

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
VOCES HISPÁNICAS / HISPANIC VOICES
& ARTS OUTREACH INITIATIVE
Department of Romance Studies · College of Fine Arts · Medical Campus
present

DIWAN

[A ghazal in two acts]

A piece by Moisés Fernández Via

*Based on the Andalusian poetry of
IBN ŠUHAYD AL-ANDALUSÍ (992-1035C)*



A creative collaboration between artists and
Boston Medical Center patients.

SUNDAY, MAY 12 · 7:00PM
Boston University Dance Theater
915 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston



An innovative performance piece
conceived to support and honor
the recovery of a selected group of
patients from the Refugee and
Survivors of Torture Clinic, Cancer
Center, and Neurology at Boston
Medical Center.

A dialogue between Andalusian
poetry, theatre, Spanish music,
flamenco and contemporary dance:
a garden for the senses ...

To Chung-Wei Yang, Cristopher Weigl, Lu Lingzi & Binland Lee

VOCES HISPÁNICAS / HISPANIC VOICES

The *Voces Hispánicas/Hispanic Voices* initiative of the Department of Romance Studies has as one of its principal objectives the hosting of events that highlight the rich culture of the Spanish-speaking world. By bringing distinguished authors, composers, musicians, filmmakers, and artists from Spain, Latin America, and the United States to engage with broad-based audiences in the Boston and New England area, *Voces Hispánicas/Hispanic Voices* hopes to strengthen the multilingual and cross-cultural dialogue that is so much a part of American society today.

Sovereign



Voces Hispánicas/Hispanic Voices is made possible by the generosity of SANTANDER UNIVERSITIES GLOBAL DIVISION, whose activities form the keystone of the bank's social action, maintains a stable alliance with more than 970 universities in the Americas, Asia, and Europe. For more information please visit www.santander.com/universities.

DIWAN

[A ghazal in two acts]

Foreword ...

A piece that does not begin until the end of the piece:
nothing can begin until the essential becomes visible.

The unending search for LOVE: to love is always to
love again.

A pearl from the ordinary.

Not flamenco, just a caress in front of the limit, the
eyes full of east.

The love for the EARTH as a means to measure the
infinite -- that is all mine!

From each WORD a tree is born. To gasp its sense is
to shelter in the lap of its shadow. To understand is to
cut it down.

Duration: approximately 75' with one intermission.

Written and directed by
MOISÈS FERNÁNDEZ VIA

Original poems by
IBN ŠUHAYD AL-ANDALUSĪ (992-1035C)
Translated into Spanish by James Dickie

Personae
Alma
AUXI FERNÁNDEZ

Ibn
JOSEPH PAYNE WILLIAMS

Musician
MOISÈS FERNÁNDEZ VIA

Gazal
ZAHRA HAGHIGHATJOO

Chorus of Women
AMAL HUSSEIN
ZAHRA WARSAME
HODAN MOHAMOUD

Stage, costume and projection's design
AMELIA GOSSETT (CFA '14)

Light design
JEN WORSTER (CFA '14)

Dance and acting coach
AWESTA ZARIF (CFA '13)

Choreography
AUXI FERNÁNDEZ (Alma)
MOISÈS FERNÁNDEZ VIA &
AWESTA ZARIF (Gazal)

Music ...

FIRST ACT

José de Nebra (1702–1768) · Sonata in F Major

José de Nebra (1702–1768) · Toccata in D Major

José de Nebra (1702–1768) · Grave in the 8th Tone

Moisés Fernández Via, piano

‘!Ay Amor!’

Music and lyrics by Bola de Nieve

Joseph Payne Williams, voice

Moisés Fernández Via, piano

SECOND ACT

Isaac Albéniz (1860–1909) · from ‘Iberia’

Evocación (Evocation)

El Puerto (The Harbor)

Moisés Fernández Via, piano

La Prima Vez (The First Time)

Traditional Sephardic Song

Gabriel Peguero, voice

Zaira Meneses, lute

Isaac Albéniz (1860–1909) · from ‘Iberia’

Jerez

Moisés Fernández Via, piano

...

Poetry ...

Abū ‘ibn Āmir Šuhayd (Córdoba 992-1035), poet of Hispano-Arab aristocratic lineage linked to the Umayyad dynasty; son of a minister of Almanzor. He is author of courtly poetry, elegy, satire, Bacchic or descriptive poems at the service of various caliphs and rulers of Córdoba. The work of Ibn Šuhayd has reached our days thanks to several ancient anthologies, as well as for his book of literary theory and criticism: *tawābī Risālat al-‘wa-l-zawābī (Epistle of Geniuses*, c. 1013-1017), which is an anthology of the Arab poets before him in comparison to his own poems. This work is considered a masterpiece of Andalusian literature, both for its content and its form, as well as for its particular originality. It was composed around 1025, during the political crisis in al-Andalus, and displays a critical spirit, which challenges many of the ideas received and transmitted by the philology of his own time.

