

The background of the entire image is a dark stage with several bright, circular spotlights shining down from the top, creating a hazy, atmospheric effect.

*The*  
**Copla**  
*cabaret*

HISPANIC  
breakdown



## What is the piece?

Subversive drag artist La Gitana shares her passion for Spanish copla and reveals secrets of cultural and sexual identity, being and belonging and building bridges for survival. Through live music and audience participation, La Gitana summons the longing, memories and sighs of all those who left their homelands and now live in-between. She hosts a provocative night of copla, a genre of music illicitly appropriated by Franco's dictatorship and ultimately lost into history... until now.

## Who is behind it?

HisPanic Breakdown is a theatre collective that creates original collaborations between English and Spanish artists. Our projects explore issues such as cultural and sexual identity from historical perspectives. The company is led by author and performer Alejandro Postigo, PhD researcher specialized in the international revitalization of Copla. Past projects of the Company include 'Wondering Thoughts' (Bangkok, 2014), and 'Men on the Verge of a HisPanic Breakdown' (USA, 2009). 'The Copla Musical' has been recently seen in London, Barcelona, Seville, Bulgaria and Bolivia: [www.thecoplamusical.com](http://www.thecoplamusical.com)

# Technical resources

**RUNNING TIME:** Adaptable. Versions vary from 20 to 40 minutes.

**STAGE DIMENSIONS:**

**Width:** Min. 3m

**Depth:** Min. 2m.

**Height:** Min. 2m.

**SET:** Adaptable. The company requires a chair, a table and a coat stand (or the possibility to hang costume items onstage)

**LIGHTING: Basic.** A projector

**MUSIC/ SOUND:** Piano, or an amplification system for pre-recorded music.

**PROPS/ COSTUME:** Brought by the Company



# Research - Lecturing

This show explores the connections among history, performance, memory and archival materials. As a complement to the performance, author and researcher Alejandro Posigo offers an informative and dynamic Q&A or lecture that can address the following topics:

- Intercultural exchanges and cultural identification in musical theatre
- Historical contexts: Copla, the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War
- Queer and political symbols encoded in art-forms
- PaR: engaging productively and critically with 'Practice as Research' in theatre





## Contact details

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Tap into the fiery passions of your inner Spaniard,  
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