TEATRO E MARIONETAS DE
Mandrágora

balloon village

travelling theater

TARGET AUDIENCE :
M/3 YEARS
DURATION : 01H00

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balloon village

build a poetic and artistic vision of our inner territory explore with the community reflections on the loss of social acts, the extinction of heritage, and new ways of building a global village

SYNOPSIS

‘balloon village’ comes from the need to explore with the community reflections on the loss of social acts, the extinction of heritage, new ways of building a global village, the premises of teamwork in building a shared mindset as a result of various creative processes, analysis, and artistic observation in a direct, proactive social attitude, intervening in public space.

TEATRO E MARIONETAS DE MANDRÁGORA

Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora is a professional puppet theater company, founded on 2 April 2002, directed by **Clara Ribeiro** and **Filipa Mesquita** and **enVide neFelibata** as art direction.

■ In the symbiosis of a symbolic language that combines heritage and traditional legacy with the contemporary society's thinking and dynamics, in a dialogue that's not always peaceful, a fundamental element emerges: the puppet — the tool used in our quest for our own cultural identity.

■ Our goal is to discover the puppet's own aesthetic, visual, scenic, and dramatic potential, as well as in the relation between actor and puppet. In this experience, we intend to find our own identity-based dramaturgy: the one that explores culture, belief, and folklore combined with the urban area, the technological exploitation and the global village's fast pace.

■ Throughout our artistic journey, we created a wide range of proposals, both in terms of audiences (adults, youngsters schoolchildren, families) and in terms of training (basic and specialized).

■ One of our major commitments is touring our projects, through the country and aboard. We constantly concern on decentralization, community work, partnerships, social and inclusive enhancement.

■ For over two decades, the Company firmly established itself as a contemporary artistic creation structure by putting on a wide range of shows. Some creations our own, others resulted from partnerships with national and foreign cultural structures and entities.

■ Our team has always had space to freely create according to each other's language and vision, converging to develop and enrich the puppet theater's art.

■ Our Company focuses on social vulnerabilities but also traditions and heritage trough different but converging sights. Dialogue with all different audiences, blend our creations with sites and spaces, intersect with partner entities and structures is essential for creating multidisciplinary projects that prioritize communication with spectators.

■ We would like to highlight our collaboration with numerous educational service teams while implementing our education activities program in institutions such as monuments, museums, and landmark buildings.

■

■ *Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora is supported by República Portuguesa – Cultura, Juventude e Desporto / Direção-Geral das Artes, Município de Espinho / Museu Municipal de Espinho e Município de Gondomar. The structure is based at FACE - Fórum de Arte e Cultura de Espinho and headquartered in Gondomar.*

BALLOON VILLAGE

target audience : M/3 years
duration : 01h00
production : 56ª
group : travelling theater
premiere date : 6 June 2021 (Sunday)
premiere location : Bustelo × Paços de Ferreira × Porto

COLLABORATORS . PARTNERS . CO-PRODUCERS

CIMs Tamega e Sousa
Município de Baião
Município de Castelo de Paiva
Município de Paços de Ferreira

PRESENTATION

A flying machine transports its few inhabitants through a world of metaphors. They try to revive a life that no longer exists; they try to understand the stones, the earth, and the sand. They create routines and reinvent creatures from a rural world that has disappeared. They inhabit an imaginary space, flying above reality, and there in the machine they spin stories with a beginning and no end. People make up the ‘balloon village’ and their greatest desire is to have a place where they can live their dreams...

In this street creation, languages, theater, puppets, objects, circus arts, and music intersect! It is a metaphorical creation that seeks to savor the big picture in small things, the shared experience!

TRAVELLING THEATER

The outdoors, the street, and the open air are as much a way of being as they are a form of artistic dialogue. This is the privileged stage for community life. In a country like Portugal, the occupation of outdoor spaces—our squares, gardens, and beaches—is fundamental. These are places where the sun shines and where families, children, and spectators gather, turning artistic creation into a point of contact, with the sky and the landscape as their backdrop.

Since time immemorial, whether through small or large-scale works, historical contexts, or vibrant festivals, our territory has offered magnificent natural and urban spaces. We populate these settings with countless proposals born from our particular artistic way of being. Whether through new creations, itinerant performances, or the presentation of our beloved Teatro Dom Roberto, we believe that the street and the open air are inseparable from our journey.

The street is not simple; it contends with atmospheric unpredictability, the inconstancy of space, and shifting social dynamics. Yet, it is immediately embraced by the local population—the people who transform a fleeting performance into a lasting memory. We deeply value the outdoors and feel that it remains the ideal place to make art happen.

