

EL ARTE DEL TÍTERE FOUNDATION

A place devoted to Puppetry Arts

PUPPET CENTRE

PRESERVATION | EXPERIMENTATION | EDUCATION



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MADRID | SPAIN

TO BEGIN

Spain has a large and valuable puppet theatre tradition. It is time to collect it all and build a puppet centre as it has been done in other countries. **Puppet Centre** is a place that joins theory and praxis. It is focused on specialised learning, outreach programmes, puppet exhibitions, artistic creation, researching and heritage preservation.

Despite quality and interest on puppetry in Spain, there is a danger of losing the identity and experiences of Puppetry Arts. It is a fact that cultural programming in Spain is more and more interested on puppetry. Moreover, Spanish puppeteers are spreading their abilities around the world on international tours and puppetry arts are reaching further.

However, we are on risk of losing this enriching trend if no one cares about preserving and sharing it.

Puppet Centre is determined to prevent the lost and boost development of Puppetry Arts through six strategic lines:

1. Museum and exhibition galleries
2. Research and creation lab
3. Documentation centre and archive
4. Outreach programmes
5. Regular training and professional education
6. Theatre venue



MUSEUM AND EXHIBITION GALLERIES

Puppet Centre has a Puppet Museum with a stable exhibition gallery. Permanent collection shows the most emblematic La Tartana theatre company creations and other pieces of historic Spanish puppet companies.

Visitors of all ages can explore and manipulate the unique and original puppets created by La Tartana and other significant artists. Permanent collection includes electric and mechanical automatons, different puppets, several sets designing, props, recordings, drawings, and posters. In addition, visitors will be able to discover the puppet creating process. The aim is to bring the puppetry arts closer to the public by an interactive exhibition.

Furthermore, **Puppet Centre** includes other galleries for temporal exhibitions. The goal is to build bridges among other regions and countries showing puppets from all around the world. The different manipulation techniques, traditional and avant-garde pieces will be welcome.



RESEARCH AND CREATION LAB

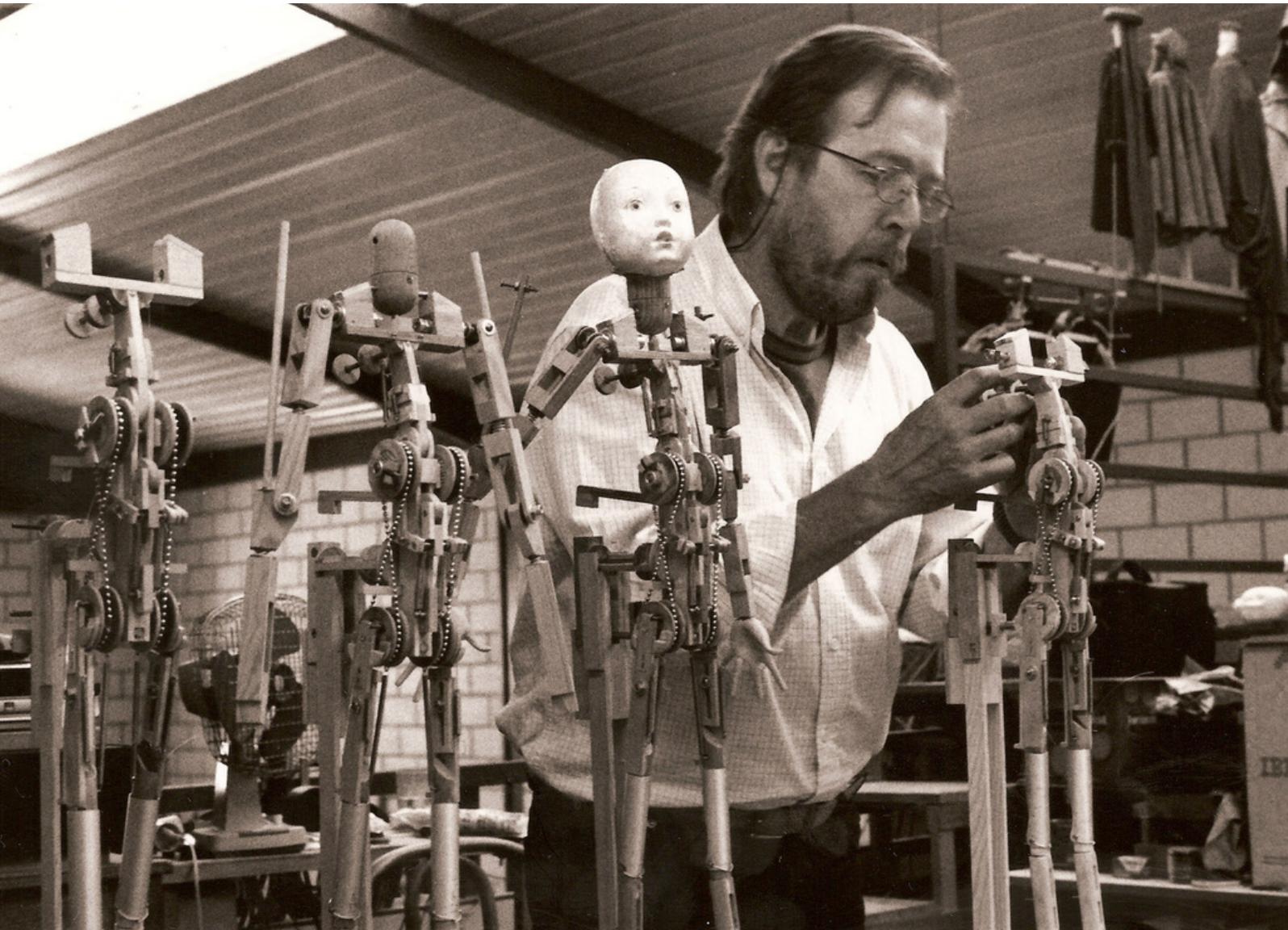
Puppet Centre provides an experimentation centre: the researching and creating puppet and object theatre laboratory.

