

PROGRAMME 2025

Festelón
FESTIVAL SPANISH THEATRE LONDON

13th EDITION

Welcome to **FesTeLõn!**



My name is Mariví Rodríguez Quiñones, and I'm the founder, producer and artistic director of FesTeLõn – The Festival of Spanish Theatre in London.

FesTeLõn was born in 2013 from a simple yet ambitious dream: to create a living bridge between the Spanish theatre scene and British audiences, where artistic proposals are contemporary, inclusive and profoundly human.

Over the years, FesTeLõn has become a unique meeting point: established and emerging artists share the stage; audiences discover new voices; and the Spanish language resonates strongly in an international context, while also giving space to other peninsular languages, as we will have the chance to see in this year's edition of the festival.

Our mission remains clear: to broaden this cultural dialogue, build new alliances, and bring our stories to an ever more diverse and wider audience. I warmly invite you to walk alongside us in this artistic adventure and to be part of the magic we share every year.



A heartfelt thank you to our in-kind collaborators, for your generosity and unwavering trust and to our 2025 sponsors.

To my wonderful TEAM, I offer infinite thanks — because you are everything to FesTeLõn and to me. Without your help, affection, understanding and respect, none of this would be possible.

Carmen Brieva and Sara Maté, thank you: you were with me when this project was still just a seed, and during its first year of life — a year that was incredibly challenging... but we made it! Bravo!

THANK YOU to those who are no longer with us physically, but whose presence remains alive in every memory and every edition. The passing of Simon Defolth a few months ago touched me deeply. From the very first editions of FesTeLõn, Simon, together with his wife Kathy, contributed impeccable translations and boundless dedication — but above all, a warmth and closeness that made them a fundamental part of the FesTeLõn family. Simon, thank you... your legacy will remain with us forever.

And to all of you who feel inspired to support this project, we invite you to speak with us before you leave tonight: to lend a hand, share your experience, or simply join our FesTeLõn family, where culture, friendship and joy intertwine.

Long live Theatre! Long live my Team! Long live our Audience!

Enjoy the festival. The curtain rises at FesTeLõn!



WELCOME TO FESTELÓN

Over the years, FesTeLón has worked tirelessly to expand its cultural offerings and enrich the audience experience, fostering active participation through workshops, discussions, and debates with some of the most prominent talents in Spanish performing arts. In the past 13 years, the festival has presented: 36 theatre productions, 22 masterclasses, 21 workshops, 6 concerts, 10 theatre screenings, and 12 fringe plays as part of FesTeLoff.

Join us in celebrating this vibrant exchange of artistic creativity and culture.

Welcome to **FesTeLón!**

MORE INFO



PERFORMANCES AND CONCERTS SHOWCASED

- 2013 El diccionario
- 2014 en un lugar el Quijote
- 2015 Las heridas del viento
- 2015 La piedra oscura
- 2016 Quijote
- 2016 Arizona
- 2016 Los espejos de Don Quijote
- 2017 Rosaura
- 2017 Himmelweg – Camino del cielo
- 2017 Big boy
- 2018 Malvados de oro
- 2018 A secreto agravio, secreta venganza
- 2018 La vida es sueño: el bululú
- 2018 Qué raros son los hombres
- 2018 Me siento pulga
- 2018 Guyi Guyi
- 2019 Handmade
- 2019 La Calderona
- 2019 La margarita del tajo que dio nombre a Santaren
- 2019 Yerma
- 2019 Puños de harina
- 2019 Grillos y luciérnagas
- 2021 Debajo del tejado
- 2022 Ilusia
- 2022 Inés de Ulloa
- 2022 The Divorce Court Judge
- 2023 The Copla Cabaret
- 2023 Songs from a Golden Age
- 2023 Las nanas según Lorca. Conferencia cantada
- 2023 Man & Canvas
- 2024 The Mad Sanity of Lady Macbeth
- 2024 Lost Poet in New York
- 2024 Imbécil. Stand Up comedy
- 2024 Songs for a fragile world
- 2024 Flamenco Meets Maquam