The genius of Šuhayd, his character and original views on literary criticism, along with his undoubted poetic teaching made him be considered as one of the great poets and philologists of al-Andalus, becoming a model for all subsequent generations in Arab literature.

Perhaps his early death at age forty-three, prevented him from developing his full capacity as a poet.

In his “Epistle of Genius” he brought to Al-Mutanabbi’s mouth the words: “*If he lives a long life, there is no doubt that pearls will come out of his mouth. But I am sure he will die soon, because his mind is an ember, and he owns a willingness that will place his feet in the moon.*”

Artists ...

MOISÈS FERNÁNDEZ VIA

Recently praised by Gramophone Magazine as an "artist of coruscating verve and charm", Barcelona-born pianist Moisés Fernández Via is at the forefront of a new generation of classical music performers.

Critics have often referred to him as a *singular* artist, voluntarily distanced from the *virtuoso* soloist figure, having expressed his incapacity to understand individual ability if not as collective opportunity "music as awareness and commitment; as expression when words fail in front a world threatened by human and ecological conflicts."



By means of intellectual engagement, social awareness, inquiry, reflection, creative freshness and spontaneity of expression, he continues to develop innovative performance projects in collaboration with outstanding artists of the international scene such as the Iranian filmmaker Abbas Kiarostami, the Finnish composer Einojuhani Rautavaara or the Israeli painter Daniel Enkaoua, among many others, undertaking an exemplary review of the form and contents of the standard musical concert experience.

Born in Barcelona on 1980. He began his musical education at the age of ten, being acclaimed three years later by the press as "*un nom qui'l faudrà retenir!*" [a name to remember!] at his official début in the French city of Agen in 1993. He was an acclaimed winner of the Scarlatti International Piano Competition in Naples (Italy), the Richmond Piano Competition in Boston (USA); nominated to the Arthur W. Foote Award from the prestigious Harvard Musical Association, as well as finalist of the Kahn Career Award. A regular guest in different Spanish Concert Halls and Festivals; his concert activity brought him to Germany, France, Austria, Italy, Portugal, Morocco, Cyprus, Israel, United States, Canada and China. His recent début recording under the label Verso has received international acclaim, being considered among the finest classical recordings of 2012.

He studied piano, chamber music and conducting in the Mozarteum University in Salzburg, the Buchmann-Metha School of Music in Tel Aviv and the Boston University; being specially significant his work with Imre Rohmann, Robert Levin and Maria João Pires. He studied historical performance with Siegbert Rampe and clavichord with Peter Sykes.

www.moisesfernandezvia.com



AUXÍ FERNÁNDEZ

Auxí Fernández, bailaora, born in Cádiz in 1985. She started dancing at the age of five at Pilar Ogalla's School, and a few months later she performs for the first time on stage.

In 2001 Auxí joins the Sara Baras Dance Company, featuring in successful tours with shows "María Pineda" and "Sueños" in the United States, Mexico, Colombia, Japan, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark, Venezuela, China, Italy, Chile, Greece, Thailand, Germany, and France. In 2005 she was invited by the master Chick Corea for the DVD recording of "Touchstone" at the Teatro Musical de Barcelona, and from that moment Corea asked her to perform with him on tour.

In 2010 Auxí performs in Majid Javadi's "Fusión música sufl/flamenco" with artists such as Nantha Kumar, Jorge Pardo, Pedro Eustache, Ara Malikian, Pablo Maldonado, María Toledo, Majid Derakhshani... In

addition she also performed with Paco Heredia's Dance Company in the show "Pasión Gitana" featured in Costa Rica. The year 2011 was a very significant year for Auxí, starting with a performance with guitarist Aquilino Jiménez "El Entri" in a show called "Manantial Flamenco". She also gets the chance once again to perform with Jorge Pardo in a new show called "Indalusia", a fusion of flamenco and Indian music with great musicians such as Ashoke Pathak playing the sitar, Ambi Subramaniam playing the violin, Juan Diego Mateos playing flamenco guitar, and Ali y Luis de la Tota playing

palmas amongst others. Auxi also performs in a new show by Paco Heredia called "Flamenco Ensemble". She also performs at the Festival Suma Flamenca with "Madrid Flamenco Joven". She returns to the tablao "El Cordobés" this time with the show "Barcelona Flamenca" and shares the stage with great artists such as La Tana, Antonio Zuñiga, David Cerreduela, Juan Amaya "El Pelón", Olga Pericet amongst others.

