

Z Space & Word for Word Present

# RETABLOS

Stories From A Life Lived Along the Border



**By Octavio Solis**

February 19 - March 15, 2020

Directed by Sheila Balter and Jim Cave



## Artistic Directors' Statement

We have known Octavio Solis since the early years of Word for Word. He directed one of our very first shows: “Slaughterhouse” by Greg Sarris. From that moment on, we have admired his lyrical writing, his collaborative instinct, and his compassionate heart. And at last, with his *Retablos*, we have the opportunity to bring his prose to the stage.

We are very grateful to the entire creative team of *Retablos*: directors, designers, actors, and production crew. Everyone has contributed so much to this show; it has become an expansive endeavor. We thank Sheila and Jim for their vision, hard work, and dedication. It has been a collaborative effort, and we appreciate the many talents brought together to make Octavio’s *Retablos*.

—Sue & JoAnne

## Directors’ Statement

How to make a *retablo*. Start with a doorway covered in milagros and a dusty backdrop of the Franklin Mountains. Add a *bolero*, a costume or two, a candle if the theatre will allow it, two directors, eight actors, a village of talented artists and the poetry of *RETABLOS*. Spend three weeks in intense conversation, and soon you’re smelling the *caldo de pollo*, you’re seeing the murals in the El Segundo neighborhood of El Paso, you’re dancing to “Adoro” at the *quinceañera* in VFW Post 8782, you’re listening to the sobbing and laughter of a mother and father who have sacrificed so their kids can have a decent life this side of the Rio Grande. The flaming heart of Octavio Solis. Enter into these 13 *retablos* with us. They will change you. Don’t sit back, lean in. “*Ándale*, before the song ends!”

—Jim & Sheila

P.S. What is “this invisible line we call the Border”? Octavio speaks to our connections, not our divisions. This gives us hope.



# RETABLOS

Stories From a Life Lived Along the Border

A memoir by

**Octavio Solis**

Directed by Sheila Balter & Jim Cave

Stage Manager: Karen Runk\*

Cultural Consultant: Carolina Morones

**featuring the chapters**

*Retablos, The Way Over, Consuelo, El Judío, La Migra, La Llorona,  
Nothing Happens, The Quince, Mexican Apology, El Segundo,  
Neto, and My Right Foot.*

There will be an intermission between *Nothing Happens* and *The Quince*

## CAST: The Ensemble

Maria Candelaria\*

Edie Flores

Carla Gallardo

Gendell Hernández\*

Gabriel Montoya

Brady Morales-Woolery\*

Regina Morones

Ryan Tasker\*

For a further breakdown of performance roles, please see [www.zspace.org/retablocast](http://www.zspace.org/retablocast)

## DESIGN

Set Design: Nina Ball +

Costume Design: Callie Floor +

Lighting Design: Jeff Rowlings +

Original Music and Sound Design:  
David R. Molina

Choreographer: Carolina Morones

Scenic and Properties Artisan:

Vola Ruben

## PRODUCTION

Production Manager: Jeff Rowlings

Assistant Stage Manager/Wardrobe: Krys Swan

Assistant Costume Designer: Victoria Mortimer

Dance Captain: Gendell Hernández

Assistant Scenic Artist: Carol Banfield

Dramaturgy: Karina Gutiérrez

Technical Director: Colm McNally

Master Carpenter: David Gardner

Master Electrician/Board Operator: Brittany Mellerson

Carpenter: James Washburn

Electricians: Daniel Hall, Miles Young, Travis Fukuda

\*Member, Actors Equity Association (AEA)

+Member, United Scenic Artists, Local 829

Lobby Retablo Artist : Susana Aragón

Press Agent: David Hyry & Associates

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Word for Word Intern: Chantal Trazo

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THESE CHAPTERS ARE PERFORMED WITH PERMISSION  
FROM THE AUTHOR

Producers: Constance Bernstein, Linda Brewer,  
Bruce Colman, Peter Gochis (in memory of Sally Dalton),  
Anonymous



## Author's Note

I am known primarily as a playwright, but when I wrote *Retablos*, I heard the voice of that “little brown shit” that was me as a boy relay them aloud as a collection of prose vignettes, and that’s how I transcribed them. I have resisted any effort to adapt them to the stage because they are not meant for it. I would have written them as plays if they were. But if there is a company on earth that is perfectly suited to these very personal stories, it is Word for Word, because they honor the language of the page while managing to theatricalize the words in rare and unpredictable ways. This wondrous method is what transforms my *Retablos* into a magic pop-up book depicting people from my very real past living with vitality and dignity in the El Paso of my youth. Sheila Balter and Jim Cave have taken the trip there, metaphorically and literally. They visited my hometown to look for the heart of *Retablos* and their beautiful work on my book is proof that they found it.

