TEATRO E MARIONETAS DE
Mandrágora

The golden fisherman

root creation

TARGET AUDIENCE :
M/6 YEARS
DURATION : 00H45

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The golden fisherman

a creation that rescues the memories of the people who lived bound to the Douro River, crafting a unique universe within the world of puppet theatre

SYNOPSIS

How do legends arise? Identity is built from legends. Sometimes, there are lives that resemble legends themselves, and perhaps the origin of many lies in the lives of certain men whose history merges with physical matter.

The narrative of this story creates a real and familiar world, stepping into the realm of belief where the powers of nature's dominion prevail. The River creates a profound relationship with the territory: living from the river, living for the river, being upon and within the river.

This creation rescues the memories of the people whose lives were bound to the Douro River, crafting a unique universe within puppet theatre.

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.*

THE GOLDEN FISHERMAN

target audience : M/6 years
duration : 00h45
production : 69ª
group : root creation
language : portuguese
premiere date : 8 December 2024 (Sunday)
premiere location : Auditório Municipal de Gondomar × Gondomar × Porto

PRESENTATION

In a fishing village nestled against the north bank of the river, the night was teeming with life. The strong hands of the fishermen hauled in the nets. The women rushed to the riverbanks to load the baskets with fish.

In this land, one man had hands of gold; he was the one who caught the most, the one who had the greatest luck. An ordinary man, yet of indomable spirit, he faced the river's currents daily. The river’s memories flow through him, filling him with ancestral wisdom and respect for the cycle of life. The River—a living being, a god, sometimes benevolent and sometimes cruel. It is the life that flourishes upon its banks and, in exchange for what it offers, it demands loyalty.

But as time passes, the fisherman grows wealthy; the river is no longer his sole sustenance, and the time he spends by its side becomes increasingly scarce. And so, the river begins to lose its flow, shrinking, falling ill.

Yet, much like life itself, the river is relentless, and one day the moment arrives when the debt must be paid.

ROOT CREATION

Original projects that aim to promote a broad artistic language and creative freedom for creators to challenge themselves artistically and dramatically, as well as in the exploration of interpretation, puppetry, and object theater. These creations are a fundamental reflection of their creators' concerns.

We decided on this designation due to the genesis of the name that gives us rise — Mandrake (Mandrágora), a plant associated with a certain mysticism. That root is also the origin point of our structure, which, in a very many-skilled way, branches out in diverse paths. We're a creative team that considers and analyzes each other's personal concerns and also challenges itself that lead to discoveries which affirm the art of theater and, more specifically, of puppetry.

More than two decades later, this form and figure emerged in a long process of discovery. We went through collective creations, invited directors, and gave voice to the artists who make up the creative core of the structure. Therefore, we believe we've achieved a clearer way of indicating the potential paths and trajectories of a collective composed by individual choices.

TEAM CURRICULUM

Clara Ribeiro

Clara Ribeiro has continuously explored the combination of manipulation and interpretation techniques with puppetry, combining them with her own contemporary vision, enhancing the relationship between the actor and the puppet so that the contact between these different languages works to create a poetic universe where the search for cultural identity is always present.

Graduated in Acting from ACE - Academia Contemporânea do Espetáculo (Contemporary Performing Arts Academy).

Completed the Professional Course in Animated Theater.

Degree in Heritage Management from the Porto School of Education.

Founder and artistic director of the Mandrágora Theater and Puppetry Company since 2002.

Programmer for the Ponto Pequeno Festival in 2004 and 2005.

Programmer for Ei! Marionetas - International Puppet Festival in Gondomar since 2015.

She has directed, staged, produced, and performed in more than 47 productions by the Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora theater company.

He directed the plays “O Gato Preto e a Gaivota Cor-de-Prata” (The Black Cat and the Silver Seagull), “Farsa do Mestre Pedro Pereira” (The Farce of Master Pedro Pereira), “Entre Lugares” (Between Places), “Benilde Bzzzoira,” “Venturas do Nosso Reino” (Adventures of Our Kingdom), “F.U.N.I.L.,” “Mãos de Sal” (Hands of Salt), “desVenturas do Reino” (Misadventures of the Kingdom), “What Are Hands For,” “The Triumph of the Strong,” “The Story of a Cat and a Mouse Who Became Friends,” “A Brief History of Portugal,” “QUEIXA-TE,” “Aurora,” “Madrugada Trás-os-sonhos,” “A menina que pintava pássaros,” “Depois da Chuva,” among others. For the Krisálida company, he was the artistic director and staged the show PLASTIKUS.

