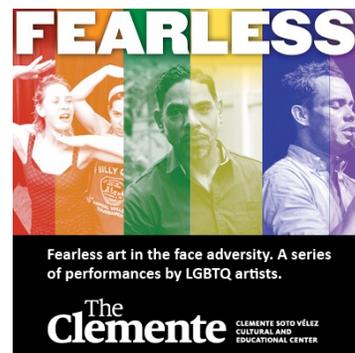


THE CLEMENTE CULTURAL CENTER RESPONDS TO HATE
WITH FIRST ANNUAL FEARLESS SERIES

LGBTQ artists present works in direct response to Orlando and continuing attacks against the LGBTQ community in this yearlong series.

New York, NY (August 16, 2017) – As hate crimes continue to plague our country, and marginalized groups struggle to find sanctuary, The Clemente Soto Velez Cultural & Educational Center, Inc. (The Clemente) has invited six LGBTQ artists/art organizations of Latino/Muslim/minority backgrounds to create work connected by the theme of understanding and unity. These performances will be spread throughout the 2017-18 season. Beginning September 29th, insightful and moving stories from the LGBTQ community, including the tortured relationship between a single gay father and his son, a disco and its denizens, and a group of women struggling to find role models, will be presented.



This fall, The Clemente is pleased to present new works by **Tjasa Ferme**, a versatile theater and film actress, **Indio Melendez**, a Nuyorican actor, writer, poet, educator and visual artist, and **Miguel Anggelo**, a Venezuelan-born, Brooklyn-based singer, songwriter, dancer, and performer. Spring artists include **Ballez**, a dance company that celebrates the history and performances of lesbian, queer, and transgender people, and **Spicy Witch Productions**, an all-female theater collective. While the participants in Fearless represent a broad range of disciplines, they all share common aspirations: to inspire artists to cherish their identities and heritage, to champion LGBTQ artists especially in fields where they are still marginalized, and to touch the hearts and minds of the general public, most of whom have little access to these arts, through works that underscore our collective humanity and our shared aspirations for a just and creatively fulfilling world. Select events will include a talkback/Q&A with audience and community members.

Executive Director, Anita Romero Warren, says “The Clemente is proud to provide a venue and support to these artists to fully dedicate themselves to the creation of their own artistic work, while contributing to an intercultural exchange among a supportive community of artists in Manhattan’s culturally and artistically vibrant Lower East Side.”

All events will take place at The Clemente, the 100,000 sq. ft. former PS160 built in 1897, which is embarking on a \$22M exterior and interior renovation, and that houses 43 visual arts studios, 13 not-for-profit arts organizations, 4 theaters, and 3 galleries. The Clemente’s location on the Lower East Side of Manhattan embodies a diverse cultural identity and has much to offer artists in tangible resources and inspiration.

The mission of The Clemente Soto Véllez Cultural and Educational Center has always been to maintain a facility for underserved and under-represented artists and organizations with support from the City of New York. Fearless manifests their commitment to the diversity and artistic excellence of the community they serve, nurturing openness, engagement and social harmony, especially in these trying times.

The Fearless Series presented by The Clemente Cultural Center

September 2017 – April 2018
The Clemente Cultural Center
Flamboyant Theater
107 Suffolk Street
New York, NY 10002
(btw Rivington & Delancey)

Tickets: \$15, with a reduced rate of \$12 when buying 10 or more tickets
Purchase in advance at www.clemente-fearless-series.eventbrite.com or at the box office on day of performance.

For additional information visit www.theclementecenter.org or call: (212) 260-4080

The Clemente Soto Velez Cultural and Educational Center programs are supported, in part by the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs. Fearless is supported by funding from the Shelly and Donald Rubin Foundation and National Endowment for the Arts.



FALL 2017 SCHEDULE



Tjasa Ferme, "The Female Role Model Project"

The Female Role Model Project is a scientifically enhanced multimedia devised theatre piece built by an ensemble of female-identified artists about recreating modern female role models in the world of cataclysmic climate change, cataclysmic political change and possibility of reprogramming our brains. Creative Team: Tjasa Ferme (creator, producer, actor), Ana Margineanu (co-creator, director), Collaborators & Cast: Amina Henry, Sandy Simona, Meggan Dodd, Lauren

White, Composer & Music Engineer: Justin Mathews, Science partners: Lauren Silbert neuroscientist (Pioneer Works), Martina Bradic, geneticist (NYU, Cornell)

- Friday, September 29th, 8:00pm
- Saturday, September 30th, 8:00pm
- Sunday, October 1st, 5:00pm

