

MYSTICAL ECSTASY

AURIC

Dossier



PROJECT

This is a transdisciplinary and multilingual theatrical project exploring the relevance of classics through innovative, inclusive, and international perspectives. Early Modern stories are translated and reinvented by creator Paula Rodríguez and set to music by composer Arthur Astier. A conversation between past and present, AUIRC offers a contemporary appreciation of these universal tales by creating soundscapes of melodies and verses.



SUPPORTED BY:



Supported using public funding by

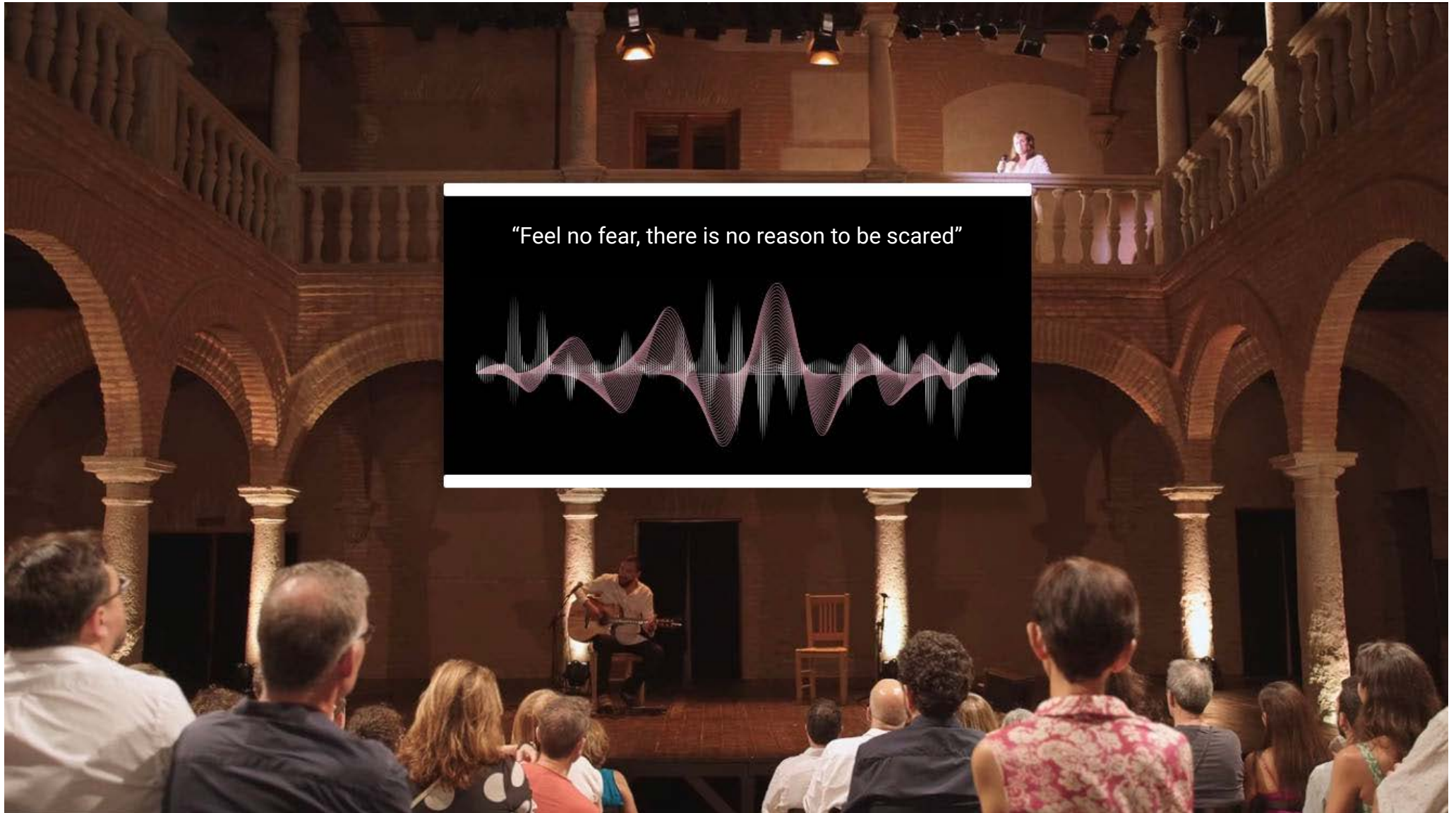
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



IN COLLABORATION WITH:



The script includes descriptions for the visually impaired, these descriptions are dramaturgically worked into the script and the show. The performance will be accompanied by a sound visualiser and subtitles for the hearing impaired.