TEAM CURRICULUM

Filipa Mesquita

Filipa Mesquita seeks to integrate traditions and tangible and intangible heritage into the contemporary world, constantly weighing up what is being built and what is being destroyed in a critical analysis of today's society, using the puppet as a symbolic figure in this analysis.

Born in Porto in 1976, she's been involved in puppet theater since 1996. She completed her secondary education in Arts in 1995. She attended the Architecture college degree in Lusíada University in 1996. She graduated in acting from the Contemporary Academy of Performing Arts (ACE) in 1999. She completed the Professional Course in Animated Theater in 2002, having been trained by a vast number of Portuguese and foreign actors, playwrights, set designers, and puppeteers. Since 1999, she has traveled to several countries to conduct training and present her work with object theater, including Spain, France, Belgium, Slovakia, Norway, Macau, and the USA. She is pursuing a Master's Degree in Heritage at the Education Superior School of Porto (ESE).

Filipa staged several productions such as “O Jardim – Tomo I – A Primavera”, “Bzzzoira Moira”, “Mistérios”, “As 7 casas da inFortuna”, “casa dos ventos”, “adormecida”, “Breve História de Portugal”, “capucha vermelha”, “Mostrengos dos 7 mares”, “Conchas”, “Descobridores”, “A Floresta”, “O Guardião dos Vagalume”, “Breve História de Portugal”, “Florival - O Pequeno Pastor”, “Teatro Dom Roberto”, the community show “marés”, “aldeia balão”, “O meu avô consegue voar!”.

She has performed as an interpreter in numerous shows of her own creation, as well as in shows staged by other creators for Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora. She has performed throughout mainland and insular Portugal in various theaters and cultural and programming venues. Filipa collaborates with numerous puppet theater promoting projects by researching traditional puppet theater in Portugal, organizing exhibitions and audience training activities, and working with numerous museums and monuments to implement Educational Services's dynamics.

enVide neFelibata

Monsenhor enVide neFelibata has specialized training in puppet theater, ceramics, engraving, and computer technologies.

Has been involved in puppet theater since 1998 and is one of the founders of the Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora company, which has been active since 2002. Is also one of the directors and teachers at Escola da Marioneta (Puppetry School) and co-organizer of “Ei! Marionetas – Gondomar International Puppetry Festival”. Is responsible for the visual direction of this structure, creating puppets, set designs and props. Teaches puppet-making courses for adults and industry professionals, and collaborates with other puppet theater companies and institutions. The work of the professional puppet company he belongs to has already been presented at over 500 national and international festivals and gatherings in the form of shows, animations, performances, workshops, training actions, exhibitions, and art installations to an audience of over one million spectators.

As a visual artist, he devotes himself to the constant desacralization of art, to collaborate with other artists and to joint creations. Researches, develops, and publishes techniques and materials of art expression applied to puppetry art. Has recently participated, organized, and curated exhibitions of mailart and artbymail in galleries, museums, libraries, and unconventional spaces.

2023 — Casa Educativa da Marioneta is honored with the “Rosa María García Cano Award 2023” for “Educational Programs and Promotion of Performing Arts for Children and Young People” awarded by the “Feria de Teatro de Castilla y León” in Ciudad Rodrigo, Spain.

2018 — “Freaks & Geeks of Fleet Street” - performative installation by Troy Hourie. (artistic consulting and co-creation of puppets)

2017 — “Emotional Mapping - urban acoustics for 6 loudspeakers on wood and 702 reliquaries” sculptural and sound art installation commissioned by the European Capital of Culture 2021, temporary installation, Elefsina - Greece. (artistic direction and co-creation with musician Pedro Fonseca and executive production by 4IS - Platform for Social Innovation)

2016 — “nøkken” installation commissioned by Telemark Museum, permanent installation. Kittelsenhuset (Kittelsen House Museum), Kragerø – Norway.

2001 — Revelation Award at the Découver, Images et Marionnette International Festival in Tourné, Belgium.

César Cardoso

Born in 1978 and raised in an associative environment, he began collaborating on community projects at an early age.

At the age of 16, he joined the cultural department of the Lameiras Residents' Association, a housing complex in Vila Nova de Famalicão.

It was in this organization that, in 1998, he began his professional career as a sociocultural animator.

During this period, he co-founded the amateur theater company “TELA-Teatro Experimental das Lameiras,” working as an actor and technician. He also began collaborating with Rádio Universitária do Minho, where he worked as a radio producer and presenter. He also began collaborating with Rádio Universitária do Minho (Braga) on the program “Sangue na Guelra” and with Rádio Vila Nova on a magazine program dedicated to new Portuguese music.

