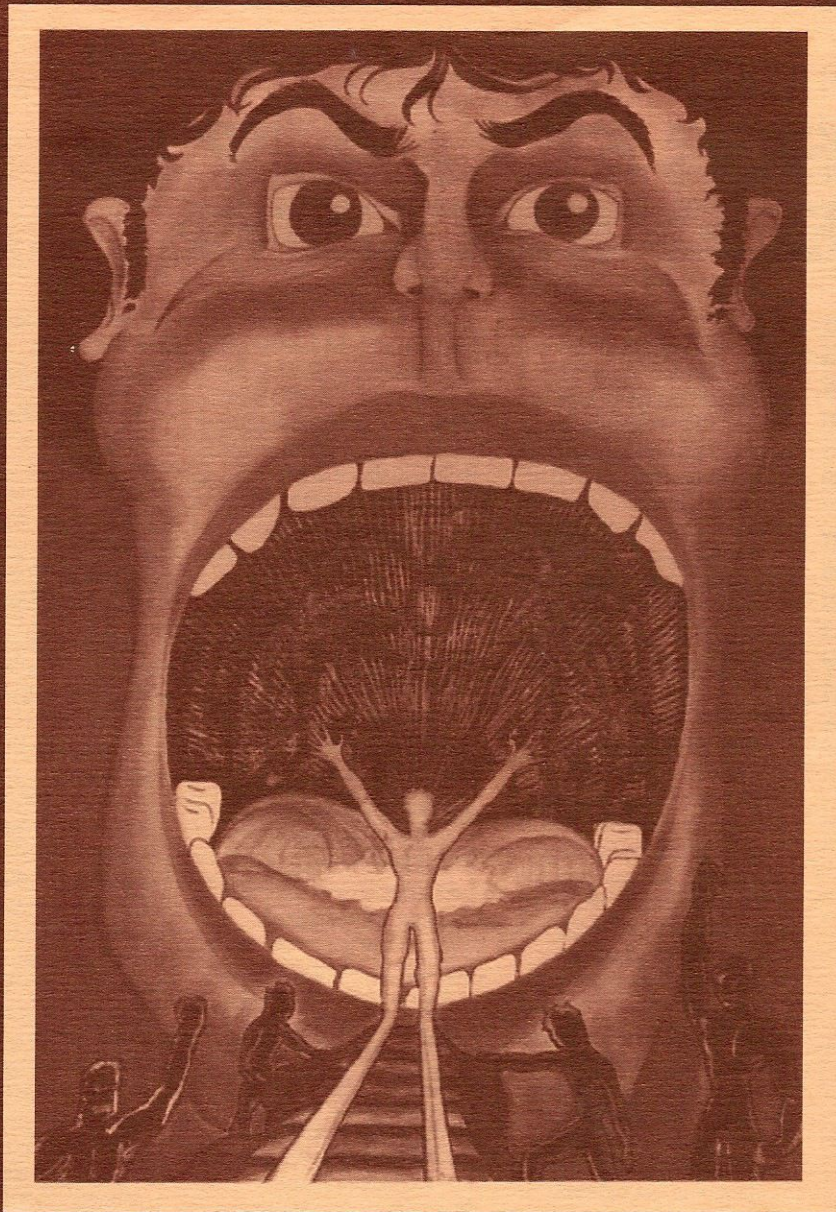




iB O C O N!

By Lisa Loomer

Center Theatre Group/Mark Taper Forum

PA
Performing for
Los Angeles
Youth

The Mark Taper Forum P.L.A.Y. production of



by **Lisa Loomer**

Directed by **Timothy Douglas**

Set Design by **Rachel Hauck**

Costume Design by **Candice Cain**

Lighting Design by **Geoff Korf**

Choreography by **Carol Guidry**

Music Composition and Sound Design by **Ed Barguiarena**

Mask Design by **Wolfe Bowart**

Prop Design by **Chuck Olsen**

Casting by **Stanley Soble, CSA**

Production Stage Manager - **David S. Franklin**

Stage Manager - **Bess Marie Glorioso**

CAST

(in alphabetical order)

**Joe Camareno, Michelle Lopez, Armando Molina,
Angela Moya, Maricela Ochoa, Kevin Sifuentes
and Ed Barguiarena, Musician**

Coordinating Producer - **Dolores Chávez**

Production Director - **Christopher Lore**

Technical Director - **Steve Dirolf**

Assistant Director - **Corky Dominguez**

Production Assistant - **Frank Martinez**

Master Electrician - **Cynthia L. Wimmer**

Sound Engineer - **Michael Friedman**

Transportation Coordinator - **Keith A. Berkes**

Tour Coordinator - **Charlene Koutchak**

Artistic Staff Advisor - **Corey Madden**

Teacher In-Service/Workshop Leaders - **Wolfe Bowart, Corky Dominguez
and Raquel Salinas**

All P.L.A.Y. performances are made possible in part by Center Stage (formerly Center Theatre Group Volunteers); the National Endowment for the Arts; California Arts Council; Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles Music & Performing Arts Commission; City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department; the Herb Alpert Foundation; The William Randolph Hearst Foundation; Macy's; Union Bank Foundation; Weingart Foundation; and the Music Center Unified Fund.