MYSTICAL ECSTASY

The show, *Mystical Ecstasy* immerses audiences in the works of 17th-century Ibero-American female writers like Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz and Santa Teresa de Jesús. This performance delves into the mysticism present in their legacies, showcasing their courage in pursuing writing—a bold endeavour for women of that era.

The show creates an intimate setting to convey the profound messages in these classical stories and poems. Utilising live narration, a sound visualizer, and subtitles, we're ensuring an inclusive experience for visually and hearing-impaired individuals, as well as international audiences.

From its inception to its delivery, the show is conceived through Universal Design, so that it can be accessed and understood to the greatest extent possible by all people regardless of their ability or disability.

Duration: 60 minutes

"I strongly believe in the transformative power of words. The way these stories were written resonates collectively, leaving an indelible impact on our understanding and passions. In our performance, the music seamlessly intertwines with the verses, guiding us to a realm where each of us can connect not only with ourselves but also with others."

Paula Rodriguez

OBJECTIVES

Reinvent classic works and characters from a contemporary perspective.

Create innovative translations and adaptations of verse and theatrical language, ensuring an inclusive experience.

Advocate for historically marginalised voices, especially female voices.

Accessible for visually impaired and hearing impaired audiences.

Transdisciplinary: Exploring diverse disciplines like performance, poetry, and concert.

Multicultural: Led by migrant artists, catering to an international audience.



“There are two great things about the Renaissance: that it was highly international, and that it hasn’t stopped happening yet. AURIC are keeping alive the poetry of the Spanish golden age and making it happen now, even for Anglophone ears, in fresh, eloquent present-day music”
Michael Dobson Director of the Shakespeare Institute.



PAULA RODRÍGUEZ

CREATIVE TEAM

is an award-winning Spanish actress and director based in London, working internationally. She trained at RESAD, Madrid and RCSSD, London. Paula is also a translator, writer, and producer. As an artist, she is interested in revisiting Spanish classics for modern anglophone audiences by collaborating with diverse artists from multidisciplinary backgrounds. She is the cofounder of Teatro Inverso: their two shows ROSAURA and WONDERS have toured the USA, Latin America, and Europe since 2015. She has worked at the Bridge Theatre, the Young Vic, Orange Tree Theatre, the Cervantes Theatre, Chichester Festival (UK), Corral de Comedias Alcalá de Henares, Almagro International Classical Theatre Festival, Teatro de la Abadía, Ilure Teatre (Spain), Golden Age Festival of Ciudad Juárez (México), Teatro di Bo' Santa Maria A Monte (Italy), Nuevo Siglo Drama Festival Chamizal, Heart of America Festival (USA), Gavleborg Folkteatern (Sweden), Shakespeare Festival Neuss (Germany), and Craiova International Festival (Romania), among others.



ARTHUR ASTIER

CREATIVE TEAM

is a French composer and musician. He explores different styles of expression such as performance, installations, theatre, post-hardcore, immersive performance and film. He has worked alongside international artists such as Peter Brook, Christian Boltanski and Frank Krawczyk. He was part of Brook's production of *The Suit*, which premiered at The Young Vic and toured internationally. In recent years, Arthur has composed music for The Singapore Repertory Theatre and has devised various shows in collaboration with MA students and researchers at Goldsmiths University. He is the composer of the project *Digital Umbilical* and the winner of the *Dansathon 2018* at Sadler's Wells.



ENRIQUE MUÑOZ

CREATIVE TEAM

is currently a Lecturer in Visual Production at Rose Bruford College and a freelance video designer and director. He has a BSc in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Madrid and has worked as a design engineer for nine years. He also has a degree in drama. He moved to London in 2012 and did an MA in Moving Image at Ravensbourne University in 2017 whilst working at the Royal Opera House in the Digital Development, Technology and Technical Department. In *Mystical Ecstasy*, he is responsible for the accessible features: text projections and sound visualizer.





