



NORVAK PODEROSO DEMENTE (THE POWERFUL MINDREADER) at Spiegelworld at South Street Seaport

Andrés Aguilar Larrondo (Original idea, writer, and performer) earned a Communication Sciences Degree at Anáhuac University in Mexico City. He also studied *clown* and comedy at the Clown College of the *Ringling Bros and Barnum and Bailey* circus, and later performed as a clown with the circus, traveling to more than a hundred cities and acting in more than a thousand spectacles. In addition, he studied circus techniques at *Space Catastroph* in Brussels, Belgium and juggling at *Gandini Juggling Project* in London, United Kingdom. He has also studied clown technique under the guidance of Alex Navarro and Caroline dream.

In 1999, Andrés founded Risaterapia A.C., an organization that has had a huge impact on social well being in Mexico. Risaterapia trains volunteers in techniques to stimulate emotional and physical wellbeing and happiness, and to then applies these techniques to patients and relatives in pediatric hospitals. Currently Risaterapia has more than 400 volunteers, known as ‘laugh doctors,’ and visits approximately three thousand families every month.

Artús Chávez Novelo (Writer/director) studied Theater and Dramatic Literature at the Philosophy and Letters School of UNAM. He also studied *clown* at the Clown College of the *Ringling Bros and Barnum and Bailey* circus and he later traveled with the circus for one year. He furthered his studies with a Masters degree in Theatre Direction, at *Middlesex University* in London that also included Thai traditional theater in Bangkok, and management and acting at the Russian Academy of Theatrical Arts, in Moscow.

Artús began his professional career as assistant director to Iona Weissberg (*Opción Múltiple [Multiple Option]*, 1999) and to Martín Acosta (*Hans Quehans, las Opciones de un Payaso [Hans Quehans, the Options of a Clown]*, 2000) and the British director Michael Fry (*The Trumpet Major*, 2004). He later directed: *Sueño de una Noche de Verano (Shakespeare’s Midsummer’s Night Dream*, Iberoamericana University, 2002), *Mistero Buffo* of Darío Fó (Malta, 2005), y *Dagas y Pociones (Daggers and Potions*, Mexico 2005), an original adaptation of Shakespeare’s scenes. Recently he wrote and directed the *clown show, La Gazetta (The Gazette)* in Israel, and *Norvak, Poderoso DeMente (Norvak The Powerful Of Mind reader)* in Mexico, which he wrote in collaboration with Andrés Aguilar. Artus has also devoted time to giving clown performances and workshops in Mexico and other countries. Nowadays he is the Artistic Director of Nariz Roja y Compañía (Red Nose and Company), a branch of Risaterapia A.C., devoted to promoting happiness through *clown* shows and workshops.

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