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istituto italo-latino americano

RAYUELA EDIZIONI



“AÑO CORTAZARIANO” PROJECT

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Cortázar *and the languages of our time*

Performing Arts, dance, theatrical shorts

Before 25th March 2014

1. International Competition “Cortázar and the Languages of Our Time”

The Teatro Nucleo Theatre Cooperative is promoting the international theatre competition “Cortázar and the Languages of Our Time”, in honour of the great Argentinian writer Julio Cortázar, whose birth centenary will be commemorated in 2014.

2013 was the 50th anniversary of the publication of Cortázar's novel RAYUELA (Hopscotch), one of the works that contributed to the explosion of Latin American literature on the world scene. Cortázar was not concerned merely with literary production, however, but also with the profound re-creation of the Spanish language itself – continuing the work of Borges –, in an effort to free it from its baroque encumbrances, obligatory rhetorical nuances and ways of saying that are also ways of thinking. If the idiom is the instrument of thought, then freeing

oneself from the idiomatic strait jacket means liberating thought itself, thus making possible the existence of other ways of thinking and acting, other worlds. Cortazar's literature would be inconceivable if the context of that effort was not considered, and this is one of the main problems we have in understanding him fully. He acts in a language unknown to us; we read him translated and are thus unable to grasp the meaning of his action to a Spanish-thinking and speaking world. Another difficulty stems from the profound affinity his literature has with Argentinian culture, with the idiosyncrasies that he continually enounces and denounces and that are so hard to translate.

This first edition of the "Cortázar and the Languages of Our Time" competition aims to set up an observatory of contemporary artistic languages, starting from the vantage point of a major 20th century writer, caught between the two worlds of Europe and Latin America. The Competition is part of the broader "Año Cortazariano" project, which intends to contribute to the process of casting light on these aspects – a necessary condition for the understanding of his work. For Cortázar, the "revolutionary" task of the writer lay in this very process: the liberating effect of language itself in the act of breaking the the chains that condition thought; liberating the actual language, rather than using an old language to "talk about" revolution.

2. Submission of Projects

Persons, groups or associations of any nationality can take part.

The projects presented can be installations, dance or theatre performances or videos inspired by the writings or stylistic modes of Cortázar. They can be in either indoor or outdoor settings. The Jury will select from projects submitted by and no later than 25th March 2014, according to the following submission procedure:

- a) by completing the registration form in a Word document, stating the title of the project and giving a brief written explanation of the link between the project submitted, the reference subject and personal motivation.
- b) by paying the registration fee of 20 euros by bank transfer to the following account:
current account n° 2590
Banca Popolare di Milano - agenzia n° 91 di Ferrara
IBAN: IT 31 K 05584 13019 000000002590
reason: registration fee for Cortazar Competition 2014
- c) by sending in the form together with the registration fee payment receipt by the 25th March 2014 2014, either to the following email address (after signing the form and attaching the scanned documents):

bandocortazar@gmail.com

or by post to the following address:

Via Ricostruzione 40, 44123 Pontelagoscuro (Fe). Date as per postmark.

- d) by submitting, **by 25th March 2014**, a short video of not more than 5 minutes filmed by a stationary camera and without editing. The video can be submitted either by emailing

a link or by posting a DVD to the address: Via Ricostruzione 40, 44123 Pontelagoscuro (Fe). Date as per postmark.

Participation in all stages of the competition application is at the applicants' expense. Registration fees will not be refunded.

3. Selection Stages

3a. A maximum of 10 projects will be selected, according to the following criteria:

- the originality and character of the project and its capacity to respond to the ethos of the proposal;
- the practical, material and logistical realisability of the project.

3b. The results of the first selection will be announced by 20th April 2014. The results of the selection will be sent by email to the authors and the list of selected authors will be published on www.teatronucleo.org.

3c. Subsequently, 3 PROJECTS will be selected. The results of the final selection will be announced by 10th May 2014.

3d. These winning projects will be staged at the Totem Arti Festival (Ferrara, June 2014), Casa Argentina/Ambasciata della Repubblica Argentina (Rome, date to be decided), Festival Internazionale di Letteratura (Milan, 2014).

4. General Rules

- Only one application can be submitted.
- Each author can submit one creation only.
- Unfilmed material (with the exception of literary works) will not be taken into consideration.
- The signature on the registration form is also a disclaimer and will authorise the organisers to use the submitted materials for the sole purpose of promoting the initiative.

5. Selection Criteria The Jury will consist of members of Teatro Nucleo and other experts on the works of Cortázar capable of evaluating the fidelity of the work and the quality of the submitted project. The decisions of the Jury are final.

6. Prizes

The official prize-giving will take place at the Casa della Cultura Argentina in Rome in May 2014

- Board and lodging for the authors of the winning projects will be at the organisers' expense. The winning projects will be staged at the Totem Arti Festival (Ferrara, June 2014, Festival Internazionale di Letteratura (Milan, June 2014), with a fee to be agreed with the organisers of the events in which the works will be staged. Travel expenses are to be borne by the authors.
- one or more Special Mentions of the Jury (not binding) for one or two projects, which may be staged – at the Jury's discretion – at the Totem Arti Festival (Ferrara, June 2014), Casa Argentina/Ambasciata della Repubblica Argentina (Rome, date to be decided), Festival Internazionale di Letteratura (Milan, 2014, date to be decided), with board and lodging at the organisers' expense.

7. Obligations

The selected projects must highlight the link to the “Cortázar and the Languages of Our Time” competition and the winning projects must highlight in their presentation materials the words “Winner of the Cortázar and the Languages of Our Time Competition” .

INFORMATION:

Contact person for applications: Natasha Czertok, Francesca Tamascelli

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For further information please write to Natasha Czertok at bandocortazar@gmail.com putting

“Cortazar Competition” in the subject line.