—Octavio Solis

The Retablo in the lobby, created by Susana Aragón ([susanaaragon.art](http://susanaaragon.art)), is up for auction to the highest bidder, in support of Word for Word’s artistic programming! To make a bid, please contact Susan Harloe at [sharloe@zspace.org](mailto:sharloe@zspace.org)

“A retablo is a devotional painting, usually laid on a small, thin plate of cheap, repurposed metal, in which a dire event is depicted—an accident, a crime, an illness, a calamity, some terrible rift in a person’s life, which they survive thanks to the intercession of the Divine. They are ex-voto, that is, ‘from a vow,’ commissioned and created as a form of thanks. At once visual and literary, they record the crisis, the divine mediation and the offering of thanks in a single frame, thus forming a kind of flash-fiction account of an electrifying, life-altering event.”

—from *Retablos*

An Evening with...

Join us February 27!



# Octavio Solis

The evening's performance of *Retablos* will be followed by a conversation with the author, moderated by Greg Sarris. Both writers are longtime friends of Word for Word.

The evening includes a reception and book signing to cap off the night. Books will be on sale with City Lights Books.



**O**ctavio Solis is a playwright and director whose works *Mother Road*, *Quixote Nuevo*, *Hole in the Sky*, *Alicia's Miracle*, *Se Llama Cristina*, *John Steinbeck's The Pastures of Heaven*, *Ghosts of the River*, *Quixote*, *Lydia*, *June in a Box*,

*Lethe*, *Marfa Lights*, *Gibraltar*, *The Ballad of Pancho and Lucy*, *The 7 Visions of Encarnación*, *Bethlehem*, *Dreamlandia*, *El Otro*, *Man of the Flesh*, *Prospect*, *El Paso Blue*, *Santos & Santos*, and *La Posada Mágica* have been mounted at the California Shakespeare Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, Yale Repertory Theatre, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, the Dallas Theater Center, the Magic Theatre, Intersection for the Arts, South Coast Repertory Theatre, the San Diego Repertory Theatre, the San Jose Repertory Theatre, Shadowlight Productions, the Venture Theatre in Philadelphia, Latino Chicago Theatre Company, Boston Court and Kitchen Dog Theatre, the New York Summer Play Festival, Teatro Vista in Chicago, El Teatro Campesino, the Undermain Theatre in Dallas, Thick Description, Campo Santo, the Imua Theatre Company in New York, and Cornerstone Theatre.

His collaborative works include *Cloudlands*, with Music by Adam Gwon; *Burning Dreams*, cowritten with Julie Hebert and Gina Leishman; and *Shiner*, written with Erik Ehn. Solis has received an NEA 1995-97 Playwriting Fellowship, the Roger L. Stevens award from the Kennedy Center, the Will Glickman Playwright Award, a production grant from the Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays, the 1998 TCG/NEA Theatre Artists in Residence Grant, the 1998 McKnight Fellowship grant from the Playwrights Center in Minneapolis, and the National Latino Playwriting Award for 2003. He is the recipient of the 2000-2001 National Theatre Artists Residency Grant from TCG and the Pew Charitable Trust, the United States Artists

Fellowship for 2011, and the 2014 Pen Center USA Award for Drama. Solis is a Thornton Wilder Fellow for the MacDowell Colony, New Dramatists alum, and member of the Dramatists Guild. He is working on commissions for the Arena Stage, SF Playhouse, and South Coast Repertory Theatre.

*The River Plays*, his anthology of plays about the US/Mexico border, is published by NoPassPort Publishing. *Retablos: Stories From A Life Lived Along The Border* is published by City Lights Books in San Francisco.