At the same time, he began studying law, later starting studies in Sociocultural Animation. He also began studying guitar at Famalicão's band's music school.

In 1999, still as a cultural animator, he worked at “Casa do Caminho” children's emergency center in Matosinhos. Back in Famalicão in 2000, he worked at the Lousado Social Center (currently “Mundos de Vida”) and later, from 2001 to 2004, in the sociocultural revitalization of communities living in poverty in the municipality of Vila Nova de Famalicão, as part of the Fight Against Poverty TEIA Project.

In 2004, he joined the staff of Famalicão's Toy Library Association (currently Associação Gerações), working in the recreational and cultural area of the association.

In 2014, he became a freelancer, working in show production, as a musician and as an audio and lighting technician.

He is currently a programmer at CRU-espaço cultural, in Vila Nova de Famalicão, and as the visual director of the “Mel – piquenique das artes” festival.

TESTIMONIALS

— Filipa Mesquita × 26 May 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 24 August 2024

TOUR

DATA	LOCAL
6 JUN 2021 . SUNDAY	Bustelo, Paços de Ferreira, Porto
16 JUN 2021 . WEDNESDAY	Teixeira, Seia, Guarda
18 JUL 2021 . SUNDAY	Torres Vedras, Torres Vedras, Lisboa
1 AUG 2021 . SUNDAY	Folgoso, Castelo de Paiva, Aveiro
15 MAY 2022 . SUNDAY	Praça do Município, Espinho, Aveiro
1 JUL 2022 . FRIDAY	Casa Educativa da Marioneta, Casa Branca de Gramido, Gondomar, Porto
2 MAR 2024 . SATURDAY . 16h00 3 MAR 2024 . SUNDAY . 16h30	Fábrica das Ideias Gafanha da Nazaré, Ílhavo, Aveiro
26 MAY 2024 . SUNDAY . 14h00	Salão Polivalente de Moitas Venda, Alcanena, Santar
24 AUG 2024 . SATURDAY . 21h45	Santarém, Santarém, Santar
8 AUG 2026 . SATURDAY . 11h00	Largo da Capela Nova, Vila Real, Vila Real
15 AUG 2026 . SATURDAY . 17h00 16 AUG 2026 . SUNDAY . 17h00	Centro de Memória – Museu de Vila do Conde, Vila do Conde, Porto

TOTAL : 13

NATIONAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

LOCAL	FESTIVAL	YEAR
Largo da Capela Nova	ARRUADA – ciclo de artes de rua	2026
Salão Polivalente de Moitas Venda	AWF – Alcanena Walking Festival	2024
Santarém	Festa da Marioneta	2024
Centro de Memória – Museu de Vila do Conde	Festival de Marionetas Olhó Boneco!	2026
Praça do Município	MAR-MARIONETAS – Festival Internacional de Marionetas de Espinho	2022
Fábrica das Ideias Gafanha da Nazaré	Palheta – Robertos e Marionetas	2024

TOTAL : 6

HISTORY

"balloon village", premiered at "Bustelo × Paços de Ferreira × Porto" on 6 June 2021 (Sunday). To date, it has performed in 11 venues, 11 cities, 6 districts, 1 country (Portugal) and participated in 6 festivals and 6 meetings and 0 internationals.

Its history includes 13 shows for an audience of 1.444 spectators.

"balloon village" has been touring for 5 anos, 3 meses e 2 dias at the time of creating this document.

TECHNICAL RIDER

For more information about technical requirements and other production-related needs, please refer to the **GENERAL CONDITIONS** section of this document.

At the moment, detailed information about the technical rider associated with this production is not available. If you need to clarify specific technical requirements or obtain additional data regarding the implementation of scenography, lighting, sound, or other technical areas, you may request them directly via email contact with the company, which will be happy to provide the necessary documentation.

