

Edited by Bárbara Mujica

# Staging and Stage Décor

*Early Modern Spanish Theater*

SERIES IN PERFORMING ARTS

## About the editor

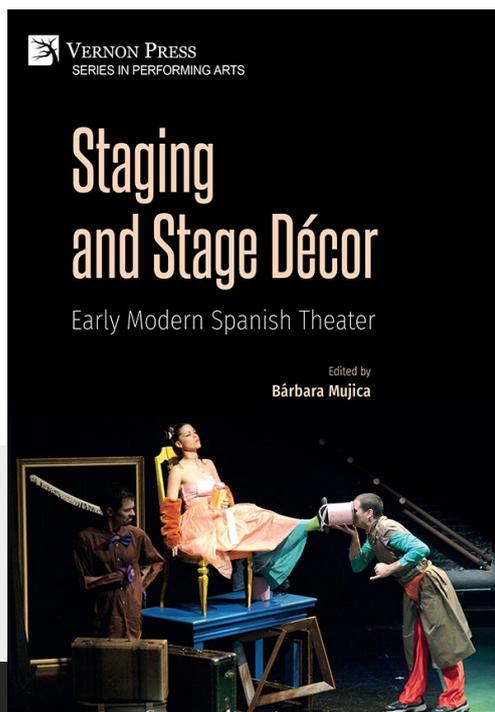
**Dr. Bárbara Mujica** is a specialist in early modern Spain and a professor emerita at Georgetown University, where she was the director of El Retablo, a Spanish-language theater group. Her directing credits include plays by Calderón, Cervantes, Lope de Rueda, and Moratín, as well as contemporary Spanish and Latin American dramatists. She is President Emerita of the Association for Hispanic Classical Theater (AHCT) and founding editor-in-chief of 'Comedia Performance', a journal devoted to early modern Spanish theater. She is a literary consultant and a member of the board of GALA Hispanic Theater and was a Helen Hayes judge from 2003 to 2006. Mujica has written extensively on Spanish theater. Her latest books on the subject are 'A New Anthology of Early Modern Spanish Theater: Play and Playtext' (ed. Yale 2014) and 'Shakespeare and the Spanish Comedia' (ed. Bucknell 2013). Her other recent scholarly books are 'Women Religious and Epistolary Writing in the Carmelite Reform: The Disciples of Teresa de Ávila' (Amsterdam 2020), 'Teresa de Avila: Lettered Woman' (Vanderbilt 2009), 'Teresa de Jesús: Espiritualidad y feminismo' (Orto 2006), and 'Women Writers of Early Modern Spain: Sophia's Daughters' (Yale 2004).

Mujica is also a novelist, essayist, and short story writer. Her novels include 'Frida', an international bestseller; 'Sister Teresa,' which was adapted for the stage at the Actor's Studio, in Los Angeles; 'I Am Venus', a winner in 2012 of the Maryland Writers' Association national fiction competition and a quarter-finalist in the ScreenCraft 2020 Cinematic Novel competition; and 'Miss del Río', scheduled for publication by HarperCollins in 2022. Her short story collections are 'Sanchez across the Street,' 'Far from my Mother's Home', and 'Imagining Iraq'. Two of her stories have been adapted for the stage. In 2022

she was named an Abby Freeman Writer-in-Residence at The Braid Theater in Los Angeles. Her writing awards include the E.L. Doctorow International Fiction Award, the Pangolin Prize, the Theodore Christian Hoepfner Award, the Trailblazer's Award from Dialogue on Diversity, and the Maryland Writers' Association Short Fiction award.

## Summary

This is the first book on staging and stage décor to focus specifically on early modern Spanish theater, from the 16th to the early 20th centuries. The introduction provides an overview of Spanish theater design from the 16th century, with particular attention to the corral theater and Lope de Vega. The scope of the book is vast. Some of the articles deal with early modern stagings, while others deal with contemporary productions. The collection contains articles by an international array of specialists on topics such as scenography and costuming, lighting, and performance space. It also broaches little-studied areas such as the use of alternative performance spaces, most notably prisons. The book provides in-depth analyses of particular archetypes - the melancholiac, the queen, the astrologer - and how they were, and are, staged. The focus on performance and performance space, costuming, set design, lighting, and audience seating make this a truly unique volume. This book is designed for students of Spanish literature and theater, researchers interested in theater history and early modern Spain, as well as theater professionals.



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## Staging and Stage Décor

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