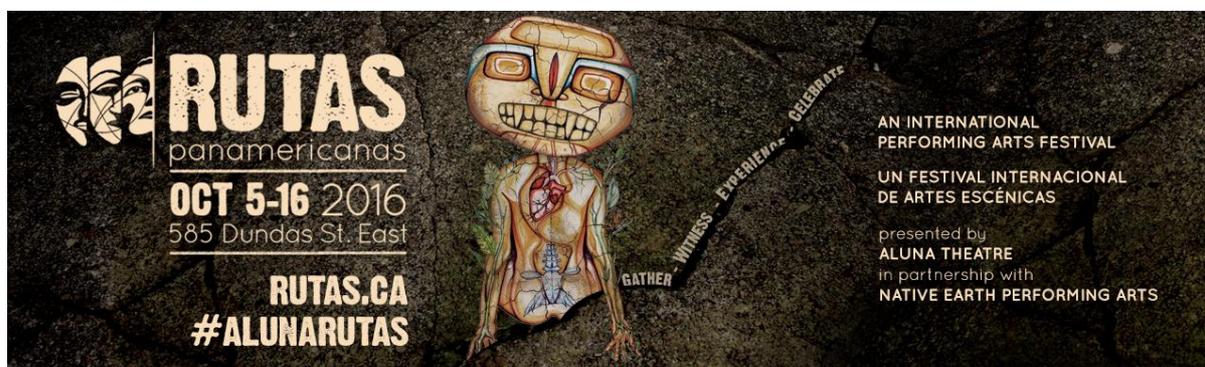


Aluna Theatre in partnership with Native Earth Performing Arts  
presents the third edition of

# RUTAS panamericanas

## International Performing Arts Festival



RUTAS panamericanas International Performing Arts Festival gathers artists and communities from across the Americas to witness, experience and celebrate the rich diversity of our hemisphere.

**October 5–16, 2016**

**Aki Studio and Ada Slight Hall, Artscape Daniels Spectrum  
565 Dundas St. East**

**August 9, 2016, Toronto** – From a reinvention of European classics like **Antigone**, **Hamlet**, **Othello**, and **Life is a Dream**, to innovative ritualistic and physical theatre - artists from Colombia, Bolivia, New York, New Zealand, Venezuela, Argentina and Switzerland challenge how we frame our understanding of each other and our histories.

For two weeks, the RUTAS panamericanas International Performing Arts Festival takes over Daniels Spectrum, featuring over a dozen Canadian, Indigenous, and Latin American groups, with performances, master classes, cabarets, concerts, film, art exhibits and a multi-day conference on the intersections of performance and human rights.

2016 will be the third edition of Aluna Theatre's RUTAS Festival, founded by Aluna Theatre's Artistic Director **Beatriz Pizano**. The Festival presents the work of artists from the Diaspora living in Canada, exposes Canadian audiences to some of the most innovative theatre companies on the continent, and creates cultural bridges between the South and the North.

**RUTAS panamericanas 2016** also marks the third year Aluna Theatre is partnering with Native Earth Performing Arts to bring dynamic arts programming to Regent Park. Ticket packages (4 tickets for just \$70) and single tickets are now available at [rutas.ca](http://rutas.ca).

RUTAS is programmed and produced by Beatriz Pizano, Artistic Director; Trevor Schwellnus, Artistic Producer; and Sue Balint, Producer, all for Aluna Theatre.  
Select additional curation by Native Earth Performing Arts.

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[rutas.ca](http://rutas.ca)

**RUTAS panamericanas 2016 – Programming**

**International Artists**

***Antigonas Tribunal de Mujeres / Antigonas Women’s Tribunal***

Tramaluna Theatre, Colombia - Direction, Dramaturgy and Design by Carlos Satizábal

***Winner of the Art and Memory Fellowship from the city of Bogota***

Nine women arrive at an imaginary tribunal and become modern Antigones requesting justice for the murder of their loved ones. Performers and activists, including one of this year’s Nobel Peace Prize nominees, **Luz Marina Bernal**, bring this poetical and lyrical rendition of the Greek tragedy to address the horrors of political and social violence, transforming pain into power and rebelliousness, and making women key actors in the Peace Process in Colombia.

***“A poetical and lyrical re-telling of the Greek tragedy... this play is a testament to fortitude.” – Time Out***

***Hamlet de los Andes / The Hamlet of the Andes***

Teatro de los Andes, Bolivia - Directed by Diego Aramburo, eight-time winner of the National Theatre Prize of Bolivia.

***Winner of the World Theatre Award in Argentina & the Premio Gallo in La Habana***

***- Opening night post-show talk with Stratford Festival Artistic Director Antonio Cimolino***

A Bolivian Hamlet tries to reconcile the modern world with his ancient traditions.

In this adaptation by one of the most important Ensembles in Bolivia, three actors and a musician play 15 characters in a physical and politically-charged production that exposes the plight of the thousands of Bolivians who leave their rural homes for the city in hope of a better life. Deeply affecting, *Hamlet de los Andes* combines Bolivian music and visually-stunning theatre with Shakespeare’s themes of personal betrayal and state corruption to create a darkly comic and original new work.

