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Julio 2020

tlf news / noticias tlf

vol. xli, n° 2

Here in Honduras, we are living the world's pain; COVID-19 has battered us as a health crisis and as an economic crisis. It has closed schools, churches, businesses, the post office, and the *teatro*. It has exposed new depths of official corruption and incompetence.

So why have the actors and designers, tech and office staff of *teatro la fragua* worked so hard to hold the *teatro* together? Why have they delivered and shared meagre food rations with each other's families? Why have they reimagined and delivered their art for a socially distant world?

I think it has to do with the Heavenly Virtues—Prudence, Justice, Fortitude, and Temperance. I know those concepts sound quaint, but here in Honduras I see the staff trying to live by these virtues every day. Take, for example, just one—Fortitude, often depicted as Courage:

Fortitude is the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good. The virtue of fortitude enables one to conquer fear, even fear of death, and to face trials and persecutions. (Catechism of the Catholic Church)

Every day, I see *teatro* staff carry out acts of singular courage in a moment of supreme need in their country. They humble me as they practice Fortitude as a simple and unheroic part of their daily lives.

I am also moved deeply that our audiences share *their* Fortitude with all of us at *teatro la fragua*. I had to fight back tears when I read, in the comments on our Facebook page, these words of encouragement posted by several audience members:

Earth, air, fire and water / We are all *teatro la fragua*

As you may know, we close every show with this chant. We use it to help build community, to provide a sense of belonging. It seems to be working, and my Fortitude is replenished.

The *teatro* is facing dire conditions, challenging like never before. But we have built something beautiful and something resilient. Please help us continue this. Your support—your tax-deductible gift—will help us feed actors and their families in desperate times. It will help us adapt to our new ordinary. And it will help us to pursue good and conquer fear.

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