

## A Chicanita has it out with the Virgen de Guadalupe

A solo play written and performed by Natalie Marlena Goodnow

Southwestern University Tuesday, April 3, 2012, 5:30PM Sarofim School of Fine Arts Building, Heather Hall Q & A follows the performance

This piece is a solo play unraveling the culturally complicated truths, lies and mythologies of women's spirituality and sexuality in contexts of violence and betrayal. Directed by Dino Foxx and kt shorb.

This performance is sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, the Feminist Studies Program, the Theatre Department, Kappa Delta Chi sorority, and Latinos Unidos.

Natalie Marlena Goodnow is a nationally recognized teatrista, teaching artist, and cultural activist from Austin, Texas. She performs, directs, and writes; she's been practicing some combination of those forms for seventeen years, and began teaching through and about them 8 years ago. She specializes in the creation of original works for the stage, as a solo performer and in collaboration with other performers and playwrights, both youth and adults.

Mud Offerings is the 2011 winner of the Jane Chambers Playwriting Award, which recognizes excellence in feminist plays and performance texts nation-wide, and has been presented at conferences, festivals, and venues such as the National Museum of Women in the Arts (Washington, DC), the Women at Work Festival, Stage Left Studio (New York, NY), and El Mundo Zurdo: An International Conference on Anzaldúan Thought (San Antonio, TX).

Natalie ('07) studied Theatre, Spanish, and Feminist Studies at Southwestern University.

La Virgen de Guadalupe, also known as Our Lady of Guadalupe, is revered as the Mother of Mexico, and embodies both the Nahua Tonantzin and the Catholic Virgin Mary. She appeared on a winter morning in 1531 (just 12 years after Cortés had arrived to Mexico's shores) to a young indigenous man, Juan Diego, on the hill of Tepeyac – just outside Mexico City. Upon seeing her, Juan Diego went to the local archbishop, Fray Juan de Zumárraga, who demanded proof of her presence. Juan Diego returned with a cloak full of flowers. When he released the edges of the cloak, the flowers fell to the ground and revealed an image of the Virgen imprinted on the fabric, proof that she had appeared. On that hill, a chapel was built in her honor.

La Malinche is the historic Malintzin Tenepal – a Nahua woman who acted as Hernan Cortés' interpreter. She is considered the mother of the first mestizo (she bore a child by Cortés) and has been portrayed as traitor and savior, prostitute and desolate victim. La Malinche has been featured in numerous narratives (poems, fictions, plays, films). The artist activist Cherríe Moraga was among Chicana authors who were critical in reinterpreting La Malinche and reclaiming her as the mother of new and unimagined histories.