Celebrate the magic of the holidays with Teatro Público de Cleveland! "Christmas is a time for changing and forgiving. Just like the seasons, we must pass through the death of winter to welcome

the birth of spring." -Ixchel, Spirit of Christmas Past Last night I was lucky enough to be in the rehearsal room for a run of A Xmas Cuento Remix. As I sat in the audience—about to burst with joy during a group dance number

in one moment, weeping at a tender display of raw, honest, relatable emotion and what it means to be human in the next, to giggling at the sassy spirits or Abuelo Chapa's playful, yet wise demeanor—I was swept away with these thoughts: the holidays are an opportunity to open, to soften, to forgive each other, to let people in and risk loving. Maya Malan-Gonzalez's modern-day take on A Christmas Carol is full of heart, and is simultaneously jam-packed with laughs, comical characters, dancing, rocking

remixes of traditional holiday tunes (accompanied by a live 4-piece band), and the warmth and joy of the holiday season. And this version of Dickens' classic tale is led by women. In A Xmas Cuento

Remix, the infamous Scrooge is **Dolores Avara**, a business owner who sincerely

believes the holidays are a hoax; Bob Cratchit/Scrooge's nephew Fred is Dolores' niece, Anita Chapa, whose family is facing eviction; Jacob Marley is Dolores' estranged sister, Elena; and the spirits who help Dolores forgive, reunite with family, and remember her roots, are all women (scroll down to read more about the spirits). A chorus of magical, opinionated, elf-on-the-shelf-esque carolers carry us through the story, commenting as the action unfolds onstage. We hope you'll join us for this fresh take on a classic tale of forgiveness, redemption, and remembering the importance of love, family, and

CPT Audience Engagement & Social Media Manager

kindness during the holiday season, and every day of the year.

Adrien Brizzolara Pictured (from left): Christina Patterson, Tania Benites, Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva, Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga. Photo by

Clockwise from top left: Selena Awesome Vicarío, Brett DiCello, Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva, Tania Benites, Christina Patterson, Andrew Aaron Valdez+, Gil Peña, Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez, Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga, Valerie A. Mathis, Hillary Wheelock, Angel Luis Centeno. Photo by Steve Wagner. est contract to the state of th

Teatro Público de Cleveland & Cleveland Public Theatre present A Xmas Cuento Remix

Composition & Arrangements by Emiliano Valdez & Daniel Valdez Directed by Holly Holsinger

By Maya Malan-Gonzalez

December 5 - 21 7:00pm (Thu/Fri/Sat*) and 3:00pm (Sun), **CPT's James Levin Theatre. Previews**

December 5.

Opening Night is December 6. *The performance on Saturday 12/21 is at 3:00pm. ¡Este no es el cuento navideño de la abuela! Teatro Público de Cleveland blows the roof off

with this Latino culture and modern musicinfused take on Dickens' classic Christmas tale. Performed in English and Spanish. Tickets: \$15 - 35 Matinees are "Family Days" with \$10 tickets for youth under 18. **CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS**

Content Warning:

Like Charles Dickens' original story, *A Xmas Cuento Remix* contains

depictions of the oppression, violence, and suffering caused by

classism and poverty. This production also addresses racism. For

details or additional content, please contact the Box Office at

216.631.2727 x501 or by emailing boxoffice@cptonline.org.

A National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere with Milagro

Theatre and 16th Street Theater National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere

Clockwise from top left: Tania Benites, Christina Patterson, Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva, Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga. Photo by Steve Wagner. Designation of the composition o The Cast: Tania Benites, Angel Luis Centeno, Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga, Brett DiCello,

Valerie A. Mathis, Christina Patterson, Gil Peña, Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva, Andrew Aaron Valdez+, Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez, Selena Awesome Vicarío, Hillary Wheelock

The Creative Production Team:

Raymond Bobgan - Producer **Faye Hargate – Line Producer** Maria DiDonato - Music Director **Lilly Corona Moreno – Dramaturg & Assistant Director Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez – Choreographer** Jesse Reagan Hernon - Stage Manager Sylka Edmondson – Assistant Stage Manager **Aaron Benson+ - Scenic Designer Inda Blatch-Geib – Costume Designer Richard Ingraham – Sound Designer** Jonathan "Johnny V" Velez - Sound Operator **Jeremy Paul – Lighting Designer**

Musicians: Maria DiDonato (Piano), Tim Miller (Percussion), Joseph Rangel (Guitar), Kevin Thompson (Bass) +2019/2020 Premiere Fellow.



From left: Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez, Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga. Photo by Steve Wagner.

Click here or on the image above to watch cast member Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga speak about Teatro Público de Cleveland's women-led production of <u>A Xmas Cuento</u> Remix, and cast member & Choreographer Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez show off some of the awesome dance moves he's bringing to the show, on WKYC's We The *People* (and check out a few behind-the-scenes moments from the studio below)!

