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**Cara Mía Theatre Co. hosts Laboratorio de la Máscara from Mexico City
to collaborate on workshop performance about Mexico-Texas history**

Dallas, TX – **Cara Mía Theatre Co.** brings **Mexican Director Alicia Martínez Álvarez** and two members of her company, **Laboratorio de la Máscara** (Mask Laboratory), from Mexico City to Dallas for two weeks, March 28-April 10, to train members of Cara Mía and other local actors in the specialized techniques of mask performance. This unique opportunity to train under the direction of Ms. Martínez will culminate in a workshop performance on **April 10, 2010 at 7 p.m.** at the **Latino Cultural Center** in Dallas. **Admission for the workshop performance is free.** Donations will be accepted at the door.

The two companies will also investigate themes, people and events in Mexico-Texas history such as slavery in Texas, the infamous Mexican general Santa Anna, and the rarely-discussed US-Mexican War to develop the final performance. Traditional Mexican folk masks and live music will be used to represent the African-American, North American, Irish, and Mexican characters and cultures.

According to the Laboratorio de la Máscara's mission, actors will use the mask as a tool to investigate the past, and a specific theatrical language where body, voice, word, space, time and audience coalesce to transform a performance into vibrant living theater. Cara Mía Theatre Co. engages in this collaboration to integrate the Laboratorio's specialized mask techniques and enrich the community's understanding of Mexican-American culture.

Also on **Saturday, April 10, 2010 at 12 p.m.**, Cara Mía Theatre Co. and the Latino Cultural Center will co-present the Laboratorio's new play ***Las Adelitas***, a performance with masks about the role of women in the Mexican Revolution of 1910. Performed by **Norma Duarte** and **Jessica Gámez** from Mexico City, *Las Adelitas* will be presented as part of the Target Second Saturday series at the Latino Cultural Center. Admission for this performance is also free.

“The Mask Laboratory looks to reflect on the present by attempting to understand the actions of the past. And what better occasion than the festivities of the Bicentennial of the Mexican Independence and the Centennial of the Mexican Revolution to ask ourselves as Mexicans, ‘Why are we the way we are?’ ” says Laboratorio Artistic Director Alicia Martinez Álvarez.

Both performances are appropriate for all audiences.

About Alicia Martinez Álvarez:

Alicia Martinez Álvarez is the Artistic Director for Laboratorio de la Máscara. She is part of the National System of Arts Creators (SNCA), a federal program in Mexico that sponsors nationally renowned artists. Her background includes studying plastic arts at the National Institute of Fine Arts (INBA) and later graduating from the University Theater Center of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). She has also studied in France, specializing in mask construction and mask acting. One of her teachers was mask maker and performer Jean-Marie Binoche. Alicia Martinez Alvarez has been teaching for 16 years, working with actors and musicians, teaching and designing scenic elements, building and working with masks, and creating plays using the language of the theatrical mask.

About Cara Mía Theatre Co.:

Founded in 1996, Cara Mía Theatre Co. is a non-profit theatre company whose mission is to broaden appreciation and understanding of Chicano and Latino culture through theatre, literature and educational programming. www.caramiatheatre.com

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For sponsorship opportunities, contact info@caramiatheatre.com

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