Solis' relationship with Word for Word extends back 20 years, when he directed their production of "Slaughterhouse" by Greg Sarris. In 2010, he adapted John Steinbeck's "The Pastures of Heaven" (which was one of the five NEA Distinguished New American Plays) for a Word for Word collaboration with Cal Shakes. Octavio Solis is a member of Word for Word's Authors Council.



**G**reg Sarris is an author, scholar, teacher, and Tribal Chairman of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR), formerly the Federated Coast Miwok. He co-authored bill H.R. 5528, which President Clinton signed in 2000, restoring the FCM as a recognized American Indian Tribe. Sarris' books include *Keeping Slug Woman Alive: A Holistic Approach to American Indian Texts*; *Grand Avenue* (an HBO Miniseries); *Watermelon Nights*; and *How a Mountain Was Made*. Word for Word has produced his stories "Slaughterhouse" and "Joy Ride," and created two children's touring shows from his collection *How a Mountain Was Made*. Currently, Word for Word works closely with Mr. Sarris and FIGR to provide summer arts programs for Native youth. He is the Honorary President of Word for Word's Authors Council.



# BIOGRAPHIES



**Sheila Balter (Director)**, Charter Member of Word for Word, last directed *Holiday High Jinx*; short works by Damon Runyon, Joseph Mitchell, and E.B. White. Other directing with the company includes stories by

Tobias Wolff, Daniel Handler, George Saunders (OTP reading), Andrew Sean Greer (LitQuake/France tour), Sandra Cisneros (school tour), and Woody Allen (City Arts & Lectures). She has directed for Encore Theatre, Brava, and California Shakespeare Theater. Sheila is also a Bay Area actress, teacher, and coach.



**Jim Cave (Director)** directed Colm Tóibín's *Silence*, co-directed *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, and designed lights for over 20 productions with Word for Word Performing Arts Company. His directorial collaborations have

included work with Erling Wold's *Fabrications*, Deborah Slater Dance Theater, Robert Ernst, Anna Halprin, Woody Woodman's Finger Palace, Darvag Theater Group, and Mobius Operandi. He has designed lights for numerous productions of Octavio's work including *Impatiens*, *Santos y Santos*, *Prospect*, *Bethlehem*, *The Ballad of Pancho*, and *Lucy and June in a Box*.



**Susan Harloe (Artistic Director, Word for Word)** has originated roles in many of the company's productions (*The Standard of Living*, *Xingu*, *Rose-Johnny*, *In the Garden of the North American*

*Martyrs*, *Dolly*, *Anniversary!*) and is the creator and manager of Word for Word's France tour. She has an MFA from U.C. Davis, an MLS from the University of Pittsburgh, and a BA from San Francisco State University. With thanks to Z Staff, Charter Group, and —Octavio



**JoAnne Winter (Artistic Director, Word for Word)** Co-Founder of Word for Word with Susan Harloe in 1993, Winter is also a freelance actor and director and has worked at many local

theaters including Marin Theatre Company, San Francisco Mime Troupe, Magic Theatre, and California Shakespeare Theater. In addition to acting, directing, and producing with Word for Word, she oversees the Youth Arts Program, which takes the Word for Word process into schools all over Northern California. So happy to be collaborating with Octavio again! Thanks to all the artists who have brought so much to this show.

## ACTORS



**Maria Candelaria** has acted in world premieres for such playwrights as Luis Valdez and Octavio Solis, and in theatrical adaptations of literary works like Junot Diaz's novel *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar*

*Wao*. She has performed with Aurora Theatre, California Shakespeare Festival, Campo Santo, Intersection for the Arts, Thick Description, Shotgun Players, San Diego Repertory Theatre, and El Teatro Campesino. She has an MFA in Acting from the University of California at Davis. Maria is honored to be working again with Word for Word.



**Edie Flores** is excited to make his Word for Word debut. He is also currently touring in *Evil Dead: The Musical* HD National Tour. Recent credits include *The Little Mermaid* (Prince Eric), *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Frank

n Furter), *Mamma Mia* (Sky), and *Next to Normal* (Gabe). Catch him later this season as the title role in *Cry Baby* at The Western Stage. Thanks to family, God, & the wonderful team behind Word for Word.