CREATIVE TEAM

Dramaturgy and Direction: Paula Rodríguez
Original Music: Arthur Astier
Performance: Paula Rodríguez and Arthur Astier
Audiovisuals and Accessibility: Enrique Muñoz
Lighting Design: Nao Nagai
Graphic Design: Maya Goldstein
Photography: Ángeles Rodenas, Oliver Mounir
& Cam Harley
Production: AURIC

AURIC ON TOUR

Bush Theatre, London, Festival Internacional de Teatro Clasico de Almagro, Festival Clásicos en Alcalá, Museo Casa de Cervantes, Valladolid, and FesteLon Festival de Teatro Español, Bush Theatre, London (2023).

Queen's Mary University Belfast, Cervantes Theatre London, Jornadas de Teatro Clásico de Málaga, Festival Noche de Juglares Zaragoza, and Sala Exlimite Madrid (2022).

Byre Theatre, in collaboration with the Department of Modern Languages, University of St Andrews, Byre World, Scotland (2021).

Virtual: Festival de poesía y teatro Pedro Calderón de la Barca, Universidad de los Andes, Chile & Festival de Teatro Clásico Español y Novohispano, LeLiTeaNe, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, and Brighton Fringe Festival (2021). International Congress of the Association of Hispanic Classical Theatre (AHTC) (2020).

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Reinventing Classics: Workshops, talks, and artistic projects.

Through these activities, we delve into the legacy of Golden Age authors, reflecting on the classics' power to transcend time, beyond cultural and linguistic barriers. Revisiting classic stories, focusing on current social themes, from a multicultural and transdisciplinary perspective. Creating an open artistic space where everyone is welcome, tailored to participants' needs, reaching diverse audiences, from theatre professionals to students.



“AURIC provides tools to explore our linguistic resources, accessing one’s creative agency in the process.”

Kasia Lech, University of Christchurch,
Canterbury.



OTHER PERFORMANCES

Songs from the Golden Age

Exploring the timeless works of revered playwrights such as Calderón de la Barca, Cervantes, and Lope de Vega, the show embarks on a profound journey through the enduring wisdom found in Golden Age literature.

“In celebrating my cultural roots, I wish to construct universal bridges that transcend barriers of culture and language. These narratives resonate with the experiences of resilience and hope, echoing strongly within contemporary migrant communities.” PR

Bilingual (English/Spanish) 45-60 mins

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/cfasOaA8ANw?si=iYte7Kicp9d2iFhh>



Magical Trilogy

Delving into the enchanting realm of Shakespeare’s masterpieces while engaging in a dialogue with Golden Age authors, the exploration unfolds against the backdrop of the theme of magic.

“With this project, I aim to foster a dialogue across cultures and epochs. At its core, the exploration of magic serves as a lens through which authors reflect on timeless themes, shedding light on the need for gender equality in our contemporary reality.” PR

Bilingual 60 minutes



PRENSA

“Throughout the performance, the artists reach out to the audience with serenity, depth, and rigour. The voice caresses the verses, and the guitar explores unknown corners of emotion. The pastoral episode of Crisóstomo and Marcela becomes a desperate ballad that neither Don Quixote wants to ignore nor the audience wants to miss. Adventures are meant to be lived.”

Isaac Macho, Tamtampress →

“The guitarist did not move away from his prodigious ‘black box’ of rhythms, almost magically handled. Paula (in her clean and crafted voice) warned the audience that verses and songs would be heard in Spanish and English. An original bilingual project that offered a delightful evening in Almagro.”

Joaquín Muñoz Coronel, Lanza Digital →

“An evocative reflection on social and intimate themes such as freedom, identity, and power.”

C. Nuñez, Brit.es →

“The Auric duo turns classic verses into songs with contemporary rhythms.”

J. Jurado. Lanza Digital →

“AURIC transcends limits of space and time.”

Kasia, Lech, The Theatre Times →

“AURIC takes us on a journey.”

Theatrefullstop →





CONTACT

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LINKS

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