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Press Contact:

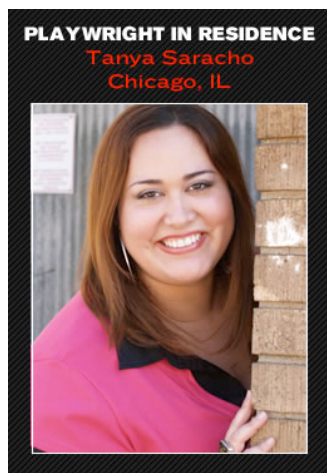
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Tanya Saracho's KITA Y FERNANDA begins September 25

BERWYN, IL August 20, 2008 16th Street Theater is proud to announce its production of **Tanya Saracho's *Kita y Fernanda*** directed by Artistic Director Ann Filmer. ***Kita y Fernanda*** will run **September 25 – October 25, 2008** at the Berwyn Cultural Center, with a press opening of **Thursday, October 2nd at 7:30 PM.**

Kita y Fernanda is a look at class, immigration and women's friendships as it follows the lives of two girls growing up in the same household; one the privileged daughter of a rich Mexican family living in Texas, the other the child of an undocumented maid.



"I do what I do because I don't see images of myself onstage.

I want to complicate the image of what a Latina woman is without standing on a soapbox. I'm dedicated to telling Her stories - to letting us look at life through her eyes. Politically and socially we have gone voiceless for so long and that is obviously reflected in the American Theatre.

We have so much to say; I'm making it my job to make us listen."

-MORE-

TANYA SARACHO was born in Sinaloa, Mexico and moved to Texas in the late 80's. As the proud Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of Teatro Luna: Chicago's All-Latina Theater Ensemble, Tanya's writing has been featured in most of Teatro Luna's ensemble-built works including *Generic Latina*, *Dejame Contarte*, *The Maria Chronicles*, *SOLO Latinas*, *S-E-X-Oh!* and *Lunatic(a)s*. She is a Resident Playwright at Chicago Dramatists.

Tanya's play *Kita y Fernanda* received a full production at Luna in early 2003, along with a reading at Repertorio Español while a finalist for the 2003 Nuestras Voces playwrighting competition. Other Awards include: The Ofner Prize given by the Goodman Theatre, Finalist for the Christopher B. Wolk Award at Abingdon Theatre in NYC, nominee for the Wasserstein Prize and winner of the Khan Award. Her solo play *Quita Mitos* received a world premier with Teatro Luna, in November of 2006 and has toured colleges and festivals, including the International Hispanic Theatre Festival and the Goodman's Latino Theatre Festival.

Tanya is working on a fellowship in a collaboration between The Goodman Theatre and the Institute for Women and Gender Studies at Columbia College on an interview-based piece titled 27 where she will interview one woman from each of the 27 countries that make up the Latin Diaspora.

Tanya has directed many works including *Lunatic(a)s*, the remount of *Generic Latina*, *Piece of Ass* for Estrogen Fest, *The Maria Chronicles* for both the Goodman's Latino Theater Festival and the critically acclaimed full-length run at Teatro Luna, and *S-e-x-Oh!*, *Que Bonita Bandera* and *Three Days* for SÓLO Latinas. Also an accomplished actor, Tanya's performing credits include Migdalia Cruz' *Another Part of the House* with Teatro Vista, *Living Out* with American Theatre Co./Teatro Vista, *Electricidad* at Goodman Theatre, and *Angels in America* and *La Casa De Bernarda Alba* with Agujon Theater. She was most recently seen in Neil LaBute's *Fat Pig* at Renaissance TheatreWorks in Milwaukee, WI and her voice can be heard around the country in radio and television commercials.

Belinda Cervantes, recently seen in Teatro Luna's **MACHOS** at 16th Street and as Ix Chel in Teatro Luna's *Lunatic(a)s*, is **Kita**. **Suzette Mayobre**, recently seen in *Lunatic(a)s*, *Solo Tu* and *S-E-X-Oh!* is **Fernanda**. **Charin Alvarez** who plays Fernanda's mother Dona Silvia just closed *Esparanza Rising* at Chicago Children's Theatre, *Dreamlandia* with Teatro Vista and Nilo Cruz' *A Park in Our House*. **Stephanie Diaz** who plays Kita's mother recently closed *La Posada Magica* at Teatro Vista and *Tartuffe* with Remy Bumpo. Before moving to Chicago she was in *Living Out* with Seattle Rep and Missouri Rep. The design team includes Ian Zywica (scenic design), Mac Vaughey (lighting), Barry Bennett (sound), Whitney McBride (costumes) and Noel Henke (prop design). Stage manager is Michelle Rossi. The play is directed by **Ann Filmer**. Full bios and photos available at www.16thstreettheater.org

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FACT SHEET
KITA Y FERNANDA
by Tanya Saracho

KITA Y FERNANDA

by Tanya Saracho, 16th Street Theater playwright-in-residence
Directed by Ann Filmer

WHEN:

September 25 – October 25, 2008
Thursdays & Fridays @ 7:30 PM, Saturdays @ 5:00 & 8:00 PM
Special Added Sunday shows: October 19 @ 3:00 PM & 6:00 PM

Previews:

Thursday Sept. 25 & Friday Sept. 26 @ 7:30 PM, Saturday Sept. 27 @ 8:00 PM (only)

Press Opening: Thursday, October 2 @ 7:30 PM

WHERE:

Berwyn Cultural Center, 6420 16th Street, Berwyn

WHO:

WRITTEN BY: Tanya Saracho

DIRECTED BY: Ann Filmer

PERFORMED BY: Charin Alvarez, Belinda Cervantes, Stephanie Diaz and Suzette Mayobre

TO PURCHASE TICKETS:

Tickets now available.

Online – www.16thstreettheater.org

In Person – at North Berwyn Park District, 1619 Wesley Ave., Berwyn

Ticket and Information Hotline – (708) 795-6704

HOW MUCH:

General Admission: \$16, Groups of 8+: \$12

- Please visit www.16thstreettheater.org -

16th STREET THEATER is Berwyn's professional equity theater under the artistic direction of Ann Filmer. 2008 marks its first season.

The BERWYN CULTURAL CENTER, a North Berwyn Park District managed facility, is dedicated to providing the highest quality and range of cultural arts programs, classes, workshops, events, and exhibitions providing opportunities for Berwyn residents and area artists. The center will provide year-round programs engaging participants of all ages in visual, performing, literary, martial and media arts and 16th Street Theater's professional productions. The BCC also will serve as an incubator for emerging artists, artisans, writers, performers and musicians to develop and present new works. The center is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and sustainability of our local communities by advancing appreciation for the beauty of cultural diversity.

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