Puppet Centre integrates, develops, and promotes experimentation and searching on new languages and original artistic proposals on Puppetry Arts. Puppet Centre hosts artists and help them to put their new ideas in practise offering facilities, equipment, and qualified advice.

Puppet Centre offers two types of artist-in-residence programmes:

- Design and puppet making
- Stage and design concept

Artist-in-residence programmes are integrated on **Puppet Centre** activity to generate networking opportunities designed to enrich, exchange, and connect with other departments and centre's agenda.



DOCUMENTATION CENTRE AND ARCHIVE

Puppet Centre is committed to study and document puppetry arts. It is mandatory a preservation strategy that includes the creation of an archive which material contributes to register the puppetry practise as a part of the collective memory.

The main points are:

- **Accessibility:** facilitate access to both physical and digitized stock.
- **Digitalization:** open access to digital resources on the website.
- **Make the materials visible:** keeping the stock alive through several activities.
- **Researching:** encourage researching projects.

Additionally, scholarship and cooperation with high education institutions will be promoted for researching purposes.

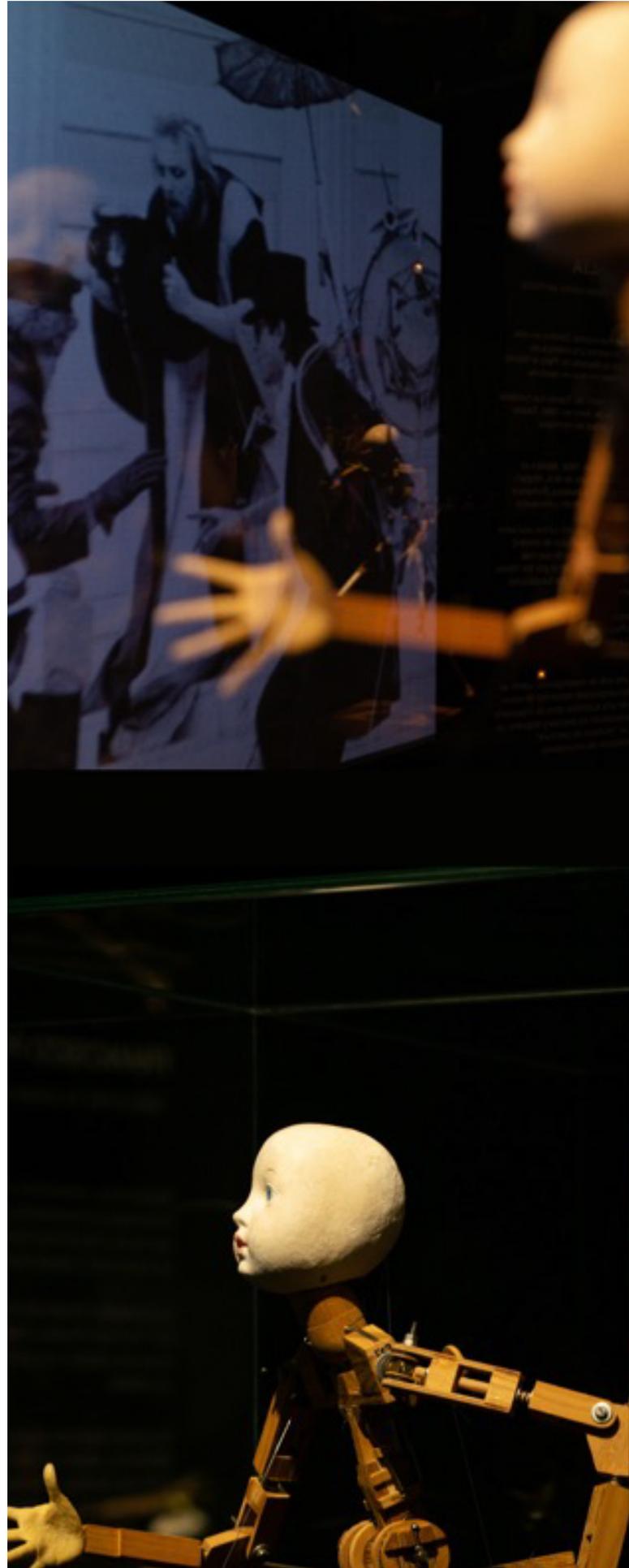


OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Puppet Centre has outreach programmes as a cornerstone. Conferences, meetings with artists, screenings and more will be programmed. In addition, **Puppet Centre** will offer plenty of online activities to reach remote audiences, and several media campaigns will be developed in order to draw attention on puppetry arts.

Due to children are a priority for **Puppet Centre**, scholar campaigns and educational activities will be held. Children will have a closer relation with puppetry through funny and interactive activities such puppet shows, meetings with puppeteers, visit to the galleries and making their own marionette.

