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THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE INSIDE THE WILD HEART

BEST REIMAGINING OF AN IMMERSIVE PLAY - This week in New York

"The virtual version of Inside the Wild Heart presents novel ways to explore theater in a new platform that allows different interactions." - Forbes

"Experiencing all of this using gather.town gives the sense of actually moving in and through the show's visually (and, with fantastic music from Sergio Krakowski, aurally) rich, even sumptuous space in a way that a Zoom or YouTube performance simply couldn't replicate." - Thinking Theater NYC

New York, NY-January 26, 2021: GROUP DOT BR, New York's only Brazilian theatre company, is pleased to announce the extension of the streaming production of Clarice Lispector's *INSIDE THE WILD HEART*, adapted for the stage by Andressa Furletti and Debora Balardini, directed by Linda Wise. The virtual performance of *INSIDE THE WILD HEART* will play a limited engagement online platform, gather.town. On the site, audiences will be able to navigate through the virtual brownstone and enjoy three floors of video performances, photography, and audio, simultaneously much like the live show which occurred in person during a New York run in 2018. Performances continue Friday, February 12 and continue through Sunday, March 28. Tickets for all performances are \$15-\$50 and available at Group.BR.com. Special press tickets will be available for all performances, contact press@kampfirefilmspr.com to request.

INSIDE THE WILD HEART is an immersive theatrical experience based on the works of Clarice Lispector, Brazil's most acclaimed female writer, presented in New York in 2016 and 2018. The show transported the audience directly inside Lispector's heart creating an experience that encouraged them to engage with literature on a sensory level. Now the 2018's filmed performance is available for viewers around the world through the gather.town platform, allowing the audience to navigate through the three virtual floors of Aich Studio, a preserved 19th-century space in the heart of Gramercy Park. Similar to the live show, the audience will be able to access 11 different journeys and choose whom to follow, where to go, and how much time to spend in each room. In doubt of what to do just ask "If you were you, how would you be and what would you do?".

The show integrates visual arts, film, music & performance art, which embodies the writer's deepest feelings, serving as an entry point to Clarice's incredible work, still mostly unknown in the US. The performers embody the writer's biggest themes such as identity, solitude, madness, faith, time, violence, maternity, childhood and freedom accompanied by the awarded violinist Mario Forte.

The production stars Debora Balardini, Mirko Faienza, Patricia Faolli, Andressa Furletti, Fabiana Mattedi, Gio Mielle, Gonçalo Ruivo, Yasmin Santana, Ibsen Santos, and Montserrat Vargas.

Produced by Monica Vilela and Roberta Fernandes the production featured scenic design and art installations by Montserrat Vargas and Andressa Furletti, costume design by Jussara Lee, and lighting design by Charlie Jarboe. Sergio Krakowski created the original score and Paul Leopold the video design and operations. Kristin Rion was the stage manager with Stephanie Machado as the director's assistant. Production interns were Mitchell Bueno, Marli Lilja, Fabia Lucyana, and Sami Mushi. Publicity by Katie Rosin/Kampfire PR.

INSIDE THE WILD HEART will appear virtually on the following schedule:

Wednesday and Friday

7pm (NY) 21h (Brazil) 1am (Europe)

Sunday

5pm (NY) 19h (Brasil)

Tickets are \$15-\$50 and are now available online at www.Group.BR.com.

Running Time: 2 hours

Website: www.group.br.com

@GroupDotBR, www.facebook.com/Group.BR

Media Kit with Photos

Affiliate organizations: A.R.T New York, Americans For the Arts, Indie Theatre, League of Professional Theatre Women (Debora board member), Materials for the Arts.

BIOGRAPHIES

CLARICE LISPECTOR (*author 1920-1977*) is one of Brazil's most important literary figures. She, who has been described as the most important Jewish writer since Franz Kafka, was born in Ukraine and immigrated to Brazil as an infant, following the devastation of World War One. Her trademark stream-of-consciousness writing styling is often compared to that of Virginia Woolf and James Joyce. Lispector is sadly relatively unknown outside of her Brazil. With the recent translation and publication of her complete short stories and other selected works as well as her biography, by author Benjamin Moser, she is gaining heightened appreciation and acclaim within America's literary canon. In fact, Lispector's Complete Stories is recognized in the New York Times list of 2015 notable books, the National Post of Canada's list of best books of the year, the Boston Globe's Best Books of 2015, and in the list of 24 Best Fiction Books of 2015 by Buzzfeed Books. The underlying thread across Lispector's work is the questioning of oneself and humanity. Her work is universal, transcending ethnicity, race, religion, time, gender and place. Many people say, and we agree, that you don't just read Clarice, you experience it. This visceral experience of her work was the inspiration for the conception of the show *Inside the Wild Heart*.

NOTE: Clarice Lispector was not a Playwright. The Dramaturgy was done by Andressa Furletti and Debora Balardini.

LINDA WISE (*Director*) is a Kenyan French-based artist trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. Founding member of the Roy Hart Centre and co-founder of the Pantheatre Company (Paris). French

Jean Vilar Prize (1988) for the direction of Melville's Moby Dick; Leoncavallo's Pagliacci (OBIE-awarded); jazz opera by Boreas Theatre and Oslo National Theatre; voice teacher at the National Theatre Schools of Copenhagen, Norway, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and Scotland and Limoges and Strasbourg French National Theatre Schools.

GROUP DOT BR was founded by Andressa Furletti, Debora Balardini and Thiago Felix in 2011 with a public reading of the play *Cerimoînia do Adeus* by Mauro Rasi. In 2012 Group .BR produced *A Serpente* (The Serpent) by Brazil's most known and controversial dramaturges, Nelson Rodrigues with sold-out performances and a nomination to the 2012 Brazilian International Press Awards. In 2013, *Infinite While It Lasts*, Group Dot BR's first devised work based on the life and work of Brazilian poet and composer Vinicius de Moraes landed on the bohemian bar Nublu in East Village. A second run of the show happened in 2014 held at Studio 151 for four weeks. The show was nominated to the 2014 Innovative Theatre Awards for Outstanding Choreography/Movement and to the 2014 Brazilian International Press Award. *Inside The Wild Heart*, an immersive theatrical experience based on the life and works of the Brazilian Jewish writer Clarice Lispector had a successful five-week run at the Immersive Gallery, in Williamsburg in 2016, and another five-week run in 2018 at the Aich Studio, a three-story house in Manhattan. The show had great reviews and received four nominations and earned Andressa Furletti an award for Best Actress at the 2017 Brazilian International Press Award.

Other than its awarded productions, the company offers a variety of acting and dance workshops, readings, and signature events such as the theatrical Brazilian dance party *Saravá!*, the intimate *Pão de Queijo Brunch* and the *Clarice's Hour* (Hora de Clarice) in partnership with Moreira Salles Institute (Instituto Moreira Salles), and the Happy Hour Online with readings and conversations about Clarice Lispector in honor of her centennial. In 2020 the company created the Group Dot BR's NY Brazilian Artists Fund to support New York state Brazilian artists affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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<u>Listings Information</u>: Who: Group Dot BR

What: *Inside the Wild Heart* Where: Online (not zoom)

When: February 11 - March 28, 2021

How: www.Group.BR.com

INSIDE THE WILD HEART integrates visual arts, film, music & performance art, which embodies writer Clarice Lispector's deepest feelings, serving as an entry point to her incredible work.