

TRES VIDAS

A music theatre work
produced by the **CORE ENSEMBLE**
written by **MARJORIE AGOSIN**

GEORGINA CORBO, Actress

THE CORE ENSEMBLE

Tahirah Whittington, Cello

Hugh Hinton, Piano

Michael Parola, Percussion

MATTHEW WRIGHT, Stage Director

CINDI BLANK, Set Designer

HUGH HINTON, Script Editor and Musical Advisor

Prelude: The Core Ensemble

Tres Minutos con Realidad

Astor Piazzolla
arr. Hugh Hinton

Scene One: FRIDA KAHLO

The home of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, the Casa Azul in Coyoacan, Mexico City,
Mexico, one evening in 1941

Song: Besame Morenita

Traditional folk song, arr. deMurga

Rain Dance for Solo Marimba

Alice Gomez

Song: La llorona

Traditional folk song

Rain Dance for Solo Marimba

Alice Gomez

Song: La Malaguena

E. Ramirez/ P. Galindo, arr. deMurga

Prelude

Michael DeMurga

Intermission

Prelude: The Core Ensemble

Interludio

Orlando Garcia

Scene Two: RUFINA AMAYA

The jungle outside El Mozote, El Salvador, a few days after the massacre of 11
December, 1981

Cello Sonata, Third movement

Alberto Ginastera

Salvadoran Fiesta

Michael DeMurga

Bone Dance

Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez

Desfile bufo

Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez

Salvador

Osvaldo Golijov

Din Vocalise

Golijov/ Sanchez-Gutierrez

Luciernagas

Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez

Entr'acte: The Core Ensemble

Omaramor for Solo Cello

Oswaldo Golijov

Scene Three: ALFONSINA STORNI

The beach at Mar del Plata, Argentina, the evening of October 24, 1938

Song: Alfonsina y el mar

A. Ramirez/ F. Luna, arr. deMurga

Fantasia for Solo Cello

Gaspar Cassado

Libertango

Astor Piazzolla, arr. deMurga

Contrabajando for Solo Piano

Astor Piazzolla, arr. deMurga

Song: La Cancion de Buenos Aires

Carlos Gardel, arr. deMurga

Café 1930

Astor Piazzolla

Eight Letters

Michael DeMurga

Postlude: The Core Ensemble

Tu

Sanchez de Fuentes, arr. deMurga

Program Notes

Frida Kahlo

Frida Kahlo (1907-1954) is undoubtedly the most well-known Latin American woman painter and one of the most significant Hispanic artists in general. She was married to Diego Rivera, one of the most celebrated painters in the world at that time. They had a tempestuous and difficult relationship, but underlying their marriage was a genuine respect for each other's work. Frida Kahlo was seriously injured in a trolley accident at the age of 19, and was partially disabled for the rest of her life. She underwent 32 operations over the course of her life, as a result of the trolley accident. Her paintings, especially her self-portraits, are noted for their immediacy, frankness, and strength.

Rufina Amaya

Rufina Amaya was the sole survivor of the massacre at El Mozote, El Salvador that occurred in 1981, during that country's long civil war. The Salvadoran army's most elite unit, the Atlacatl battalion, trained by U. S. advisers, massacred over 700 civilians as part of their campaign of intimidation. For years few people believed her story, as the governments of El Salvador and the U. S. repeatedly denied that any massacre had occurred. The courageous reporting of the journalists Alma Prieto and Mark Danner began to reveal what had really happened at El Mozote. In the 1990s, forensics teams entered El Mozote and definitively proved that Rufina Amaya's story had been true for all these years.

Alfonsina Storni

Alfonsina Storni (1892-1938) is Argentina's most popular woman poet. She was born in Switzerland and moved to Argentina with her family at the age of four. She lived an independent and difficult life, becoming an unwed mother at the age of 19. She wrote many poems and newspaper columns with a feminist bent. She was the first woman writer to be accepted as an equal into the literary circles of Buenos Aires. The most feminist poet of her generation in Latin America, she was an outspoken critic of women's

subordination in society. Storni first noticed a lump in her breast while at the beach at Mar del Plata in 1935, and she returned to the sea to die when the cancer returned following an unsuccessful mastectomy.

Georgina Corbo, Actress

Georgina Corbo is a singing actress who portrays all three characters in *Tres Vidas*. She is a graduate of the High School of Performing Arts; she studied Acting and Latin American Studies at the State University of New York. While she was there she received the Harry Belafonte Scholarship for the Arts. Georgina has performed on television in *Law and Order*, *New York Undercover* and movie of the week, *It's Always Something*. She has performed on Broadway, at The Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, and in Russia's International Theatre Festival at St. Petersburg. She can be seen and heard in various television commercials and voice-overs. Georgina will soon be seen in the film *Muscle Car* in a leading role and *Sesame Street* as letter of the week "E" opposite Elmo. Georgina is happy to be joining the Core Ensemble.

Tahirah Whittington, Cello

Tahirah Whittington, cellist, is a native of Houston, TX, and has performed for audiences in the U.S., Chile, France, Italy, and Japan. Solo engagements include a performance with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, at Merkin Hall in New York City, and with the New England Conservatory Symphony in Boston, MA. Ms. Whittington is a first-prize winner of the Sphinx Competition for Black and Latino String Players 1999. She is formerly a member of the Acacia String Quartet, winner of the 1999 Artists International Competition. A recipient of the Irene Diamond and C.V. Starr Scholarships, she holds a Master of Music Degree from the Juilliard School, where she studied cello and chamber music with Joel Krosnick and Joel Smirnoff of the Juilliard Quartet. She received her Bachelor of Music Degree from the New England Conservatory, under the tutelage of Laurence Lesser.