WORKSHOPS OFFERED

- 2016 Taller de caracterización moral para intérpretes del siglo XXI
- 2018 Introduction to Spanish Classical Theatre and Verse
- 2018 Training for Actors; Bodily Poetics
- 2018 Theatre Workshop: Movement
- 2018 Architecture Within Theatre: Objects and People
- 2018 Theatre of the Oppressed: An Introduction to Image and Newspaper Theatre
- 2018 Theatre of the Oppressed: An Introduction to Forum Theatre
- 2019 Warm-up for Actors (classical textual theatre)
- 2019 The tragic chorus in contemporary dramatic arts
- 2019 Not just a museum – it's a School, a Workshop, a University of real-life fantasy! Don't miss it!
- 2019 Puños de harina: dramatisizing autofiction
- 2022 The Evolution of Verse in Theatre Practice
- 2022 Los Primeros Pasos Del Clown
- 2023 Design and management of cultural spaces, from the container to the contents
- 2023 Reinventing the Classics
- 2024 Ready to act
- 2024 Strategy and positioning of Emerging Companies

MASTERCLASSES DELIVERED

- 2016 Entremeses cervantinos y censura en la España del Siglo de Oro: entre la Inquisición y el Aplauso
- 2016 In defence of Don Quixote
- 2016 Objeto-Sujeto
- 2016 Teatro político del siglo XXI
- 2017 Cervantes: women and theatre in his life and work
- 2017 Humour as a tool for social intervention
- 2017 Translating Himmelweg and The Persistence of Memory
- 2017 Theatre as a poetic space for reality
- 2019 Hip Hop and Classical Poetry
- 2019 Talk with the company “La Machina Teatro”
- 2020 ‘Se abre el Telón con FesTeLõn’: we speak to...
- 2021 Poetry for actors and directors - La vida es sueño
- 2022 La contemporaneidad del Teatro Clásico
- 2022 Estos son mis trucos para jugar a que lo que escribo es un recuerdo
- 2022 Queen Lear, un viaje hacia la luz
- 2022 Fuenteovejuna. La fuerza del pueblo
- 2023 MADRID, from the point of view of its cultural policies
- 2023 The Dark Stone: in memory of Federico García Lorca’s deepest love
- 2023 Play Without a Title: the story of a process for impossible theatre
- 2024 The theatre of scars. Rescuing the recent past

PLAYS AT FESTELOFF

FesTeLOFF is our fringe-style festival, where emerging theatre companies can showcase their work and reach new audiences

- 2021 Adela and Martirio
- 2021 La España negra. Jácara para un pícaro
- 2021 Lauren´s Call
- 2021 The Divorce Court Judge
- 2021 Point of No Return
- 2021 FesteLOff Jury Panel
- 2022 The 'S' Is Silent
- 2022 Heartbeats/taupadak
- 2022 Working Title: The Sewing Box
- 2024 Illuminate, light of Metal

FREE THEATRE SCREENINGS

- 2022 La ternura
- 2022 El bar que se tragó a todos los españoles
- 2022 Queen Lear
- 2024 Mi niña, niña mía
- 2024 Lorca, la correspondencia personal
- 2024 El bar que se tragó a los españoles
- 2024 Reikiavik
- 2024 Mrs Dalloway
- 2024 El diccionario

THIS YEAR PROGRAMME



Tuesday 28 Oct.
19:30 + Q&A



CONCERT: FLAMENCO MEETS MAQAM

Ignacio Lusardi Monteverde, Baha Yektin alongside, Lourdes Fernandez, Demi Garcia Sabat

Ignacio Lusardi Monteverde and Konstantinos Glynos alongside Lourdes Fernandez and Demi Garcia Sabat merge cultures, as East meets West in a harmonious collusion. Their combination of Spanish guitar, Arabic Qanun and foot work does not come as a surprise. Arabs brought their music to Spain, where it contributed to what we know today as Flamenco. Together, they present new musical ideas based on Middle Eastern and Flamenco music, with pieces, musical visions, that include Maqams, Andalusian harmonies and rhythms of the Middle East - from Babylon and Ancient Spain, to the present rhythms.