Actors performing in *¡Bocón!* are members of Actors' Equity Association, the only union for professional actors in the legitimate theatre in the USA.

¡Bocón! was originally commissioned by the Mark Taper Forum's Improvisational Theatre Project in 1989.

There will be no intermission.

Message From the Director

¡Bocón! tells the tale of ten-year-old Miguel who has a joyous and irrepressible nature - a real bocón (big mouth). He is from a small village filled with "fields of coffee beans and a river that swells like a fat green whale." Secure in the love of his parents, we find him on the brink of discovering his own self-expression and power. Before he can exercise his new found voice, he is terrorized by the soldiers who have taken over his village and the mysterious disappearance of his parents. These incidents cause him to literally lose his voice! At this point, Miguel's real journey begins.

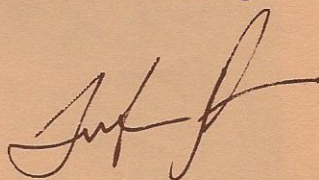
Within our own lives the loss of one's true voice occurs when we lose faith in our uniqueness and our ability to make a difference in the world. As we journey along with *¡Bocón!*, we come to understand Miguel's fears and frustrations. How will he find his voice? How will he find his way? From where will he discover his power? And who will guide him on his new path as he strives to reclaim his once vital, courageous and revealing voice: el bocón?

The world created on the stage teaches us that through the power of self-determination and faith in believing, we too can awaken our own resounding voices.

The message of empowerment is one that is vital for the survival of our young people, and far too rare a gift given these days. P.L.A.Y. remains committed to offering the model of artistic expression as one prime and potent example of the chosen roads to freedom.

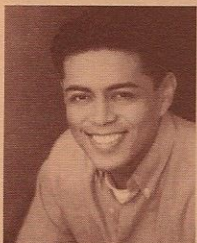
I am humbled by the legacy of the Mark Taper Forum's Performing for Los Angeles Youth and grateful to be a part of this, its 25th anniversary. We proudly offer you this fine company of theatre professionals who lovingly and passionately take you on today's bountiful journey.

Peace & blessings,



Timothy Douglas





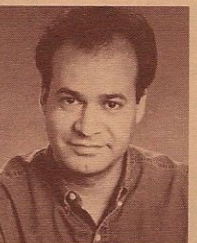
JOE CAMARENO is proud to have *¡Bocón!* mark his debut with CTG. He trained in New York City and is a graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. Joe's roles in regional theatre include

Anselmo in *Man of La Mancha*, Magaldi in *Evita*, Danny in *Grease*, Joe in *Golden Boy* and the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*. Television and film credits include *Breach of Conduct*, *Love in the Ruins*, *K.I.D.S.* and recently *General Hospital*. He is grateful to Ms. Loomer for creating positive Latino characters and thankful to the folks at CTG for enabling them to come to life.



MICHELLE LOPEZ is a graduate of the University of Southern California B.F.A. program. While there some of her credits include *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Cabaret*, *Major Barbara* and *The Hot l Baltimore*. Other credits include Maria in

Twelfth Night at the Ojai Shakespeare Festival and Cortez in the ACT production of *Hospitality*. She received both the Jack Nicholson Award for Acting and the James and Nony Doolittle Award for Acting. She wishes to thank the cast, director and the production staff of *¡Bocón!* for such a fantastic time.



ARMANDO MOLINA co-founded *Latins Anonymous*, the critically-acclaimed Latino Comedy Group. Their first play, self-titled *Latins Anonymous*, had an original four week run and was held over for six months at the Los Angeles

Theatre Center, followed with runs at the San Diego Repertory Theatre, South Coast Repertory and Sacramento Theatre Company. The second

show, *The La La Awards*, premiered at the Japan American Theatre, later produced at the San Diego Repertory. Arte Publico Press has recently published *Latins Anonymous* and *The La La Awards*. He also co-founded *The Platform*, a political cabaret, with Binnur Karaevli and Lisa Loomer. Currently he is an ensemble member of Cornerstone Theater Company. His film and television credits include *Soap Dish*, *NYPD Blue*, *Melrose Place* and *Mad About You*.



ANGELA MOYA began her professional career at the Taper with *Zoot Suit*.

