
Kristin Marting
Randy Rollison

HERE RESIDENT ARTISTS
Brian Rady & Jeremy Bloom/
RADY&BLOOM
Collective Playmaking
Gisela Cardenas & Milica Paranosic/
InTandem Lab
Sam Crawford & Yara Travieso
Sean Donovan &
Sebastián Calderón Bentin
Leah Coloff
Sara Farrington & Reid Farrington
Ximena Garnica & Shige Moriya/
Leimay
Chris Green

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GENERAL MANAGER
Meredith Lynsey Schade
FINANCE ASSOCIATE
Alex West
GENERAL MANAGEMENT FELLOW
Emma Hills
PRODUCTION MANAGER
Julie Shelton
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Ben Elling
BOX OFFICE & HOUSE MANAGER
Richard Stauffacher
BOX OFFICE/LOUNGE ASSOCIATES
Shannon Buhler
Carolyn Emery
Emma Hills
Kimille Howard
Hannah McCue
Jessica Reiken

INTERNS
Programming - Christine Aucoin, Bonnie Davis, David Kahawaii IV
Development - Charlotte Hopawii
General Management: Sydney Guye

PRODUCING DIRECTOR
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PRODUCER, DREAM MUSIC
Barbara Busackino
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HEREart On View: Performing Objects
Curated by FiveMyles
NOW – Jun 26

The exhibition shows Meridith McNeal’s large watercolor and ink paintings of famous Sicilian puppets, featuring Orlando Furioso and his companions. Andres Hoyos’ salvaged chairs are installed in a suspended choreography; each one has its individual personality through a lively decoration applied with postage stamps.

Image: Meridith McNeal, Orlando Furioso