CHOP-CHOP

**Andrea Holland, Giovanna Koyama,
Helena Benot**

Chop-chop! is a fast-paced, Spanglish one-woman show bursting with absurd humour, bilingual whimsy, and physical comedy.

Two clashing caricatures — one chaotic, one hyper-organised — battle it out over one very delayed email... and the perfect tortilla recipe.

Inspired by Andrea Holland's Spanish and English roots, this inventive and energetic piece dives into procrastination, productivity, and the contradictions within us all. Packed with flair, satire, clever stereotypes, and a generous pinch of love, Chop-chop! is a riotous celebration of food, family, and identity. Come for the laughs, stay for what really feeds the soul!

Wednesday 29 Oct.

14:00 + Encuentro con público

Bilingual



**Festelón
OFF**

Wednesday 29 Oct.

Play + Q&A 19:30

Surtitles



FREE workshop 17:00

BLOOD WEDDING

**Projecte Ingenú. Marc Chornet Artells, Marina Alegre
Silva, Neus Pàmies Juárez, Mireia Sala Areste, Xavier Torra
Xuriguera**

On her wedding day, during the feast, the Bride decides to escape on horseback with her true love: Leonardo. The author bases *Bodas de Sangre* on a real fact (the crime committed in the Níjar farmhouse) to tell a tragic story about love and desire confronted with duty, honor and family interests.

Lorca portrays a brave woman who confronts her society to chase her own desire, her own dream, a claim that is still necessary today.

A show in which words are accompanied and sustained through song, electronic music, the body work and movement.

THE BALD SOPRANO

Ay de mí. Elvira Cardona Herrero, Rebeca Martínez Burgos, Beatriz Garrudo Delgado, Lola Fernández González, Santiago García López, Paula Mediano Plaza, Elvira Cardona Herrero

La Cantante Calva portrays the daily life of an English married couple in the outskirts of London.

The couple are waiting for their guests, who are late for dinner, so they have decided to start eating. Through satirical dialogue and absurd situations, the characters try to communicate, without succeeding, leaving a glimpse of a parody of society and a critique of humanity.

our proposal updates the original play by placing it in today's Madrid

Tuesday 30 Oct.

14:00 + Q&A

Surtitles



Tuesday 30 Oct.

16:00 + Q&A

Surtitles



AWARENESS

Valencia Stage Society (VSS)

A TV interview on a fictional show ‘España en el Mundo’ where Michael, a journalist for El Pais in English, is asked for his thoughts on living in Spain. The interview takes unexpected turns, as Michael talks through an arduous 2024.

HANDS: A STORY IN FRONT OF THE PIANO

Jorge Bedoya

It's a monologue that intricately interlaces Jorge Bedoya's musical pieces into a shared voyage with the audience. In this captivating performance, he skilfully traverses the realms of piano and spoken words, seamlessly blending humour and drama. Life's dual facets, akin to two sides of a coin, unfold on the stage.

His music is anchored on three core pillars: percussion, flamenco, and minimalism. These elements are artfully integrated into a unique, personal style that consistently challenges the boundaries of the piano. Each piece carries within it a treasury of memories and narratives that find their home on the keyboard.

Tuesday 30 Oct.

19:30 + Q&A

Surtitles



Friday 31 Oct

14:00

FREE

Consecutive interpretation



WORKSHOP: HOW TO WRITE A POEM

Concha García & María Luisa Calero

Through an exploration of six poems by Latin American and Spanish women poets we examine some of the fundamental elements of poetic expression, such as the poetic subject, rhythm, and the dimensions of space and time. The selected corpus includes works by Blanca Varela, Gloria Fuertes, Ida Vitale, Dionisia García, Olga Orozco, and Concha García.