Selected stage work includes *Hijos* at the Jorge Negrete Theatre; *Corridos* at the Old Globe, Marines Memorial, *The Young Lady* for Tacna; *Blood Wedding* for Bilingual

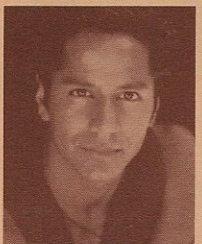
Foundation of the Arts; *Roosters*, *Stone Wedding*, *August 29th*, *Luminarias* at Los Angeles Theatre Center; *La Victima*, *How Else Am I Supposed to Know, I'm Still Alive?*, *Premeditation* at Plaza de la Raza; *La Pastorella*, *Bandido!* for El Teatro Campesino. Angela performs in film and television. She is a founding member of the Latino Theatre Company and an advocate for Latina health issues. Protect Our Children.



MARICELA OCHOA is proud to be a part of *¡Bocón!* for the Mark Taper Forum.

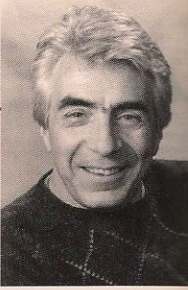
She is a founding member of Teatro Vista in Chicago. Her Chicago theatre credits include work with Teatro Vista, The Goodman Theatre, Victory Gardens Theatre,

Latino Chicago Theatre and Court Theatre. New York credits include work at the New York Shakespeare Company and Strand Street Theatre. Film and television credits include work on ABC, CBS and NBC.



KEVIN SIFUENTES' stage work includes *The Yellow Boat* (Mark Taper Forum), *The Grapevine* (Los Angeles Theatre Center), *Burning Patience* (San Jose Repertory Company) and *So It's All Rashomon* (Living Edge Theatre Company), which he

also co-produced. His film credits include *Independence Day*, *The Driftwoods*, *Street Corner Justus*, *Hearts of Stone* and PBS's American Playhouse Production of *...and the earth did not swallow him*. He can also be seen in next fall's feature *Steel*. His television credits include *Rockford Files*, *Guns Smoke - The Last*



Haven't I seen you somewhere before?

Maybe it was last week at *Valley Song* or *Show Boat*, perhaps it was more than a few weeks ago, in fact it could have been a decade ago at *Nicholas Nickleby* or *Burn This* – or three decades ago at *The Devils* or *More Stately Mansions*. Whether it was in 1967, 1997 or sometime in between, it's good to have you here this week to celebrate CTG's 30 years at the Music Center.

It is said that to properly welcome an honored guest, a good host must offer refreshing respite, nourishment, beautiful gifts and splendid entertainment. This week we offer you, our honored guests (artists, administrators, patrons, funders, donors and colleagues who comprise the CTG family), all these things as we celebrate and thank the poets and performers who grace our stages nightly.

After experiencing *Behind the Broken Words*, with Roscoe Lee Browne and Anthony Zerbe performing 20th century poetry and drama, you will feel refreshed, seeing the world anew from the clear perspective of some of our greatest poets and playwrights. It's an honoring of the written and spoken word that is close to my heart, performed by two men who have given remarkable performances for Center Theatre Group, and who I brought together in 1969 to create this durable and rewarding evening. Roscoe appeared in the Taper's *The Dream on Monkey Mountain* and *Two Trains Running* at the Doolittle, Anthony in *The Trial of the Catonsville Nine* and as Iago in *Othello* at the Taper.

To nourish your soul and exercise your mind, you may join three of the most articulate artists of our day, Athol Fugard, Tony Kushner and Anna Deavere Smith, for a once-in-a-lifetime conversation about art, metaphor and culture. Drink in the thoughts and observations of the writers who brought us *Valley Song*, *Angels in America* and *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992* and who look to the future with zest and insight and the gift of their imaginations.

Our gift to you is Lisa Loomer's *¡Bocón!*, (literally a gift, the show is free of charge) produced by CTG's P.L.A.Y. (Performing for Los Angeles Youth). Bring your children or grandchildren to see this story of a loud-mouthed boy from Central America who loses his voice in fright when a powerful regime "disappears" his parents. As he makes his way to a new life in the United States, he travels through many adventures, testing his bravery and strengthening his courage. Young people in our theatre is a priority for us and this week we are also bringing in more than 3,000 teens to see performances of *Valley Song* through our Young Audiences Program. Their response to the unsinkable Veronica's exhortation "Wake up and dream properly!" will surely crackle through the Taper.

And finally, we promise to entertain you purely and thoroughly with *The Best of All Possible Worlds*. It's an evening of comedy and song performed by many of your favorite performers who have appeared at the Ahmanson and the Taper. They're among my favorites too, and I couldn't be prouder to present this splendid entertainment to you, our honored guests, as a finale to this celebratory week.

This week represents a taste of what Center Theatre Group has to offer to the community, a recognition of what theatre can be as part of the fabric of Los Angeles, and beyond. We all crave the illumination a gifted writer can bring, and revere the beauty of "the word" both written and performed. We welcome you to these events that we hope express our passionate commitment to the most current ideas and extraordinary entertainment. Celebrate with us the light that theatre brings to us all and the promise we dream of for the future.

Celebrate 1967 - 1997!

30th