

AQUILA THEATRE

Desiree Sanchez
Executive Artistic Director

Desiree Sanchez has been Aquila's Artistic Director since 2012. She directed Aquila's 2017/2018 tour of *Hamlet* and *Sense & Sensibility*. She also directed and co-wrote Aquila's production of *Our Trojan War* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and on its American tour in the Spring of 2017. She directed and adapted Aquila's 2016/2017 production of *Much Ado About Nothing*, and directed and adapted Aquila's 2015/2016 productions of *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* and *Philoctetes*. Past productions she has directed and adapted include: *The Tempest* and *Wuthering Heights* for the 2014/2015 season, *Twelfth Night* and *Fahrenheit 451* for the 2013/2014 season, *A Female Philoctetes* at BAM Fisher's Hillman Studio, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Cyrano de Bergerac* for the 2012/2013 season, *Herakles* at BAM in March 2013 and the Festival of the Aegean in Syros, Greece and the Michael Cacoyannis Foundation in Athens in July, 2012, *Macbeth* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* for the 2011/2012 season, and *Six Characters in Search of an Author* for the 2010/2011 season; created movement for Aquila's *A Very Naughty Greek Play* (Aristophanes' *Wasps*), *Catch-22*, *Julius Caesar*, *The Iliad: Book One*, and *The Comedy of Errors*; performed in *The Iliad: Book One* at the Festival of the Aegean in Syros, Greece; and was the lead teaching artist for Aquila's Shakespeare Leaders program in Harlem. Desiree had a twenty-year dancing career including working as a principal dancer for the Metropolitan Opera Ballet where she worked under the direction of numerous directors and choreographers including Francesca Zambello, Mark Lamos, Doug Varone, John Dexter, Franco Zeffirelli, Julie Taymor and Andrei Konchalovsky. Other companies and choreographers she has worked with include the Boston Ballet, Neo Labos Dancetheatre, Donald Byrd/The Group, Sean Curran, Gelsey Kirkland, Bill T. Jones, Heidi Latsky, Eun Me Ahn in Korea, and Robert La Fosse. She performed for the Papermill Playhouse as a featured dancer in the musicals *Carousel* and *The King and I*. She has also taught at Long Island University as a visiting associate professor of dance, and has a Certificate of Movement Therapy from The New School.



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