Orchids in the Moonlight

When: Through 3/29: Fri-Sat 8 PM, Sun 6 PM
Price: $25, two for $40

Carlos Fuentes’s 1982 play imagines Maria Félix and Dolores del Río, two of Mexico’s most beloved screen icons, in their autumn years, forgotten and living in the Los Angeles slums. Played here by male actors in drag, their costumes fashioned out of garbage bags, the two spend days re-creating the narratives of their lives, reckoning with past fame, past loves, and how they came to be in a room papered over with newspaper clippings, reading aloud to each other from the day’s obituaries. Fuentes wants to remind us of the ways old age can become its own theater, an endless loop of memory, nostalgia, despair, regret. In director Sándor Menéndez’s balletic staging for Agujión Theater, the former cinema stars taunt the audience along with each other, their tragic need for our approbation vividly felt. —Suzanne Scanlon

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