During that same year Auxi decides to travel to New York where she meets the Rolling Stones Project's saxophone player Tim Ries, and with him she performs in several renowned locations such as Droms, Small Club Jazz and the Hungary Embassy. Also, once again she performs with Chick Corea, this time in the legendary Jazz Club "Blue Note" celebrating his 70th birthday in the show "Flamenco Heart". Auxi also performs in the tablao flamenco "Alegrias en La Nacional" and the "Ñ Lounge" located in the heart of Soho.

Her most recent engagements have been in "Flamenco Festival NYC" and part of the "Tablao Alegrias en la Nacional" repertoire. She has also participated in the photographic exhibit "Flamenca NY" by Angelica Escoto and in the flamenco documentary "The Sea is for Everybody" by Yaco Neches.

www.auxifernandez.com



JOSEPH PAYNE WILLIAMS

I was born in Panamá City, in Central America. I sang in church as a youngster but his singing career began in 1967 with a neighborhood group called "Los Mozambiques". In 1972 I recorded the song "En Cada Cosa" becoming an award release and number one hit in Panamá. I married my queen Elvira Silcott Payne the same year I came to the USA. We have four beautiful children, two boys and two girls, as well as seven grand children. I am very proud to be part of this event.

Since several years I have been a patient in the department of Neurology at Boston Medical Center. I am very thankful for the treatment I have received and every time I visit my doctor, Georgia Montouris, I make sure to sing a song for her.



ZAHRA HAGHGHATJOO

Zahra Haghghatjoo was born in 1966 in Tehran, Iran. She is the oldest of four daughters. She lost her father at age 8. From then on, her mother took care of all of her children with strong management and discipline.

After completing her high school diploma, she worked in hospitals in Tehran as a licensed nurse. At the same time, she attended courses in psychology and theology, working towards her bachelor's degree. She also started her master's degree in educational planning.

Zahra began writing various articles on women, entrepreneurship, and life skills. She also appeared on several programs in the field of psychology, both on radio and on television.

Zahra was a volunteer in the Society of Children's Rights Advocates, where she worked as a consultant psychiatrist. She has proposed several schemes in academic research, collaborating with other professionals.

In January 2010, she was forced to flee her native Iran finding asylum in the United States together with her sister, the famous Reformist and former member of Iran's majlis (parliament).

On the same year, she was diagnosed with colon cancer at Boston Medical Center. In 2011 she had two surgeries, one for cancer in her colon, and then another for cancer in her liver and lungs. She is especially thankful for the treatment and medical care she received at BMC. She received the good news about her recovery while rehearsing on "Diwan". This piece is a celebration of her conquered health and BMC's mission: "exceptional health without exception".

Zahra is now a student of Medical Interpreter at Found in Translation. She hopes to use her language skills to help patients and their families to communicate with treatment teams. She is always hopeful, leaning on her religious faith for support, and she loves people.

“Acude a Zuhayr el amoroso,
porque si las memorias le llaman,
él acudirá a ellas.
Si un día las bocas mencionan su nombre,
me parece estar besando la suya.
Frecuento las casas de los que la recuerdan,
por amor a su amor, aunque
estén separadas de la mía
por desiertos.”

[Suhayd, Gazal XVII]

“Aquí está mi carta, escrita mientras la
mano de la muerte me expulsa de la vida
con vuestro recuerdo aún vivo en mi
corazón.

Si he cumplido en mi vida con escasez
respecto a lo que vosotros teníais derecho,
ahora voy a Dios sin derecho ni vida.

Y me aflijo por las resplandecientes estrellas
acerca de las cuales nunca dije la verdad,
sino que la luna se hizo más oscura que el
brillo de aquéllas.”

[Suhayd, Diwan, XXIII, fragmento]

*“Come Zuhair of love,
such that when memories
remember him he comes to them.
Should mouths ever express her name,
I imagine that I am kissing hers.
For I conceal the abodes
of those who remember -
out of love to her love -
even though mine is separated
from theirs by deserts.”*

[Suhayd, Ghazal XVII]

*“Here is my letter, written while the hand of
death expels me of life with your memories still
alive in my heart.*

*If I fulfilled in my life with shortage on what you
were entitled, now I go to God without right or
life.*

*And I grieve for the sparkling stars about which I
never told the truth – seemed the moon darker
than the brightness of those.”*

[Suhayd, Diwan, XXIII, fragment]

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BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs





DIWAN

Boston University · May 12, 2013