***“A physical production that showcases Teatro de los Andes’ talent for creating memorable tableaux.” – Civilian Theatre***

***If Silence Knew***

Teatro delle Radici, Argentina/Switzerland - Created, Performed and Directed by Cristina Castrillo

***Winner of the Swiss Theatre Prize***

When language fails, we are left with our bodies to create meaning in silence.

In this stunning visual poem without words, the body speaks through the silence about the voices that live within it: the lost words, the words we do not have the courage to utter and those which, if expressed, would lose the emotion that accompanies them. A tour-de force performance by Cristina Castrillo, the

founder of the exiled 1970s Argentinian company 'Libre Teatro Libre', and Teatro delle Radici, based in Lugano, Switzerland.

***"Castrillo has successfully given us a speech on life without words."***

**- Region (Switzerland)**

### ***SoIOTHELLO***

Te Rēhia Theatre Company, New Zealand – Performed by Regan Taylor, Directed by Craig Geenty

*- Special Guest company curated by Native Earth Performing Arts*

A bold and humorous Maori twist on the classic tragedy in which Te Reo, original prose, and contemporary English come together. Using traditional Maori masks (Te Mata Kokako o Rehia), this solo interpretation of *Othello* puts the spotlight on the characters Iago, Rodrigo, Othello and Desdemona, and places them into the context of a war between tribes in pre-colonial New Zealand.

***"... an interpretation that reveals Othello's complexity not only as a text but also as a cultural artefact wrought with a troubled performance history, indistinguishable from issues of race or 'other'."*** - Lori Leigh, *Theatre Review, New Zealand*

### ***Undefined Fraction***

Loco7, Colombia/New York - Conceived and adapted by Federico Restrepo & Denise Greber, Directed, choreographed and designed by Federico Restrepo

Loco7 returns to RUTAS with a puppet theatre dance piece inspired by Pedro Calderón de la Barca's *Life's a Dream* that traces the patterns of inequality and reflects on the principles of justice, guilt, punishment, and the conflict between free will and fate. Is the "real world" actually some sort of illusion, a dream from which we will some day awake?

***"... Bold, imaginative theater that dares each of us to confront the conundrum of life."***

**– Front Row Centre (New York)**

### **National Artists**

#### ***ImShift***

Choreographed / co-created by Victoria Mata

A Victoria Mata production in association with Aluna Theatre, Toronto

***Mata: Finalist for the Toronto Foundation Emerging Artist Award, 2016***

'La frontera' breathes through this collage of contemporary dance, poignant visuals and original percussive sounds. This piece highlights the constant experience of bridging the South and the North, of living in the in between of two cultures and two languages through stories of our re-created terrain where complexities of identity, resistance, healing and survival exist within each other. A tribute to the many who have died attempting to cross 'la frontera.'

#### ***Broken Tailbone***

Commissioned, developed and produced by Nightswimming, Canada/Chile

Written and Performed by Carmen Aguirre

***Chosen as one of The Toronto Star's Top Tickets of 2015***

***Aguirre: Winner of CBC Canada Reads 2012 for 'Something Fierce'***

Carmen Aguirre leads a public Latin American dance lesson, woven together with hilarious and moving stories of her own experiences in the hidden world of dancehalls in Canada. DJ Don Pedro Chamale creates an irresistible musical environment to get even the most reluctant dancer up on their feet! Daring, sexy and above all – fun, each dance lesson flows into Carmen’s stories of intimacy, politics, culture and the forgotten origins of each dance. Gather together to listen, move and be moved. No dance experience necessary!

### ***diaspora Dub***

b current, Toronto - Script and production vision by ahdri zhina mandiola

Installation curation by Michael Chambers

Featuring performance, and works, by seminal Black Canadian Artists

In 1991, b current launched with the world’s first mounting of this dub theatre script by Ahdri Zhina Mandiola. As part of its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, photographer Michael Chamber joins in this re-imagining performance/ installation that combines the rhythms and dramatic choral repetitions of dub poetry with choreographed movement. Part exploration and part celebration, the show wonderfully evokes black women’s power and insights.

**Building on a new tradition to support our belief that “our Panamericanism includes Canada”, Aluna is thrilled to present b current as our RUTAS 2016 local guest company.**

### **About Aluna Theatre**

Aluna Theatre is an artistically-driven Canadian / Colombian theatre company based in Toronto. We create exciting new work that introduces audiences to diverse and rich performance practices from across the Americas. Aluna’s bold productions in English and Spanish are marked by a distinct theatrical language drawing from our heritages, cultures, and languages, including dance, physical theatre, and a multi-media design. In fifteen years of production, Aluna has received 26 Dora Awards’ nominations for acting, writing, directing, and design – and has won eleven awards. Artistic Director: Beatriz Pizano.

### **About Native Earth Performing Arts**

Native Earth Performing Arts is Canada’s oldest professional Indigenous theatre company. Currently in our 34th year, we are dedicated to creating, developing and producing professional artistic expressions of the Indigenous experience in Canada. Through stage productions (theatre, dance and multi-disciplinary art), new script development, apprenticeships and internships, Native Earth seeks to fulfill a community of artistic visions.