**Carla Gallardo** is a Bay Area actor and a proud member of the Ubuntu Theater Project. Her most recent credits include: *Cheer! : Story of a Dreamer* (Teatro Cultura), *Romeo & Juliet* (Ubuntu Theater Project), *In The Heights*

(Custom Made Theater), *Hamlet* (Ubuntu Theater Project), *Where The Boys Are* (FaultLine Theater), *To The Bone* (Ubuntu Theater Project), *Más* (Ubuntu Theater/Laney Project), *The Grapes of Wrath* (Ubuntu Theater Project), *This Golden State* (Magic Theatre).



**Gendell Hernández** was born in Havana, immersed in its dynamic theatrical community. Since 1997 the Bay Area has been home, where he works as an actor, director, and teaching artist.

Gendell brings theater education to classrooms, libraries, and jails, collaborating with Bay Area theaters. As an actor, performances include *Oedipus El Rey*, *Arctic Requiem*, *Blood Wedding*, *Oil!*, *Beatbox: A Raparretta*, and *Lucia Berlin Stories*. He is an Associate Artist with Word for Word, part of the Alphabet Rocker crew, and thrilled to give shape to Octavio's indispensable, contemporary, American voice.



**Gabriel Montoya** is thrilled to debut with Word for Word. In the Bay Area, he's acted for Berkeley Rep, Magic Theatre, Custom Made Theatre Co., Central Works, SF Playhouse, Brava Theater, SF Shakespeare

on Tour, Beverly Hills Playhouse SF, Theater Madcap, and Boxcar Theatre. Gabriel and his wife Robin's production company, The Department of Badassery, made theatre history at PianoFight in 2015 by simultaneously premiering Ben Fisher's *Don't Be Evil* onstage and in VR. "For my parents."



**Brady Morales-Woolery** is a Bay Area based actor. Favorite roles include: Andrej in *Once* (42nd Street Moon), Josh Watson in *The Watson Intelligence* (Shotgun Players), Paul in *Bright Shining Sea* (SF Playground),

and Paul in *Barefoot in the Park* (Willows Theatre Company). He originated the role of Mario Savio in *FSM*, a musical about the free speech movement at UC Berkeley. Onscreen he has appeared in *Quitters*, *Pushing Dead*, and *The Internship*. He holds a B.A. in Theatre from U.C. Berkeley. [www.BradyMwoolery.com](http://www.BradyMwoolery.com)



**Regina Morones** is a native Bay Area actor/singer, a resident artist at San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, and a company member at Ubuntu Theater Project. She is thrilled to make her Word for Word

debut in *Retablos*. Her favorite roles have been Rosalind in *As You Like It* (SF Shakes) and Meredith/Bruce in *Women Laughing Alone With Salad* (Shotgun). She sends her deepest gratitude to family and friends for their endless love and support. [www.reginamorones.com](http://www.reginamorones.com)



**Ryan Tasker** is an Associate Artist with Word for Word and has appeared in their productions of *Three on a Party* and *You Know When the Men Are Gone*, as well as acting and directing for their Off the

Page series. He has recently worked with Marin Theatre Company, American Conservatory Theater, and Livermore Shakespeare Festival, among others.



## STAGE MANAGEMENT & PRODUCTION

**Jeff Rowlings (Production Manager, Lighting Design)** For Word for Word, Jeff designed sets & lights for *Smut* and *Holiday High Jinx*. He was Production Manager at American Conservatory Theater; Production Manager/Resident Designer at San Diego Rep; and Production Manager/Resident Designer at Magic Theatre. Jeff co-founded Foghouse Productions which produced *R. Buckminster Fuller: The History (and Mystery) of the Universe* in San Francisco, Chicago, and Seattle. Recent designs include set & lights for Viola Davis' West Coast premiere of *Paradise*; lights for Marin Theatre Co's *Jazz*; lights for Berkeley Playhouse's *Pippin*; lights for Aurora Theatre Co's *Detroit '67*; and sets & lights for Mendocino Theatre Co's *A Doll's House Part 2* and *Ideation*.