Between 2002 and 2024, he also staged 15 educational projects for museums and cultural institutions and 15 community theater projects. He also directs several community projects and collaborates with the Projet'arte Program within the scope of PARTIS.

He received the Revelation Award at the Découver, Images et Marionnette Festival in Tourné, Belgium, in 2001. He has presented his projects at national and international festivals in Spain, France, Belgium, Slovakia, Norway, Bulgaria, and the USA.

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.

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.

TESTIMONIALS

— Clara Ribeiro × 11 September 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 8 November 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 10 November 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 11 November 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 12 November 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 14 November 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 15 November 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 20 November 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 20 November 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 4 December 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 8 December 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 12 December 2024

— Filipa Mesquita × 18 December 2024

The Creation

Clara Ribeiro draws on her emotional and territorial memories to create a work that connects her to the physical space and the people who, throughout her life, have influenced her sensitive way of understanding the world.

The theatrical language combines figures, symbols, puppets, and objects, which have been developed over several months in close dialogue on stage.

The dramaturgy, which underpins this emotional narrative, a reflection of a place and a society, is also, in dialogue with the different audiences it addresses, a way of unraveling desires and realities that are distinctive to a way of life.

Puppet theater, in its way of bringing the impossible and the symbolic, metaphor and symbolism to the stage, unveils a story that starts from the visual and moves to the sensitive interior of each individual. Their desires, their fears, the transcendent dimension of reality.

This show presents the symbiosis between actor and puppet, with live music, where the musician also manipulates the physical and sound objects that narrate this creation.

The value of a river in the economy, in shaping a landscape, in molding lives, in its legendary dimension, but also in respect for the creative and destructive power of nature.

Between man and legend, we meet a fisherman, his boat, his children, the river, the wealth that the river provides, and his misfortune.

And in this game, we elaborate on men who mold themselves to the landscape just as the landscape molds itself to them, making this the stuff from which legends are born.

— Clara Ribeiro × 19 December 2025

TOUR

DATA	LOCAL
8 DEC 2024 . SUNDAY . 11h00	Auditório Municipal de Gondomar, Gondomar, Porto
9 DEC 2024 . MONDAY . 11h00 10 DEC 2024 . TUESDAY . 11h00 11 DEC 2024 . WEDNESDAY . 11h00	Auditório Municipal de Gondomar, Gondomar, Porto
9 MAR 2025 . SUNDAY . 15h30	Auditório Municipal do Sabugal, Sabugal, Guarda
18 MAY 2025 . SUNDAY . 11h30	Auditório de Espinho – Academia de Música de Espinho, Espinho, Aveiro

TOTAL : 6

NATIONAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

LOCAL	FESTIVAL	YEAR
Tavira	Feira da Dieta Mediterrânica	2026
Auditório de Espinho – Academia de Música de Espinho	MAR~MARIONETAS – Festival Internacional de Marionetas de Espinho	2025

TOTAL : 2

HISTORY

"The golden fisherman", premiered at "Auditório Municipal de Gondomar × Gondomar × Porto" on 8 December 2024 (Sunday). To date, it has performed in 4 venues, 4 cities, 4 districts, 1 country (Portugal) and participated in 2 festivals and 2 meetings and 0 internationals.

Its history includes 7 shows for an audience of 467 spectators.

"The golden fisherman" has been touring for 1 ano, 8 meses e 17 dias at the time of creating this document.

RELATIONSHIP

Introduction to Doughs and Modeling Techniques

big workshop × target audience : M/15 years × duration : 12h00

[https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/modelacao]

Paper Sea Monsters

is it be a fish, a dolphin, a monster?

small workshop × target audience : M/6 years × duration : 02h30

This workshop places the young participant in touch with a distinct creative reality, where reaching dramatization requires the construction of the scenic object: the puppet. This puppet, simple in structure, evokes the imagery of sea monsters that once populated—and still remain present within—maritime maps and the minds of sailors, in their confrontation with the unknown sea.

