



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Media Contact

Anjee Helstrup-Alvarez, Executive Director, (408) 998-2783, [anjee@maclaarte.org](mailto:anjee@maclaarte.org)

Joey Reyes, Curatorial Coordinator, (408) 998-2783, [joey@maclaarte.org](mailto:joey@maclaarte.org)

## MACLA PRESENTS THE BAY AREA PREMIERE OF **FAT BOY**, A POWERFUL NEW WORK BY TEO CASTELLANOS D-PROJECTS

November 15–16, 2013, 8:00 p.m.

November 17, 2013. 2:00 p.m.

MACLA, 510 S. First Street, San José, CA 95113

Tickets: \$25 at the door | \$20 advance at [macla.vbotickets.com](http://macla.vbotickets.com) | \$10 with valid student ID  
Information: (408)998-2783 x28 | [www.maclaarte.org](http://www.maclaarte.org)

SAN JOSE, CA – (October 1, 2013) Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana (MACLA) is pleased to present the Bay Area premiere of award-winning Teo Castellanos D-Projects' *Fat Boy* on November 15–17, 2013 at MACLA's Castellano Playhouse in San José.

### *Fat Boy*

*Fat Boy* is a compelling multi-disciplinary performance that explores global themes of scarcity, abundance, poverty, and consumerism.

Written and directed by Teo Castellanos, with choreography by him and TCDP members, *Fat Boy* mixes contemporary theater and spoken word with hip-hop and B-Boy choreography, and includes elements of Balinese rice rituals and traditional Buddhist ritual movement. Scoring this hybrid work is dub reggae music composed by Grammy-nominated Andrew ("DJ LeSpam") Yeomanson, as well as dancehall beats. In using an inventive mix of the ancient and modern, classic and contemporary, and ritual and performance, TCDP illustrates the stark contrast between abundance/waste and scarcity/economy, and encourages its audiences to reconsider its relationship to material goods.

The inspiration for this piece was Castellanos' travel to India and his experience with poverty at a train station in Mumbai. Coming face-to-face with world poverty was an overwhelming, psychologically and metaphysically charged experience. "The idea was how fat our nation is," Castellanos says. "We're wasteful in so many ways. We're constantly consuming, and mass consumption leads to weight gain, which leads to ill health. I think we are in a state of ill spiritual, emotional and mental health. We're in constant fear of not having enough."





Miami Light Project commissioned **Fat Boy** with co-commissioning support from the Hip-Hop Theater Festival. HHTF support was made possible through the Future Aesthetics Artist Regrant (FAAR) program, funded by the Ford Foundation.

**Fat Boy** is a National Performance Network (NPN) Creation Fund Project co-commissioned by Tigertail Productions, in partnership with Miami Light Project, 7 Stages and the NPN. The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the National Endowment support the Creation Fund for the Arts.

**Fat Boy** was made possible with funding by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Theater Pilot, with lead funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

MACLA is Partner of the National Performance Network (NPN). This project is made possible in part by support from the NPN Performance Residency Program. Major contributors of NPN include the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency), the MetLife Foundation and the Nathan Cummings Foundation.

Additional support is provided by Adobe, Applied Materials, the Ford Foundation, SV Creates, a cultural affairs grant from the City of San José, the David & Lucile Packard Foundation, the Castellano Family Foundation, the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, James Irvine Foundation, and MACLA donors.

## About the Artists

**D-Projects** represents a cross-section of conservatory and culturally trained artists who have joined forces to create provocative projects. D-Projects fuses ancient traditions with contemporary performance and b-boy moves to bring world rituals to the stage. D-Projects has toured the United States, South America and China with its award-winning peace ritual *Scratch & Burn*, based on the war and funeral rituals of the Zulu with elements of Butoh, Maori war dance, Tibetan Buddhism, Yoruba chants and hip-hop vocabulary. [www.teocastellanos.com](http://www.teocastellanos.com)

**Teo Castellanos**, the founder and artistic director of Teo Castellanos D-Projects, is an actor/writer/director who works in theater, film and television. Teo received his B.F.A. in Theater from Florida Atlantic University, where he studied with four-time Tony Award winner Zoë Caldwell. He is author of *War, Revolution, and the Projects*, a one-man trilogy, which toured on the east coast. He is also the author of the one-man show *NE 2nd Avenue*, which was commissioned and produced by Miami Light Project as part of its 2001–2002 Contemporary Performance Series. Mr. Castellanos has lectured and taught theater workshops and master classes throughout the U.S. and abroad.

## Related programming

### **Maize Y Más: From Mother to Monster?**

November 1, 2013—February 15, 2014 | MACLA gallery

Work by Yvonne Escalante, Yolanda Guerra, Fernando Mastrangelo, Viva Paredes, and Jorge Rojas  
The artists in this exhibition explore the role that food—and in particular, corn—plays in our globalized generation, and corn's roots in Latin American history and culture.

### **Tortilla Oracle**

November 1, 2013, 7-10pm | MACLA gallery

Participatory Tortilla Oracle performance by artist Jorge Rojas



### Selected performance history

Maui Arts Center, Kahului, HI, November 7, 2013

7 Stages, Atlanta, GA: February 2–12, 2012

Hip Hop Theater Festival, New York, NY: October 10–13, 2012

Bristol Riverside Theater, Bristol, PA: April 8, 2012

The Light Box, Goldman Warehouse, Miami, FL: June 2–4, 2011 (premiere)

### Selected Awards

For *NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue*:

International Cultural Exchange Grant 2002, Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs

FringeFirst Award 2003, Edinburgh International Fringe Festival

Best Original Play 2002, Miami Beach Sun Post

For Teo Castellanos:

Playwright of the Year 2006, City Link Magazine

### About MACLA/Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana

MACLA is an inclusive contemporary arts space grounded in the Chicana/o experience that incubates new visual, literary and performance art in order to engage people in civic dialogue and community transformation. MACLA is located at 510 South First Street, San José, CA 95113. For more information about MACLA call (408) 998-ARTE or see [www.maclaarte.org](http://www.maclaarte.org)

**Image credits: Jennifer Diaz**

###