



HUNTINGTON THEATRE COMPANY  
IN RESIDENCE AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Nicholas Martin  
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## NEWS RELEASE

March 2, 2005

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### THE HUNTINGTON PRESENTS *CULTURE CLASH IN AMERICCA* *"The Marx Brothers meet the Rolling Stones!" – American Theatre magazine*

**WHAT:** Huntington Theatre Company presents the Boston debut of "Culture Clash in AmeriCCa"

**WHEN:** Fri., March 18 to Sun., May 8, 2005

**Previews:** March 18, 19, 22 at 7:30 p.m.; March 20 at 7 p.m.

**Evenings:** Tuesdays - Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. (except March 22)  
Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m.  
Sundays, 7 p.m. (except April 3 and 10)

**Matinees:** Saturdays and Sundays, 2 p.m.  
Wednesdays, 2 p.m. (March 23 and 30 only)

**Press Opening:** Wednesday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Virginia Wimberly Theatre, Stanford Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont Street, Boston

**TICKETS:** \$14-\$50. \$5 seniors and students discount; \$14 student rush, two hours before curtain

**Phone:** Huntington Box Office: 617-266-0800

**Online:** [www.huntingtontheatre.org](http://www.huntingtontheatre.org) or [www.BostonTheatreScene.com](http://www.BostonTheatreScene.com)

**In Person:** Calderwood Pavilion Box Office, 527 Tremont Street, Boston or  
B.U. Theatre Box Office, 264 Huntington Avenue, Boston

(BOSTON) – A twenty-year road trip through the American psyche hurtles into Boston for an eight-week stay as the Huntington Theatre Company presents the Boston premiere of *Culture Clash in AmeriCCa*, by the Los Angeles-based Latino/Chicano trio Culture Clash celebrating two decades of outrageous original comedy with a social conscience.

Running March 18-May 8, 2005 at the Stanford Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, Culture Clash's "humorous, cutting and touching" (*The New York Times*) show features

new, Huntington-commissioned material that focuses on the Boston area, its idiosyncrasies and its distinctive residents.

“There is nothing else in the world like Culture Clash,” says Huntington Artistic Director Nicholas Martin, “and after they hit Boston, the city will never see itself the same way again.”

*Culture Clash in AmeriCCa* is an ever-changing production that gains depth and power as it tours the country in celebration of its writer-performers’ two decades together. Members Richard Montoya, Ric Salinas and Herbert Siguenza have been developing the show for several years, incorporating material drawn from in-depth interviews with people from every region of the country. The result is a continually fresh examination of American consciousness in flux, split and stunned by war and terrorism, alternately shocked and bored by sex and sexuality, and equally proud of and perturbed by the country’s reputation as a great melting pot.

The revolving characters and scenes in *Culture Clash in AmeriCCa* represent the diverse population of the country it skewers and celebrates. Recent performances have included scenes of ghettoized immigrants in San Diego, a Muslim taxi driver in Washington, D.C., a bitter but clear-eyed Vietnam veteran who shuns American life for a Mexican border town, a young Asian man who embraces the gang-thug life, a transgender sex educator, and two white lesbians experiencing isolation among their new suburban neighbors.

For the new Boston segments, Salinas, Siguenza, and Montoya visited the city several times over the past year and talked to a variety of citizens including fervent members of “Red Sox Nation” in Fenway Park, the late columnist David Nyhan, a member of splinter Catholic group Voices of the Faithful, a former Boston police officer, Brahmin socialites, and more. High-profile Boston subjects like the broken Red Sox curse, the city’s race relations, Beacon Hill Garden tours, the priest sex abuse scandal, gay marriage, and the Logan airport origination of the 9/11 flights are among those being considered for presentation in the local run.

“This is what we do all across the country,” says Clash-er Richard Montoya, “transcending the early ideas of what ‘Chicano theatre’ was to be. We venture outside our own barrio and into yours, to peel back the layers of what makes Boston tick and talk.”

## **HISTORY OF CULTURE CLASH**

Formed in 1984, Culture Clash fills a unique role in American theatre. Hailed as “the Marx Brothers meet the Rolling Stones,” by American Theatre magazine, these acclaimed social anthropologists have dug deep into American culture, creating memorable new plays and characters. Since the group’s genesis in San Francisco’s Mission District, these sociopolitical satirists have written more than a dozen plays.