The session will include brief biographical notes on each one of the poets under discussion, an outline of the key characteristics of their poetic styles, the analysis of iconic poems by these authors, and an introduction to selected titles from their works.

Participants will be provided with a dossier containing the poems to be analysed. A PowerPoint presentation will be used to support and expand upon the discussion of the texts

MASTER TALK: CON-VERSE

Paula Iwasaki

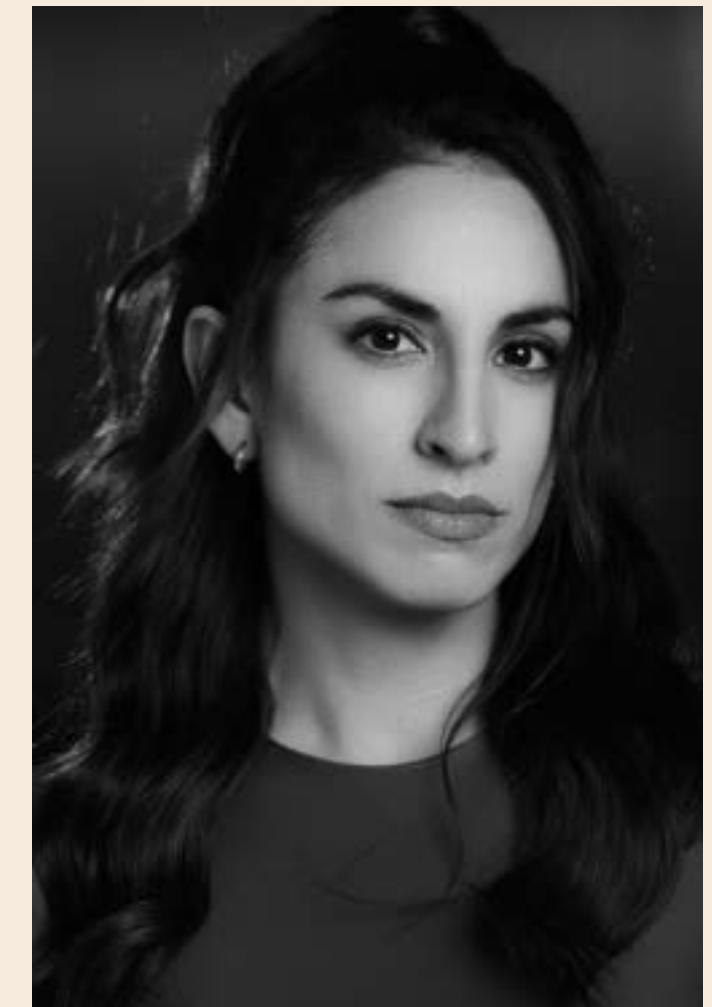
The rhythm of verse may seem daunting at first, but in truth it is a marvelous companion, breathing life into words upon the stage. Like a map, it guides us, showing how language can blossom into action.

In this gathering, we will discover that the rules of verse are not a cage, but a source of support and inspiration. They whisper clues about what a character thinks and feels, and invite us to transform those emotions into living movement.

Together, we will wander through monologues by Lope de Vega and Calderón de la Barca. We will see how theory offers us firm ground to stand on, yet how, in letting it go, we uncover the freedom of play and the truth of performance. We will also learn to listen to silence—those breathing spaces where characters speak to us more deeply than words can.

This is an invitation to all who are curious about classical theatre, and who wish to approach it in a way that is alive, intimate, and full of wonder.

**Friday 31 Oct.
17:00 + Q&A**



Friday 31 Oct.