More Videos

00:23 / 05:20

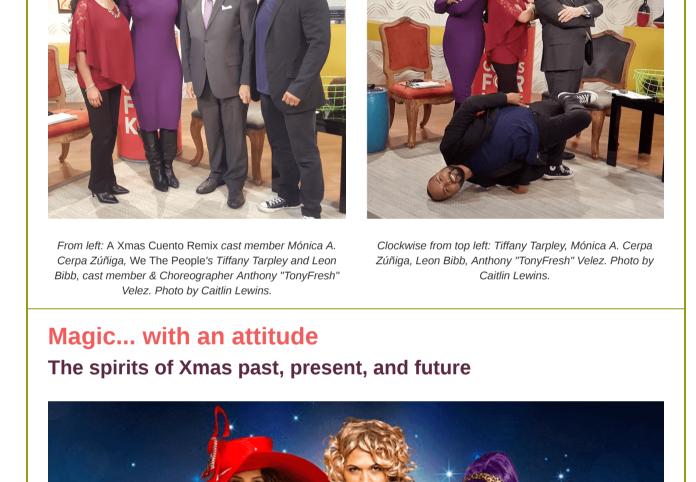




Image of Ixchel courtesy of neomexicanismos.com. Image of La Catrina courtesy of inside-mexico.com.

with death.

From left: Christina Patterson, Tania Benites, Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva. Photo by Steve Wagner.

The Chapas in A Xmas Cuento Remix have two (delicious) holiday traditions: making tamales together as a family, and enjoying Abuelo's Christmas ponche. "In Mexico, the Southwest, and for many Mexican-American families, **Christmas time means tamaletime...** Corn was a very important crop in Mesoamerica, with people believing that people were created from corn. Tamales, because they were wrapped in corn husks,

including baptisms, weddings, Día Del Los Muertos, and, of course, Christmas." Click

ponche this holiday season!

The traditional holiday drink in Mexico, **Ponche**

First image courtesy of The Mazatlán Post. Second image courtesy of mexicoinmykitchen.com

Navideño (Christmas Punch) is a hot tea-like drink made from fruit, sugar cane, and liquor (but you can serve it without alcohol). Click here to make your own

From left: Christina Patterson, Tania Benites, Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga, Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva. Photo by Steve

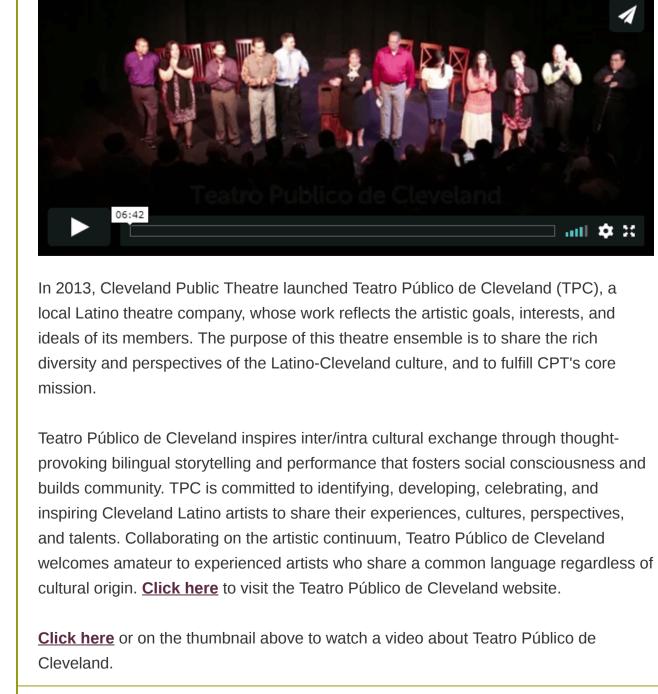
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Tamales & ponche

became part of ritual offerings. As a nod to those times, people prepare

here to learn more from The Mazatlán Post.

tamales for special occasions



Clockwise from top left: Christina Patterson, Tania Benites, Brett DiCello, Andrew Aaron Valdez+, Valerie A. Mathis, Angel Luis Centeno, Gil Peña, Mónica A. Cerpa Zúñiga, Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva, Anthony "TonyFresh" Velez, Selena Awesome Vicarío, Hillary Wheelock. Photo by Steve Wagner. Destropped of the composition of **Show & Ticket info:** All mainstage performances take place at Cleveland Public Theatre, 6415 Detroit Avenue,

7:00pm (Thu/Fri/Sat*) and 3:00pm (Sun). Previews December 5. Opening Night is December 6. *The performance on Saturday, 12/21 is at 3:00pm. General admission tickets are \$15 - 35. Preview, Thursdays, & Sundays \$15. Fridays & Saturdays \$35. The Saturday 12/21 performance at 3:00pm is \$15. Matinees are "Family Days" with **\$10** tickets for youth under 18. Students and seniors get **\$5 off** (evening weekend shows only). The James Levin Theatre is ADA compliant featuring a patron elevator and an all gender, wheelchair accessible restroom.

A Xmas Cuento Remix performances are December 5 - 21 in CPT's James Levin Theatre at

des supply suppl Want to see the 2019/2020 season at-a-glance? Visit **CPT's website** for up-to-date information on all of our upcoming productions!

> **STAY CONNECTED!** <u>Unsubscribe</u> <u>Forward</u>

Clockwise from top left: Selena Awesome Vicarío, Gil Peña, Andrew Aaron Valdez+, Hillary Wheelock, Angel Luis Centeno. Photo by Steve Wagner. des supply suppl About Teatro Público de Cleveland

Cleveland, OH 44102.

FREE BEER FRIDAY is every Friday at CPT. Audience members are invited to engage with artists and fellow audience members after the show and enjoy a drink (or two) on CPT!

For tickets and show information, call the CPT Box Office at 216-631-2727 x501 or visit CPT's