Culture Clash’s work has ranged from sketch comedy to an adaptation of Aristophanes, to a reworking of the late Frank Loesser’s long-lost musical, *Señor Discretion, Himself*, which had its world premiere in 2004 at the Arena Stage in Washington D.C. During the past several years, Culture Clash has focused on site-specific theatre, weaving into an ongoing dramatic tapestry personal narratives culled from interviews with homegrown residents. Theatre companies in Miami, Washington D.C., New York, San Diego, and San Francisco have commissioned performance pieces specifically for those cities.

Culture Clash has performed Off Broadway, at Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, dozens of repertory theatres throughout the country, and at numerous universities and colleges. They performed the Mark Taper Forum-commissioned play *Chavez Ravine* at the HBO Comedy Festival in Aspen. Culture Clash made television history by writing, starring, and producing the first-ever Latino comedy-sketch television show for FOX in the mid-1990s. Their teleplay, “A Bowl of Beings” was part of the “Great Performances” series on PBS.

"Culture Clash in AmeriCCa" recently was filmed and directed by Emilio Estevez, and will have a theatrical run this summer.

### **TICKETS**

Tickets for *Culture Clash* are on sale now. Prices range from \$14-\$50. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 617-266-0800, log on to [www.huntingtontheatre.org](http://www.huntingtontheatre.org) or [www.BostonTheatreScene.com](http://www.BostonTheatreScene.com), or visit the Calderwood Pavilion Box Office at 527 Tremont Street in Boston, or the B.U. Theatre Box Office at 264 Huntington Avenue in Boston.

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## PRODUCTION AT A GLANCE

### ***Culture Clash in AmeriCCa***

Created, written and performed by Culture Clash:  
Richard Montoya, Ric Salinas and Herbert Siguenza

<b>DATES</b>	Friday, March 18 through Sunday, May 8, 2005 <b>Press Opening:</b> Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 p.m.
<b>PERFORMANCE TIMES</b>	<b>Previews:</b> Friday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 20 at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m.  <b>Evenings:</b> Tuesdays - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. (except March 29) Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Sundays at 7 p.m. (except April 10, 17 and May 1, 8)  <b>Matinees:</b> Weds. at 2 p.m. (March 30, April 6 and May 4 only) Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m.
<b>TICKETS</b>	<b>Phone:</b> Huntington Box Office: 617-266-0800 <b>Online:</b> <a href="http://www.huntingtontheatre.org">www.huntingtontheatre.org</a> or <a href="http://www.BostonTheatreScene.com">www.BostonTheatreScene.com</a> <b>In Person:</b> Calderwood Pavilion Box Office, 527 Tremont Street, Boston or B.U. Theatre Box Office, 264 Huntington Avenue, Boston
<b>TICKET PRICES</b>	\$14 - \$50. \$5 senior and student discount; \$14 student rush, with ID, two hours before curtain
<b>GROUP SALES</b>	For groups of 10 or more, call 617-266-0800.

## RELATED EVENTS

<b>SNEAK PREVIEW</b>	See a presentation by a member of the Huntington's artistic staff, featuring contextual background and production-related information. <b>Tues., March 22, 6:30-7 p.m.</b>
<b>CLUB NIGHTS</b>	Designed for theatregoers 35 and under and for members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities, club nights provide an opportunity to mingle with fellow theatregoers and participating members of the artistic team and cast at a pre- or post-show reception (free with the purchase of tickets).  <b>NIGHT CLUB</b> for theatregoers 35 and under <b>Thurs., March 31</b> After 7:30pm performance  <b>OUT &amp; ABOUT CLUB</b> for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities <b>Weds., April 6</b> Pre-show reception at 6 p.m.; 7:30 p.m. performance

**ACTORS FORUMS**

Participating members of Culture Clash will appear after the show to answer questions from the audience. **Thurs., April 7** after the 7:30 p.m. performance and **Wednesday, May 4** after the 2 p.m. performance.

**HUMANITIES FORUM**

Humanities Forum includes a discussion of the show and its related issues, hosted by a member of the Huntington artistic staff. Forum is free and open to the public. **Sun., April 10**, following the 2 p.m. matinee.

**MASTER CLASS**

Learn more about theatre – what’s onstage and what’s happening behind the scenes – with this exciting interactive program. **6-7 p.m., Tues., April 19.**