**Karen Runk (Stage Manager)** moved to SF with the intention of only staying for a few months... over two decades later, she's still here! This is largely due to the talented folks at the SF Mime Troupe, where Runk is the resident Production Stage Manager, and thanks to Golden Thread Productions where she is a Resident Artist as of 2018, but mostly due to rent control! Runk has also stage managed with Golden Thread Productions, Magic Theatre, SFShakes, Intersection for the Arts, and African American Shakespeare Company.

**Krys Swan (Assistant Stage Manager)** is a Bay Area native and a graduate of San Francisco State University, with a BA in Technical Theater. Swan is a lighting electrician for American Conservatory Theater, Marin Theater Company, and Snuin Ballet. Recent credits include *Groundhog Day* with SF Playhouse and *A Christmas Carol* with Center Repertory Theater. Up next: *Princess Ida* with Lamplighters Music Theatre.



**Karina Gutiérrez (Dramaturgy)** is a Bay Area actor, director, and dramaturg. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of Theater and Performance Studies at Stanford University. Her most recent credits include: *Men of Rabinal: A Mayan War Dance* (El Teatro Campesino), *El Gato Ensombrerado* (BACT), and *The Panza Monologues* (Stanford University). She is thrilled to be working with Word for Word and the incredible words of Octavio Solis.

**Brittany Mellerson** (Master Electrician/Board Op) holds a BFA in Theatrical Lighting & Sound Design. She is the resident lighting designer for Lamplighters Music Theatre. Recent credits include lighting design for the revival of Roger Grunwald's *The Obligation*, the 2018 - 2020 PlayGround Festival of New Works, *A Little Night Music* and *Pirates of Penzance* with Lamplighters, *Graveyard Shift* with SF Playhouse Sandbox Series, and the 44th - 47th Annual Telluride Film Festival. Up Next: *Sugar In Our Wounds* at NCTC and *EVERYBODY* with Stanford Educational Theater Department.



## DESIGNERS

**Nina Ball** (Set Design) is an award winning scenic designer whose work can be seen throughout the Bay Area and beyond. She regularly works with Oregon Shakespeare Festival, American Conservatory Theater, California Shakespeare Theater, Shotgun Players, San Francisco Playhouse, Center REPeritory Company, among many others. She is a company member of both Shotgun Players and TheatreFirst and a lecturer at UC Berkeley. She also works as a production designer in film and television. Upcoming : *Confederates* at OSF, *Henry V* at Shotgun, and *The Clean House* at SF Playhouse. [ninaball.com](http://ninaball.com)

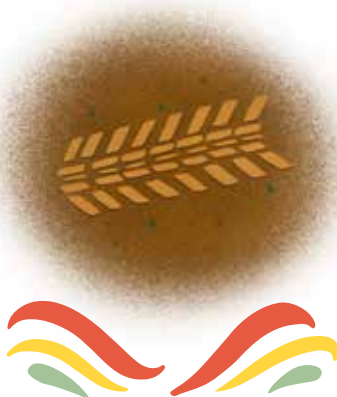
**Callie Floor** (Costume Design) local credits: A.C.T., Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Marin Theatre Company, San Francisco Mime Troupe, West Bay Opera, Zaccho Dance Theatre, and San Francisco Opera Merola Program. BFA: University of Utah. Higher Diploma: Slade School

of Fine Art, University College, London. She is the Costume Rentals Supervisor for A.C.T. and resident designer for *California Revels*. She happily returns to Word for Word, having previously designed *Stories by Emma Donoghue and Colm Toibín* and *Anniversary!*

**David R. Molina** (Original Music and Sound Design) is a composer, multi-instrumentalist, sound artist, music producer, and instrument inventor. He has created music for all the performing arts, multimedia installations, film, and radio, nationally and internationally, for the past 24 years. He's won many awards and residencies. His instruments and collaborations were featured at SFMOMA, The Broad Museum (L.A.), Oakland Museum of California, McLoughlin Gallery, and SOMArts. Band collaborations: TAU (Berlin), Emanative (UK), El Paso (Peru). His bands are: Impuritan, Ghosts and Strings, and Transient. [www.drmsound.com](http://www.drmsound.com).

