

La Ma Teodora, the film-stage fest that was forced to move a production from the Hale Piano Theater in Coral Gables last weekend because of threatened protests, is to return Sunday to the Miami Light Project on Biscayne Boulevard with The Last Bolero, a drama starring Cuban actress Veronica Lynn.

Lillian **Manzor**, co-director of the fest with Alberto Sarraín, said she and Sarraín were refunded a \$300 deposit they had made to the Hale Piano Theater after the owners refused to host The Last Bolero last weekend in the face of threatened protests by exile organizations.

The directors first hoped to move into a 181-seat theater at the Koubek Center, a 1929 mansion in the heart of Little Havana owned by the University of Miami. But after protesters threatened that site as well, UM offered the Ashe Auditorium at the Knight Center in downtown Miami, which it also runs.

**Manzor** said she and Sarraín rejected that venue because they didn't think they could fill 444 seats. By last Sunday evening, when the play was staged at Miami Light, patrons arriving at the Koubek Center were left wondering where the play went.

“We were told a sign would be up there, but there was none,” **Manzor** said. “We notified everyone on our lists by e-mail.”

The organizers, under the aegis of the Cuban Cultural Group, got \$8,362 last year from the Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Department to stage their fest.

There were no protests during last year's festival, although Cuban actors and actresses also participated.

“Veronica Lynn is a recognizable name,” **Manzor** speculated. “Last year's actors weren't.”

#### CITATION (MLA STYLE)

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