And as imagination knows no end, these monsters may populate every mind.

Each young person creates their own puppet, serving as a starting point for a broader project centered on stories that address the presence of the sea monster.

[https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/monstrosmarinhospapel]

Shadow Puppets - Stories with Shadow

small workshop × target audience : M/4 years × duration : 02h30

[https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/teatrodesombras]

TECHNICAL RIDER

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

Sessions

```
maximum audience : 250
maximum sessions per day : 2
minimum interval between sessions : 01h30
language : portuguese
recommended spaces : conventional spaces
```

Team

```
PERFORMERS : 2
TECHNICAL TEAM : 1
TOTAL NUMBER OF TEAM MEMBERS AFFECTED : 3
```

Scheduled Setup And Takedown Times

```
UNLOAD MATERIAL : 00h30
SET DESIGN (SCENOGRAPHY) : 01h00
TECHNICAL SETUP : 01h00
TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS : 02h00
REHEARSALS : 01h00
TAKEDOWN : 01h00
TOTAL REQUIRED SETUP TIME : 05h30

SETUP (WITH PRE-SETUP) : 06h00
```

Dimensions

```
IDEAL DIMENSIONS (WIDTH × DEPTH × HEIGHT) : 8 × 6 × 3 m
MINIMUM DIMENSIONS (WIDTH × DEPTH × HEIGHT) : × × m
```

```
rider atualizado : 2025-09-15 22:01:39
```

■ The organization must ensure the pre-setup of the lighting design and sound equipment, as specified in the technical requirements.

PROMOTIONAL DOCUMENTS AND OTHERS

Current Document

PESCADORDOURO - DOSSIER - EN **2.5 MB**

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

Other Documents

PACTOPESCADOR - RIDER TÉCNICO -- PT **64.6 KB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/pescadordouro/dwn/pactopescador - rider técnico -- pt.pdf

PACTOPESCADOR - ROLL-UP **75.2 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/pescadordouro/dwn/pactopescador - roll-up.zip

PESCADORDOURO - CLASSIFICAÇÃO ETÁRIA -- PT **1.9 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/pescadordouro/dwn/pescadordouro - classificação etária -- pt.pdf

PESCADORDOURO - DESENHO DE LUZ -- PT **55.9 KB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/pescadordouro/dwn/pescadordouro - desenho de luz -- pt.pdf

PESCADORDOURO - DIREITOS DE AUTOR -- CLARA RIBEIRO -- PT **198.6 KB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/pescadordouro/dwn/pescadordouro - direitos de autor -- Clara Ribeiro -- pt.pdf

PESCADORDOURO - DIREITOS DE AUTOR -- RICARDO FALCÃO -- PT **67 KB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/pescadordouro/dwn/pescadordouro - direitos de autor -- Ricardo Falcão -- pt.pdf

PESCADORDOURO - IDENTIDADE GRÁFICA **51.2 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/pescadordouro/dwn/pescadordouro - identidade gráfica.zip

PESCADORDOURO - POSTAL **25.3 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/pescadordouro/dwn/pescadordouro - postal.zip

PESCADORDOURO - RIDER TÉCNICO -- PT **13.9 KB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/pescadordouro/dwn/pescadordouro - rider técnico -- pt.odt

Imagery Archive

IMAGERY ARCHIVE PROMO **130.3 MB**

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

IMAGERY ARCHIVE PROMO **31.4 MB**

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

IMAGERY ARCHIVE DRAWINGS **18.7 MB**

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

IMAGERY ARCHIVE PROTOTYPE **19.8 MB**

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

IMAGERY ARCHIVE WORK IN PROGRESS **620 MB**

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

IMAGERY ARCHIVE REHEARSALS **2.1 GB**

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

IMAGERY ARCHIVE SET UP **59.1 MB**

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

VIDEO

vídeo promocional 2024 **[PROMOTIONAL]**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrJwSC9jZFQ

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

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[chamadas para rede móvel nacional]

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www.facebook.com/marionetas.mandragora
www.instagram.com/marionetas_mandragora
www.youtube.com/@MarionetasMandragora
www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2-ig0Oamxo

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FACE - Fórum de Arte e Cultura de Espinho
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