**Carolina Morones** (Cultural Consultant, Choreographer) is a theatre artist focused on telling stories that empower through poetry and movement. She returns to the Bay after seven seasons in residence at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Most recently, she performed as Sonia Sotomayor in *She Persisted, the Musical* at Bay Area Children's Theatre and Beatrice in Shakespeare In Detroit's *Much Ado Para Nada*. Her favorite collaborative project was the creation of *Ritualistas: Nina Composed*, exploring the African diaspora in the Americas through music, dance, and spoken word.

**Vola Ruben (Scenic & Properties Artist)** has worked in the theater and arts scene in the San Francisco Bay area since the 1980s in performance art, experimental, political, gay, and Children's theater, along with circus and independent film as a Set Designer, Property, and Scenic Artist. As a member of the Scenic Artist Union she has worked with the SF Opera, Ballet, A.C.T., and on local Film, TV productions, Commercials, and Industrials. This is her fifth production with Word for Word.



# ABOUT WORD FOR WORD

The mission of Word for Word is to tell great stories with elegant theatricality, taking works of fiction from the page to the stage. We believe in the power of the short story to provide solace, compassion, and insight into our daily lives.

## WORD FOR WORD CHARTER MEMBERS

Sheila Balter  
Jeri Lynn Cohen  
Susan Harloe,  
Founding Artistic Director  
Stephanie Hunt  
Amy Kossow,  
Literary Manager  
Delia MacDougall  
Wendy Radford  
Nancy Shelby  
Patricia Silver  
JoAnne Winter,  
Founding Artistic Director  
Joan Walton, Emeritus

## AUTHORS COUNCIL

The following writers have had their work performed by Word for Word and lend their names in support of the work of our company.

### Greg Sarris, Honorary President

Julia Alvarez	Daniel Handler
T.C. Boyle	Edward P. Jones
Sandra Cisneros	Barbara Kingsolver
Siobhan Fallon	Armistead Maupin
Paul Fleischman	George Saunders
Richard Ford	Octavio Solis
Ellen Gilchrist	Amy Tan
Joanne Greenberg	Tobias Wolff
Andrew Sean Greer	

## FRIENDS OF WORD FOR WORD:

Want to get a little peek behind the scenes and help Word for Word at the same time? Join our Friends of Word for Word group! Contact JoAnne at [jwinter@zspace.org](mailto:jwinter@zspace.org). Friends are: Barbara Anderson, Connie Bernstein, Luise Custer, Debra Dout, Carol Fleming, Amy Hosa, and Sam Orr.

## ASSOCIATE ARTISTS GROUP

Word for Word's Associate Artists Group is a group of talented young theater professionals who are bringing Word for Word to a new generation of audiences. They include:

Molly Benson, Andrea Day, Rosie Hallett, Gendell Hing-Hernández, Lisa Hori-Garcia, Annette Koehn, Jill MacLean, Andrew Packard, Ryan Tasker, and Becca Wolff.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Ray Oppenheimer, Lyle Barrere and John Di Giorgio from Desired Effect; Adam Pugielli from Rooster Productions; Nancy Shelby; Sue Saperstein; A.C.T. Costume Rentals; Kitt Shute; Amy Hosa; Murrey Nelson; Cole Ferraiuolo & Brooke Jennings; Alberto Figueroa; Lesbhia Morones; Danny Osburn, Marin Theatre Company; Robert Berg. Thanks to all the actors who were in the first Off the Page Retablos readings, including Carlos Aguirre, Lauren Fernandez, Tessa Koning-Martinez, Anna Maria Luera, Robert Parsons, Homero Rosas, Michael Torres.

A very big thanks to Sonia Fernandez, Tina Pastelero, City Lights Books, Greg Sarris, Jack Boulware & Litquake.

**And a particular  
thanks to Octavio Solis!!**



**WORD FOR WORD  
IS TAKING  
RETABLOS  
TO FRANCE!**

Please check [zspace.org](http://zspace.org) to see where we will be performing between March 22 and April 12, 2020!