Puppetry is a vast territory not just link to art but to other fields such education or health. **Puppet Centre** is a meeting point between artists and a varied range professionals to discover puppetry arts potential.



REGULAR TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Puppet Centre provides a long-term puppetry professional training to a stable group of students along two years. Puppetry Arts will be taught integrating operating and producing work with puppets, physical training, craft, and design, attending to puppetry's interdisciplinary nature. Training team will be formed by La Tartana company members with years of experience in the puppet field and other recognised puppet mentors.

Puppet Centre education is focused on process rather than results. Therefore, constant exploration is promoted and encouraged. The aim is to provide students of a range of tools and strategies to experiment with animated forms and their possibilities.

The two-year programme will allow students to:

- Acquiring knowledge on mechanics, welding, carpentry, needlework, and painting to make puppets.
- Gaining knowledge on manipulation techniques and physical command to manipulate puppets.
- Acquiring knowledge on staging, lighting, sound, road management, acting and props to set a performance.

Training can be enriched through intensive monographic courses and masterclasses.

Concurrently, **Puppet Centre** offers a large range of courses and workshops to professionals and people interested on puppetry such teachers and families.





THEATRE VENUE

Puppet Centre counts with an intimate, versatile, and full equipped venue: Polichinela Theatre. This place will host shows for children and adults. Moreover, Polichinela Theatre will be at the service of the artist-in-resident programs and regular training.

LOCATION

Puppet Centre

Calle Siete Ojos, 0
28922 Alcorcón, Madrid (Spain)