20:00 + Q&A

Surtitles



TWO QUEENS, TWO KINGDOMS

**El tío Caracoles production company. Pepe Cibrián
Campoy y Nacho Guerreros, Nicolás Perez Costa**

Two queens, two kingdoms... The fight for a throne. An imaginary encounter that never happened. A postponed death sentence. The femininity and masculinity of power through two iconic women: Elizabeth I of England and Mary Stuart, Queen of Scotland.

Two feisty, transgressive women. Two women who depended on each other... An intense piece that promises to give the audience no respite, based on an exquisite text by Pepe Cibrián, masterfully brought to life by this acting duel between Nacho Guerreros and Nicolás Pérez Costa. Passion, intrigue, tenderness, emotion, truth, intensity... theatre in its purest form.

RECITAL: POEMS TO MUSICALIZATION

Concha García & María Luisa Calero

Saturday 1 Nov.

13:00 + Q&A

Translation

A constellation of some thirty poems will be given voice by Concha García and Marisa Calero. Verses by the authors that honour nature as the shared heartbeat of our planet—woven together with live music, so that word and sound flow as one.



Saturday 1 Nov.

15:00 + Q&A

Catalán with english surtitles



SUB TITLES OVER

Mad Who?. Marina Cusí Sánchez y Megan Farquhar

First of October 2017. Three am. A knock on the door. Everyone is holding their breath inside their sleeping bag, crammed in this boiling hot polling station.

Just hours away from the referendum for Catalan independence, deemed illegal by the Spanish government, two young anti-fascist activists hold hands in the dark, waiting for the Spanish police to arrive at any minute...

‘ - ¡Vamos a quemar esto con todos vosotros dentro!’

Did you hear that? Just a friendly cop nudging them to wake up...

This show is being performed in Catalan, with English subtitles.

A one-woman-show exploring subtitles' power and their hidden potential for control and manipulation within monolingual communities.

**STAND-UP COMEDY. IGNACIO LOPEZ: EL
CÓMICO**

Ignacio López

Star of Live At The Apollo, and Have I Got News For You, Ignacio Lopez, performs an armada of sarcasm, silliness, and songs, in this show about growing up in Spain and Wales, and clashes of cultures!

Saturday 1 Nov.

17:00 + Q&A

English



Saturday 1 Nov.

20:00 + Q&A

Surtitles



FIRE

La Bella Otero. Pablo Macho Otero, Emma Arquillué, Santiago Aguilera Velasco Mola Produccions con la colaboración de Institut Català d'Empreses Culturals ICEC y Amici Miei Produccions

In this monologue, written entirely in verse, full of satire, wordplay, and metatheatricality, we see how the protagonist's fascination with the historical figure of Herostratus gradually turns into an obsession, leading him to commit a crime worthy of his infamous idol.

CONCERT: MYSTICAL ECSTASY

Auric. Paula Rodriguez, Arthur Astier, Enrique Muñoz

This performance merges spoken word and music to delve into these memorable authors' life stories and legacies, highlighting the themes of sisterhood, resilience, freedom, and the courage it took for women of that era to pursue writing—a bold endeavour.

Designed with universal accessibility in mind, the show creates an intimate setting to convey the profound messages in these classical stories and poems. Utilizing live narrations, a sound visualizer, and subtitles, ensures an inclusive experience for visually and hearing-impaired individuals, and international audiences. The goal is to shatter barriers and elevate the overall theatrical experience.

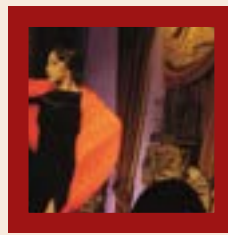
Sunday 2 Nov.