**Wish List:** Housing for visiting artists, airline miles, laptops or desktops, 2015 or later



# ABOUT Z SPACE



**Z Space** empowers artistic risk, collaboration, and camaraderie amongst artists, audience, and staff in the service of creating, developing, and presenting new work. Operating out of an old can factory in the Mission District of San Francisco, Z Space now activates two performance spaces, an 85-seat black box and a 244-seat main stage, with a warehouse aesthetic and an adventurous edge. Eschewing traditional theater models with fixed seasons and a singular artistic vision, Z Space thrives to embrace a multitude of artistic voices through a variety of programs and partnerships.

## Z SPACE STAFF

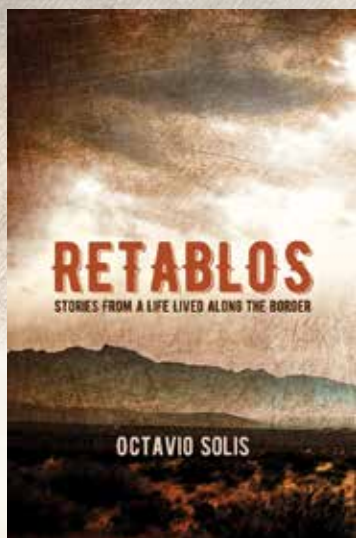
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Lisa Steindler, Executive Artistic Director  
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JoAnne Winter, Artistic Director, Word for Word and Youth Arts

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**Interested in being a board member or volunteering? Contact Abigail Pañares at [apañares@zspace.org](mailto:apañares@zspace.org). For more information visit: [zspace.org](http://zspace.org)**

## NOW THAT YOU'VE SEEN THE SHOW, IT'S TIME TO READ THE BOOK!



### Retablos

*Stories from a Life Lived Along the Border*

By Octavio Solis

Seminal moments, rites of passage, crystalline vignettes—a memoir about growing up brown at the U.S./Mexico border.

"The experience of reading his tightly contained memories in succession is a bit like drawing old coins up from a wishing well." —*San Francisco Chronicle*

"The book is to the Texas borderland of El Paso what *Dubliners* is to James Joyce's Ireland patria. It's a place where the Border Patrol, *la migra*, slow-drives by each day in green and white cruisers, peering at the skinny boys through aviator sunglasses, unconcerned that Octavio and his friends are, in fact, citizens." —Todd London, playwright

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# THANK YOU!

## from Z SPACE

We are indebted to all Z Space and Word for Word donors who have made gifts of any size over the years. Thanks to your generosity, Z Space continues to work towards our mission of empowering artistic risk, collaboration, and camaraderie amongst artists, audience, and staff in the service of creating, developing, and presenting new work. We are honored to list the donors below who have contributed \$100 or more to Z Space and Word for Word, from **January 1, 2019 through January 10, 2020**.

A SPECIAL THANKS to those who have directly supported this production of *Retablos: Stories From a Life Lived Along the Border*. Their generosity brought this show to life. Look for a ♥ symbol next to their name.

### PRODUCER \$10,000+

Anonymous ♥  
Constance Bernstein ♥  
Linda Brewer\* ♥  
Peter Gochis (in memory of Sally Dalton) ♥  
Shea Loewen Lazarow & Alex Lazarow

### ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

**\$5,000+**  
Amie Chen  
Bruce Colman ♥  
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Greg Sarris  
Lisa Steindler & Lou Helmuth  
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### GAME CHANGER \$2,500+

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Tamara R. White Charitable Fund  
WSG Inc. (in honor of Paul Finocchiaro)

### PARTNER \$1,000+

Anonymous  
Alex Ryan Randall  
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Gretchen Brosius  
Mariangela Causa-Steindler  
Ann Cousineau  
Tina A. Cervin (in honor of Paul Finocchiaro)  
Bradford Crowell & Gary Koehler  
Debra Dout & David Burns\*  
Ian Elfenbaum & Susan Adler (In honor & memory of Linda Whitney)  
John & Paula Foley  
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Michael Hoch & Katharine Daugherty  
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### COLLABORATOR \$500+

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Ruth Cox  
Mary Durbin  
Adrian Elfenbaum & JoAnne Winter  
Mary C. Fitzpatrick  
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