

Press Release
INVITATION

Mercedes and Zaruhi performed by Nora Armani on Theatre Row in New York City

Nora Armani, starring in Lexi Alexander’s feature film *Absolute Dominion*, to be released in 2023, celebrates her recent “Lifetime Achievement Award” win at the 38th Alexandria Film Festival of Mediterranean Countries, by performing an exclusive solo event on Theatre Row on Sunday night, November 6th at 7:00 PM as part of the prestigious UnitedSolo Theatre Festival.

***MERCEDES AND ZARUHI*, a solo performance, is written by Anush Aslibekyan (Armenian playwright, dramaturg and theatre critic), in an English adaptation written by Nora Armani, with original music composed by Vahan Artsruni. Nora Armani performs the play on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6th, 7:00 PM, on Theatre Row, 410 W 42nd St, New York, New York 10036. Seating is limited (Please RSVP).**

Mercedes and Zaruhi is a play told by Zaruhi, the younger of two sisters brought up in Greece with the love of their homeland in their hearts and the possible return home constantly on their minds. Based on true events, the play represents an important page in Soviet History that is rarely discussed. It is a monodrama about the repatriations to the Soviet Union in the late 1940s during Stalin’s reign, and is told through the correspondence between the two sisters.

“...I loved the performance. [Nora Armani] tells a great story--suspenseful, warm, human and funny, with great characters, and [her] depiction of the slowly aging protagonist was deeply moving; especially the final scene. A memorable evening in the theatre.”

Marvin Carlson*

Nora Armani *Performer, English language adapter, Producer*

Nora Armani is an award-winning actor/filmmaker with extensive International stage and screen credits. Recently she filmed *Absolute Dominion* a feature film by Lexi Alexander due to be released next year. She has appeared Off-Broadway in *Six Characters in Search of an Author* by Priandello, *Terrorism* by Presnyakov Brothers, *Mercedes* by Anush Aslibekyan (Armenia), *La Fête Virile* (Paris), *Plebian Rehearse the Uprising* (London). Her TV and Film Credits include, “Blacklist, Redemption”, “Golden Boy”, “Casualty” (BBC), “The Friends” (EG TV); and films; *La Nouvelle Eve*, *Voisin Voisine*, *Last Station*, *Labyrinth*, *Bourek*, *Good Funk*, *I am Gitmo*, *Hungry*, *Moving Stories*. Full bio and films on www.noraarmani.net or IMDb. Armani was recently

awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 38th Alexandria Film Festival, Egypt. Nora is happy to be part of the UnitedSolo Festival again and thanks the organizers.

Anush Aslibekyan *Playwright*

Anush Aslibekyan is an Armenian playwright, dramatist, and a member of the Association of Armenian Writers since 2012. She is the author of five books. Many of her works have been translated into different languages. Her plays have been performed in Armenia and internationally in over 20 festivals, winning awards. A Professor and Arts Candidate, she teaches theatre history and manages the literature and dramaturgy courses since 2006. *Mercedes and Zaruhi* is the winner of the 2017 Armenian Book Festival, and in 2022 it was included in the Syllabus for Modern Armenian Literature for 10th-grade classes.

Vahan Arzruni *Composer*

Vahan Arzruni is a Armenian composer with a distinctively new approach. He creates music in a variety of radical contemporary styles including chamber, electronic, symphonic, film/theatre and ballet.

Ared Spendjian - *Marketing/Design*

Ared Spendjian is an Art Director with an extensive career in advertising.

Mike Doughty - *PR & Digital Marketing*

contact for interviews and writeups on Nora Armani: miked@theS1group.com

For future bookings email: rsvp.srff@gmail.com or call (917) 318 2290

(*) **Marvin Carlson** is an American theatrologist, Distinguished Professor of Theatre and Performance at City University of New York, and previously Professor at University of Washington. His work covers dramatic theory and Western European theater history from the 18th to the 21st century.