ABOUT TJAŠA FERME

Tjasa Ferme is a Slovenian National Film Award and Stane Sever classical stage award recipient. She is the creator of a short film *Ophelia's Flip* (Cannes Film Festival, 2012), a farce hit *Cocktales-Confessions of a Nymphomaniac* (Abingdon Theatre, Art Basel Miami), an interactive solo show, *Wild Child in the City*, and a new play "My Marlene". *Wild Child In The City* premiered in NYC (TheaterLab), filled houses on three European Tours (Italy, Austria, Bulgaria, Slovenia) and received an Audience Choice Award at 46th TSD-Week of Slovenian Drama and won a Special Jury Prize at ITI-UNESCO MonoAkt 2017. In Dec 2016, Ferme created a devised theatre piece about migrations West to West through the lens of the current refugee crisis in coproduction of Sweden and Slovenia.

Tjasa has an interview on Huffington Post Arts & Culture huff.to/1DgoZ1Q, and a review in the New York Times: nyti.ms/1J9yBEh

www.tjasaferme.com



Indio Melendez, "Someday A Father Be"

Someday a Father Be tells a unique story of family. After surviving racial profiling, police brutality and incarceration, a son is ordered by the court to live with his gay, Latino father. Their worlds collide, physical altercation occurs, and a heart to heart ensues. Their exploration of love, hope, respect and "The System", create magical moments of catharsis in this compelling play.

- Thursday, October 12th, 7:30pm
- Friday, October 13th, 7:30pm
- Saturday, October 14th, 7:30pm

ABOUT INDIO MELENDEZ

Indio Melendez is a Nuyorican actor, writer, poet, educator and visual artist. He was born in Williamsburg, Brooklyn and raised in Washington Heights. Indio is a Desert Storm Veteran and a graduate of Lehman College, Magna Cum Laude, with a Bachelor's in Social Work. Winner of the 2011 Downtown Urban Theater Festival for *Idiosyncrasy, Remixed*. Recipient of the 2008 H.O.L.A Award for ensemble cast in *Dona Flor y Sus Dos Maridos* at Spanish Repertory. His one-man show, *Manchild Dilemma*, earned him a 2007 "Premios Sin Limites" Award, and was the winner of the first annual One festival. Television credits include: Law and Order SVU, Season 2 Orange is The New Black, and a National Wendy's Commercial.

www.indiomelendez.wordpress.com



Miguel Anggelo, "Welcome To La Misa, Baby"

Like the shards of light reflected off a mirror ball, in ***Welcome to La Misa, Baby***, Miguel Anggelo swirls through a gallery of characters found in the most sacred of places in queer culture: The Gay Disco. Whether looking for love, sex, friends, drugs, freedom of expression, or a way to escape their mother, ***Welcome to La Misa, Baby*** delves into the Latino immigrant experience of what it means to be gay in America today with both humor and poignancy in equal measure. Anggelo's one-man community of revelers sing, dance, go-go, and lip-sync for their lives in a quest for what beats in the queer heart of the Latino-

American tribe. Miguel is delighted to be creating this new work with long time collaborators Obie Award-winning Writer and Director, David Drake and Musical Director, Mau Quiros.

- Thursday, October 26th, 7:30pm
- Friday, October 27th, 7:30pm
- Sunday, October 29th, 3:00pm

ABOUT MIGGUEL ANGGELO

Miguel Anggelo is a Venezuelan-born, Brooklyn-based singer, songwriter, dancer, and performer. He studied voice at the Conservatory of Music in Cologne, Germany, has written music throughout all of his journeys as an immigrant in several countries, and has released two albums. Miguel performs regularly at Joe's Pub at The Public Theater in New York City, where he has presented his shows, *Another Son of Venezuela*, *I, Inmigrante* and *Between Dreams*. Last summer, Miguel Anggelo and this band, The Immigrants, performed a ten-city concert tour of Russia as a cultural attaché under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State.

www.miguelanggelo.com

ABOUT THE CLEMENTE SOTO VELEZ CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CENTER

**The
Clemente**
CLEMENTE SOTOVÉLEZ
CULTURAL AND
EDUCATIONAL CENTER

The Clemente Soto Vélez Cultural and Educational Center Inc. (The Clemente) is a Puerto Rican/Latino cultural institution that has demonstrated a broad-minded cultural vision and a collaborative philosophy. While The Clemente's mission is focused on the cultivation, presentation, and preservation of Puerto Rican and Latino culture, it is equally determined to operate in a multi-cultural and inclusive manner, housing and promoting artists and performance events that fully reflect the cultural diversity of the Lower East Side and the city as a whole.