

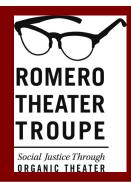
#### UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

IN COLLABORATION WITH

CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES **PRESENTS** 



# **GUEST ARTIST:** James Walsh Romero Theater Troupe



James Walsh teaches Political Science at the University of Colorado Denver, where he has specializing in social community organizing, and labor and working ago, Walsh began using

taught for seventeen years, movements, immigration, class politics. Fifteen years theater in his classrooms, challenging his students to bring important historical and social struggles to life through drama. This led to the transformation of his teaching philosophy and approach and to the creation of the Romero Theater Troupe, an all-volunteer organic community theater named after martyred Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero. The Romero Troupe uncovers and preserves stories about human rights and social

justice struggles.

FRIDAY, March 20th: PEDAGOGY WORKSHOP

4-6pm Charity Randall Theatre (inside the Stephen Foster Memorial) Graduate students, faculty, and K-12 Educators

This workshop will walk participants through the process of using organic theater in the classroom as a means of challenging traditional pedagogy, engaging with marginalized or apathetic students, and building a student-centered community in our classrooms. No background in theater is required (or even preferred), just a desire to shake up the systems and paradigms that dominate mainstream education. This workshop will offer easy to follow steps to use to integrate organic theater into the classroom and to possibly even launch a social justice-based organic theater troupe in your own community.

#### SATURDAY, March 21st: PUBLIC WORKSHOP

1-3pm Posvar Hall, Rm 1700 (1st room on the right, Schenley Drive entrance) Undergraduate students and community participants

This workshop will use examples of organic theater from the work of the Romero Theater Troupe. The purpose of this workshop is to inspire participants to consider using organic theater in their activism and to encourage participants to think about the power of their own stories. We will examine the story of the Romero Theater Troupe and use this model to imagine how to build a similar theater-based storytelling troupe in their own communities. Participants will create organic theater in this workshop, sharing stories and experiencing the reach of organic theater.

### SATURDAY, March 21st: PUBLIC FILM SCREENING 4pm Posvar Hall, Rm 1700

*Unbound: The Story of the Romero Theatre Troupe* (2014)

Saturday events take place during the Latin American & Caribbean Festival

## SATURDAY, March 21st: PUBLIC FILM SCREENING 7pm Posvar Hall, Rm 1700

Romero (1989) directed by John Duigan

THE ROMERO THEATER TROUPE HAS BEEN HONORED WITH THE **NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION** 2015 CESAR CHAVEZ HUMAN & CIVIL RIGHTS AWARD

for their ten years of advocacy for teachers, defense of public education, solidarity with workers everywhere, and use of dramatic storytelling to promote social justice and enhance community education.