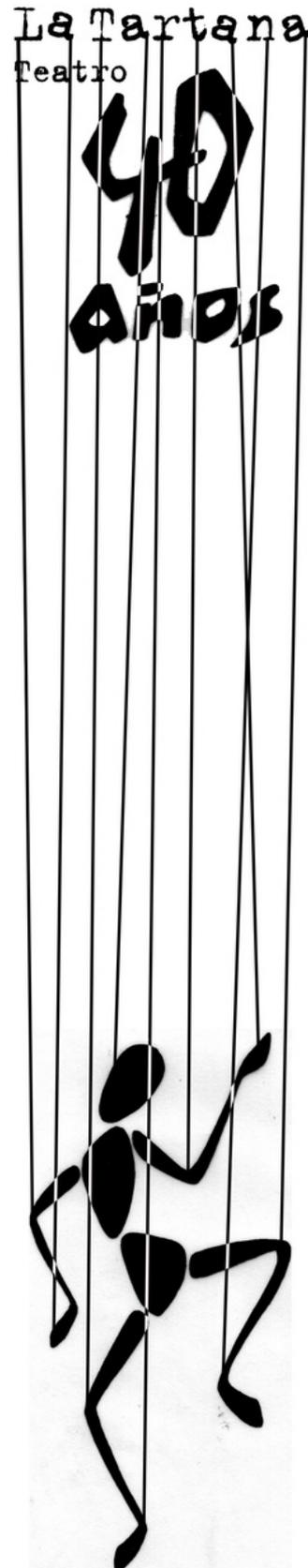
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LA TARTANA'S MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY

La Tartana counts with a permanent professional team. The company stands out for its creative facet and its awarded creations, but also for its management capability on many cultural projects along the decades such as:

- Teatro Pradillo foundation, programming and managing. Teatro Pradillo was a referent on the alternative theatre scene in Spain.
- The company established Pendientes de un hilo, a festival that includes shows, workshops, support to creation and different encounters between artists and audience. La Tartana manages and programmes the festival since its creation in 2017.
- Escena Contemporánea's management, a festival focused on contemporary performing arts.
- Programming a series for children theatre called Los Domingos al Teatro (Auditorio de San Lorenzo de El Escorial, Madrid).
- Supporting Teatro Paladio's artistic programme, an association focused on integrating disabled people on theatre world.
- La Tartana founded Madrionetas. The festival first edition included puppet shows and a renowned puppet exhibition curated by the company.



LA TARTANA'S ARTISTIC TRAJECTORY

CAREER

La Tartana Theatre Company was established in 1977. Over the decades, La Tartana has premiered 37 shows that have travelled around the world and visited myriads of festivals. The idea of experimenting with all kinds of puppets, playing with materials, sizes, lights, and colours, and giving life to the inanimate, have always nurtured the company. As a result, La Tartana's plays have remained in the memory of lots and have become a part of theatre history.

The first show was *Polichinela*, a puppet show dedicated to the legendary glove puppet character. La Tartana started conquering the streets with shows on parks, squares and avenues in Spain and all-around Europe.

Atracciones de Tartana (1979) o *Pasacalles 80* (1980) are a good example of this period.

Then, they conquered theatres with shows as *Lear* (1987) or *La flauta mágica* (1988). From their show *La roca y la colina* in 1996, the company focused on young audiences. Some of the creation from this period are *Frankenstein* (1997), *El niño de los sortilegios* (2004), *El Quijote* (2005), *Piratas* (2006), *Petshow* (2007), *Vacamioneta* (2008) or *Historias de derribo* (2009).

Some of the latest shows are *El rincón de los títeres* (2016), *Soñando a Pinocho* (2017), *Mi juguete favorito* (2018) or *Rossini en la cocina* (2019). Currently, the company is working on the next show.





LA TARTANA'S AWARDS

This is an awards selection of the many gave to the company along its 44 years of experience:

- Best show critic award to *Lear* at the XIII International Puppet Theatre Festival in Bielsko-Biala (1987)
- Finalist on best theatre direction awarded by the ADE, Spanish stage directors association (1989)
- Ojo crítico de teatro award for the best alternative theatre's coordinator (1995)
- Max Award for best children show to *Frankenstein* (1998)
- Emerging Trends Max award to Teatro Pradillo (2006)
- Critic Max Award to alternative theatre coordinator (2006)
- CELCIT medal to Juan Muñoz (2010)
- Best show award to *Hansel y Gretel* at the 30 Mostra Internacional de Titelles de la Vall D'Albaida (2014)
- Max Award finalist for *El guardian de los cuentos*, play recommended by the National Theatre Network. Rojas Award to best children show
- Max Award finalist for *El rincón de los títeres* (2017)
- ASSITEJ National Theatre Prize (2017)
- Max Award candidate for *Soñando a Pinocho* (2018). Play recommended by National Theatre Network



Managed by

La Tartana
Teatro

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