

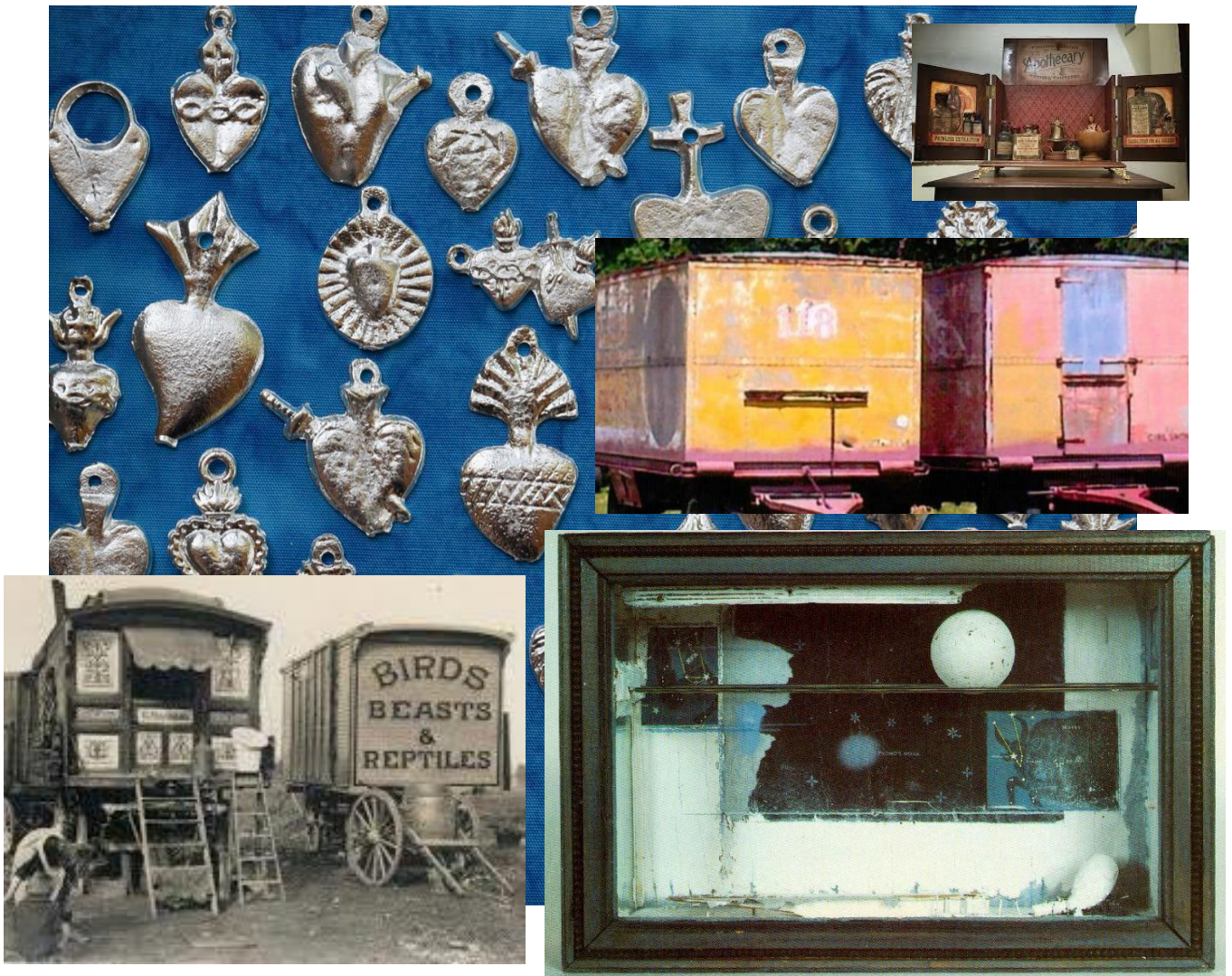
# BIRDS IN THE MOON



Leopoldo Galluzzo's hand-tinted lithograph from around 1836 depicts a pastoral moon scene with winged man, giraffe, and donkey.

In a traveling magic box theater, a fable unfolds that captures the urgency of lives lived seeking a better world, the quest for a utopia, an escape to a far-off moon where it is believed abundance and harmony might be found.

When a bird woman lands in a remote desert place, seeking shelter and water for herself and her child, she encounters an aging circus ringmaster and his traveling string quartet, who live hand to mouth entertaining passersby with their 'trip to the moon' show. Both souls seek escape from the peril of this dry desert, believing in the moon as the answer to their plight. This quest seals their fate as they make a pact that leaves them each forever changed.



With live music, soundscapes, imagery and actors, we enter into a story of choices made by necessity, in a world where water is scarce, and migration has become a desperate flight in search of a better life.

Performed exclusively in non-traditional spaces (**outdoors**) on a state-of-the-art shipping container, enhanced by a bespoke sound system from Meyer Sound Laboratories, *Birds* is a uniquely inventive way to bring the traditionally "boxed in" art form of opera into the public arena, where it can be accessed by the many, rather than reserved for the few.



## Judith Malina, “The Work of an Anarchist Theater”

The role of the artist in the social structure follows the need of the changing times —

In time of social stasis: to activate.

In time of germination: to invent fertile new forms

In time of revolution: to extend the possibilities of peace and liberty

In time of violence: to make peace

In time of despair: to give hope

In time of silence: to sing out