Hugh Hinton, Piano

A winner of the United States Information Agency's 1997 Artistic Ambassador Award which resulted in concert performances throughout the Middle East, Hugh Hinton received his Bachelor of Music from Harvard University and a Master of Music Degree from the New England Conservatory of Music where he is currently completing the Doctor of Musical Arts degree. His teachers have included Lev Vlasenko, Russell Sherman and Wha-Kyung Byun. As a concerto soloist, Mr. Hinton has appeared with the Boston, Dallas and New Orleans Symphonies. During the 1992-93 season he joined the Aequalis Ensemble in performances of Chinary Ung's TRIPLE CONCERTO with the Phoenix, Honolulu and New Hampshire Symphonies. Mr. Hinton has also been a prize winner in the Robert Casadesus and Washington International competitions. In addition to his performances with The Core Ensemble, Mr. Hinton maintains a busy schedule of solo recital and concerto engagements. His active teaching profile includes a position as Instructor of Piano at the Longy School of Music.

Michael Parola, Percussion

Michael Parola received his B.F.A. from State University of New York at Purchase and his M.M. and D.M.A. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. His primary teachers were Raymond Des Roches and Richard Horowitz. Mr. Parola was a founding member and percussionist with the Aequalis Ensemble from 1984-1993. With Aequalis, Mr. Parola toured nationally, presenting hundreds of concerts and master classes in every region of the United States. During the 1992-93 season, he appeared with Aequalis in performances of the Chinary Ung TRIPLE CONCERTO with the Phoenix, Honolulu and New Hampshire Symphonies. Mr. Parola founded the CORE Ensemble in 1993, continuing his performing and commissioning work featuring the unusual instrumental combination of cello, piano and percussion. With the CORE Ensemble during the 1997-98 season he appeared with the Cleveland Chamber Symphony, the New Hampshire and Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphonies and the Florida Philharmonic in performances of the Bernard Rands Triple Concerto. Mr. Parola has been heard nationally and internationally on radio with both Aequalis and the CORE Ensemble and on CD, with multiple releases on New World and Albany Records. Michael Parola has commissioned many new works for solo percussion, with nationwide performances of pieces by composers such as Edward Cohen, Jorge Liderman, Armand Qualliotine and James Baker III. As an orchestral timpanist, he has performed in the American premieres of works by Verdi, Donizetti and Shostakovich. In 1993 he founded the CORE Ensemble in which he serves as Percussionist and Executive Director.

Marjorie Agosin, Writer

Since the mid-1980's Marjorie Agosin has emerged as one of the leading voices of Latin American feminism in the United States. Agosin is the author of almost twenty books that include poetry, fiction and literary criticism. She has won several distinguished prizes including the *Letras de Oro* Prize for Poetry, the Latino Literature Prize, and the Morgan Institute Prize for Achievement in Human Rights. Scholastics Magazine chose Agosin as 1998 Latino Mentor of the Year. Marjorie Agosin was raised in Chile. When Agosin was in her teens, rumors of an impending coup led her immediate family to move to the United States in what they expected to be a short-term arrangement. Once the seriousness of the 1973 military takeover became evident, her family settled in Georgia where Agosin took an undergraduate degree in Philosophy from the University of Georgia. She went on to take a Ph.D. in literature from Indiana University where her doctoral dissertation concentrated on the work of Chilean writer Maria Luisa Bombal. Agosin has been teaching in the Department of Spanish at Wellesley College for the past fifteen years, where she is a full professor. Agosin's earliest publications were in poetry. *Bruias y also mas/Witches and Other Things* (1984) enjoyed critical success: this collection of poems indicate Agosin's playfulness, multi-leveled use of language, and the interest in esoteric knowledge which is a persistent theme for Chilean women writers, from early 20th century theosophists, up through the poet and Nobel Laureate Gabriela Mistral, to the popular novelist Isabel Allende. A number of Agosin's books are organized around women's resistance to the tyranny of the military dictatorships ruling

Argentina and Chile in the 1970's and 1980's. Feminism is key to Agosin's continuing passionate articulation of the lives of women who are in one way or another outsiders. Much of Agosin's work focuses on the perspectives of individuals whose very existence challenges and points up the limitations which "good society" imposes. Exiles, recluses, and seeming madwomen are prominent in her catalog of heroes. Agosin is author of Ashes of Revolt: Essays on Human Rights, Dear Anne Frank, and A Map of Hope: Women's Writings on Human Rights. Professor Agosin was recently named a fellow to the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University.

Matthew Wright, Director

Matthew Wright is a professional actor, director and Professor of Theatre at Florida Atlantic University. As an actor he has appeared at regional theatres across the country including the Clarence Brown Company, The La Jolla Playhouse, Studio Arena of Buffalo, The McCarter Theatre and Providence's Trinity Rep. In recent years he has acted extensively throughout the South Florida region, having been nominated three times by the South Florida Critics' Association for the Carbonell Award in recognition of his memorable performances, and winning that award for his performance as Prior Walter in *Angels in America* at the New Theatre in Coral Gables, FL. Mr. Wright has also directed extensively, with works ranging from the classics to post-modern. Wright holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Acting from the University of California, San Diego.

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