PROMOTIONAL DOCUMENTS AND OTHERS

Current Document

ALDEIABALAO - DOSSIER - EN **3 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_/dwn/dossier/aldeiabalao - dossier - en.pdf

Other Documents

ALDEIA BALÃO - CLASSIFICAÇÃO ETÁRIA -- PT **52.5 KB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/aldeiabalao/dwn/aldeia balão - classificação etária -- pt.pdf

ALDEIA BALÃO - POSTAL **74.5 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/aldeiabalao/dwn/aldeia balão - postal.zip

ALDEIA BALÃO - RIDER TÉCNICO -- PT **27.9 KB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/aldeiabalao/dwn/aldeia balão - rider técnico -- pt.odt

ALDEIA BALÃO - RIDER TÉCNICO -- PT **81.5 KB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/aldeiabalao/dwn/aldeia balão - rider técnico -- pt.pdf

ALDEIA BALÃO - ROLL-UP **126.5 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/aldeiabalao/dwn/aldeia balão - roll-up.zip

Imagery Archive

IMAGERY ARCHIVE PROMO **234.2 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_/dwn/zip/prj_aldeiabalao.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE TESTIMONIALS **18.1 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_/dwn/zip/res_aldeiabalao.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE RESEARCH **1.3 GB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_/dwn/zip/rch_aldeiabalao.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE MEETINGS **553.1 KB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_/dwn/zip/met_aldeiabalao.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE IN SITE **135 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_/dwn/zip/sit_aldeiabalao.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE DRAWINGS **237.5 MB**

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IMAGERY ARCHIVE WORK IN PROGRESS **1.8 GB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_/dwn/zip/wip_aldeiabalao.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE REHEARSALS **2.3 GB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_/dwn/zip/try_aldeiabalao.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE WORKSHOPS **182.9 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_/dwn/zip/wrk_aldeiabalao.zip

VIDEO

Lugar de Bustelo 2021 2021 **[PROMOTIONAL]**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhwR9fooFb8

IMAGE AND COMMUNICATION

■ Mandatory mentions in all promotional material:
■ Production: Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora
■ Support: Portuguese Republic – Culture, Youth, and Sports / Directorate-General for the Arts (with logos), Municipality of Espinho / City Council of Espinho, Municipality of Gondomar

GENERAL CONDITIONS

■ Access and parking must be available for the company's vehicle (Class II or Class I).
■ The promoter must provide a technician to assist during assembly, rehearsal, and performance.
■ Before setup begins, the space must be clean and free of any equipment.
■ Any proposed changes to the Technical Rider must be communicated in a timely manner so that, together with the technical team and the event production, the best solutions can be found to make the activity possible.
■ Individual dressing rooms suitable for the performers must be provided, equipped with running water, a mirror, a chair, and a table.
■ The promoter must provide bottles of water for all team.

BUDGET

■ Consult budget and, if necessary, request specific conditions for two or more presentations on the same day, in the same location, and/or on consecutive days.
■ The amounts are VAT exempt, under the terms of nº8 of Article 9º of the portuguese VAT Code.
■ Travel expenses will be added, calculated from Espinho (price per km).
■ Where applicable, the promoter shall provide accommodation and meals for the team. We will communicate the type of rooms (preferably singles) and dietary restrictions in advance.

CONTACTS

Direção Artística 914 514 756 Clara Ribeiro
Direção Artística 938 438 097 Filipa Mesquita
Direção Plástica 938 940 122 enVide neFelibata

[chamadas para rede móvel nacional]

geral@marionetasmandragora.pt
www.marionetasmandragora.pt
www.index.marionetasmandragora.pt
www.loja.marionetasmandragora.pt
www.ei.marionetasmandragora.pt
www.mar.marionetasmandragora.pt
www.escoladamarioneta.com
www.facebook.com/marionetas.mandragora
www.instagram.com/marionetas_mandragora
www.youtube.com/@MarionetasMandragora
www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2-ig0Oamxo

RESIDÊNCIA DA COMPANHIA
Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora
FACE - Fórum de Arte e Cultura de Espinho
R. 41 / Av. João de Deus
4500-198 Espinho, Portugal

RESIDÊNCIA DA COMPANHIA
Estaleiro Marionetas Mandrágora
Rua do Golfe
4500-605 Espinho, Portugal

CASA EDUCATIVA DA MARIONETA
Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora
Casa Branca de Gramido
Tv. Convenção de Gramido 41
4420-416 Valbom, Gondomar, Portugal

PARA EFEITOS DE FATURAÇÃO
Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora
R. do Quinéu, 75
4510-122 Gondomar, Portugal

NIF / VAT PT 506 322 076
IBAN PT50 0035 2074 0000 5488 2304 9
BIC/SWIFT CGDIPTPL

Associação Cultural e Recreativa Teatro e Marionetas Mito do Homem Plantado (Marionetas de Mandrágora)
associação sem fins lucrativos (isenta de IVA ao abrigo do art. 9º do CIVA)

Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora
www.marionetasmandragora.pt
geral@marionetasmandragora.pt

www.marionetasmandragora.pt/aldeiabalao

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