19:00 + Q&A

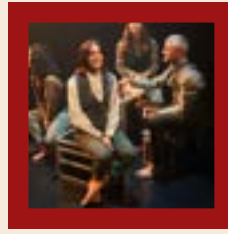
Surtitles



PROGRAMME



Tuesday 28 Oct. 19:30 Flamenco Meets Maqam. Concert



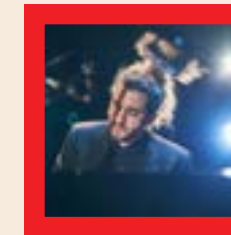
Wednesday 29 Oct. 14:00 Chop-Chop. FesTeLOff Play



Wednesday 29 Oct. 19:30 Blood Wedding . Play

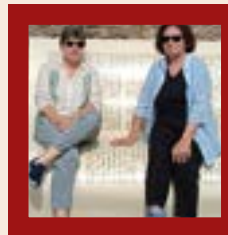


Thursday 30 Oct. 14:00 The Bald Soprano. FesTeLOff Play

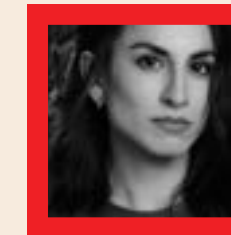


Thursday 30 Oct. 16:00 Awareness. FesTeLOff Play

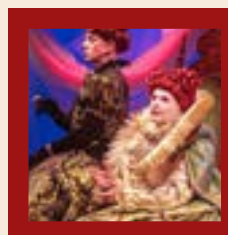
Thursday 30 Oct. 19:30 Hands. A story in front of the piano



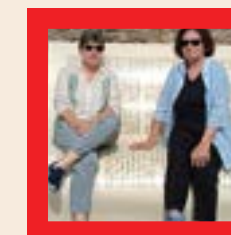
Friday 31 Oct. 14:00 How to write a poem. Workshop



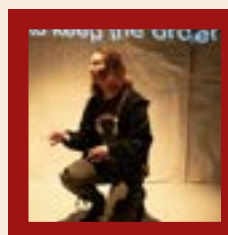
Friday 31 Oct. 17:00 Con-Verse. Master Talk



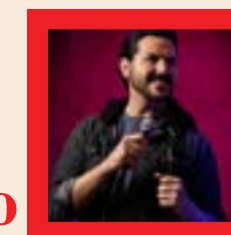
Friday 31 Oct. 20:00 Two queens, tow kingdoms. Play



Saturday 01 Nov. 13:00 Poems to musicalization. Recital



Saturday 01 Nov. 15:00 Sub Titles Over. Play



Saturday 01 Nov. 17:00 Stand-up Comedy. Ignacio Lopez: El Cómico



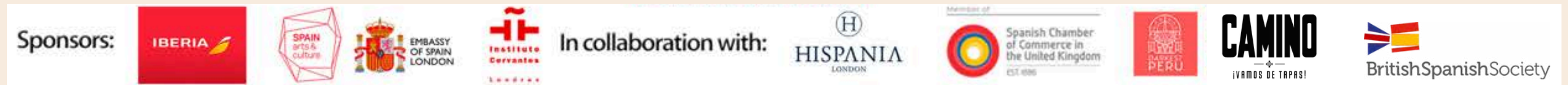
Saturday 01 Nov. 19:30 Fire. Play



Sunday 02 Nov. 19:00 Mystica Ecstasy. Concert

We are always grateful to our **collaborators** for their constant support of this project: Hispania, Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom, Darkest Peru Café and Camino.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to our sponsors this year: IBERIA, Oficina de Asuntos Culturales y Científicos - Embajada de España and Instituto Cervantes of London.



And of course, thank you once again to the **audiences** who join us every year and to the **companies and professionals** who are do their best to make this festival possible.

HOW TO HELP FESTELÓN?

Just by **attending**, you greatly help this initiative move forward. However, as an independent festival, any support is always welcome.

It would be fantastic if you follow us on **Instagram** and share our posts @festelon

Additionally, you can become a patron of the project (#BeFesTeLõn) in various ways using this QR code ----->

Leave your feedback here -->



Thank you very much!