

PRESS RELEASE

Panta Rei Theatre Collective presents:

Rocinante! Rocinante!

WORLD PREMIERE

A site specific, promenade journey through the mind of Don Quixote de la Mancha

THE CLF ART CAFE, PECKHAM | Fri 10

PRESS PERFORMANCE: Wed 15

At the venue used by the Royal Court's *Theatre Local*, this devised site specific performance considers madness in the light of two of its most celebrated portrayals, *Don Quixote* and *Hamlet*. At night, Don Quixote arrives in a cemetery with his old horse Rocinante accompanied as ever by Sancho Panza and Donkey. They stumble upon Hamlet's gravediggers, involved in alchemical experiments as they debate the meanings of life, death and everything in between. But this garden of souls is not all that it appears, and rational laws disappear to make way for something absurd, surreal and grotesque.

Influenced by the dark imagery of Hieronymus Bosch, a cast of seven alternate dynamic physical sequences with intimate poetic moments as the audience enter a world of dreams, memories and visions, embarking on a surreal journey through the restless mind of Don Quixote de la Mancha.

Almost exact contemporaries, Cervantes and Shakespeare died in 1616, on the same date (23rd April), if the discrepancy of ten days between the Gregorian calendar (Spain) and Julian calendar (England) is to be allowed for.

Panta Rei Theatre ("everything flows") is a collective of international artists promoting interdisciplinary collaborations to explore issues that transcend the boundaries of cultural, economical and social backgrounds. Their work is immersive, visually striking, surreal and multilingual.

***Rocinante! Rocinante!* is part of Panta Rei's long-term project on theatre and mental illness.** The company has been collaborating since 2010 with Dr Zerrin Atakan from the Institute of Psychiatry and Dr Nick Troop from the Performance Psychology Lab, Hertfordshire University. Panta Rei's past performances include *Samhain Night* (Off the Grid, London), *Lilith Rain* (The Place), *Masquerade* and *A History of the Piazza through Commedia* (Italian Cultural Institute).

The CLF Art Cafe, home of the Royal Court's *Theatre Local* in the heart of Peckham, is a hub for artists referred to as the "new Montmartre" by *The Independent*.

www.pantareitheatre.com / www.clfartcafe.org / Running Time: 70 mins (no interval)

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Company Info

Devised and performed by: Chiara D'Anna, Juancho Gonzalez, Daniel Rejano Romero, Almudena Segura, Stephanie Thorpe, Tommy Williamson and Anna Zehentbauer

Direction: Chiara D'Anna

Costume Design: Nadia Malik

Lighting Design: Cis O'Boyle

Set Design: Nadia Malik and the ensemble

Music and Sound Design: Steve Mason

Listings information

Venue: The CLF Art Café, Bussey Building

Address: 133 Rye Lane, London, SE15 4ST

Dates: 10th February to 2nd March 2012

Price: £10/£8 concession

Box Office: www.pantareitheatre.com | www.ticketweb.co.uk

Transport: Peckham Rye Railway Station

Times: 8pm Mon-Sat