

Ghosts OF WAR

SHOW DOSSIER



La Bafdufa

PREMIO NACIONAL DE ARTES ESCÉNICAS
PARA LA INFANCIA Y LA JUVENTUD 2020

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When La Baldufa invited me, it felt like a real challenge. Although I have spent more than ten years developing artistic and community mediation projects with young people, I had never directed a family show. And if that show is produced by a National Award-winning company, with thirty years of experience, founded by men ten years older than me... the combination was bound to be interesting.

On top of that, the creation process started from the book by historian Oriol Riart, Érem Feres, based on real diaries of former combatants from both sides of the Spanish Civil War. The challenge was to find how documentary material could enter the world of childhood, and how to talk about the Civil War (a subject that can feel intimidating) to children, as well as to the adults of any political background who accompany them. This is already a bold move for a performing arts piece aimed at young audiences.

And if, on top of everything, you are told: it has to be humorous, but also moving at times; it has to feel very "Baldufa", but also allow you to recognise yourself in it... then the search for consensus among the four creators is guaranteed. I won't deny that at times I looked around and wondered: what is someone like me doing here?

Our process has been genuinely connected to the very genesis of the show. Each rehearsal has started from the need to find ways of understanding one another—which is, ultimately, what Fantasmés de Guerra is about. To do so, we opened the process to the neighbourhood of La Mariola in Lleida, where La Baldufa is based, and to every place where we held residencies. Elderly people and children have seen it; we have run workshops and incorporated many of the ideas that emerged there.

In every encounter, we have practised dialogue in a sincere way. Because we truly believe there is no other way.

Lucía Miranda.



SYNOPSIS

Three inseparable friends grow up together, sharing games, laughter and dreams. Until one day, almost without understanding how, war breaks out; a conflict between brothers that separates their paths.

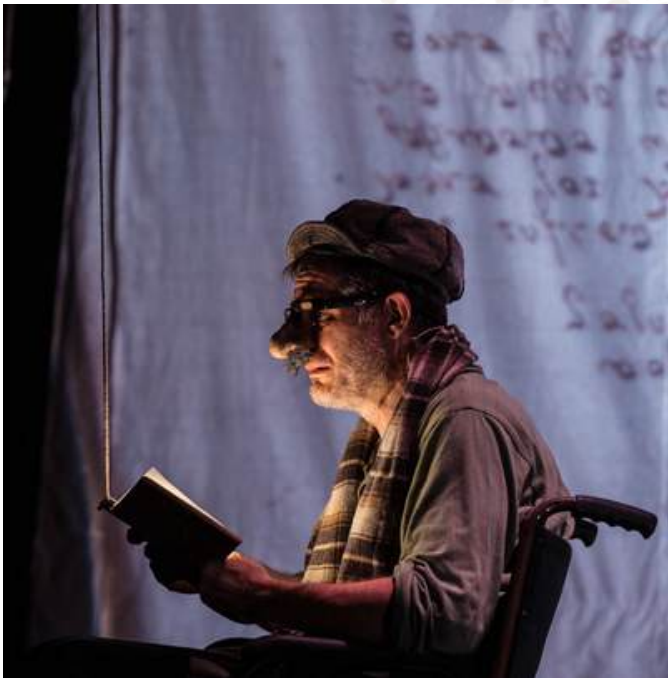
When time brings them back together years later, now as elderly men in a nursing home, the ghosts of the past reappear.

How do we say the things that were never said?
Why is it so hard to listen to one another?
And to ask for forgiveness?

Ghosts of War is a tribute to great friendships and a look at the Spanish Civil War through the lens of humour. Inspired by *Érem Feres* (Pagès Editors, 2023) by historian Oriol Riart, it draws on real diaries from combatants on both sides to create an original, intimate and deeply human dramaturgy.

An intergenerational show that invites children, young people and adults to share a story about friendship, the absurdity of conflict, and one last attempt at reconciliation. Or is it already too late?







THE PROJECT

The show is based on **authentic personal diaries** written by soldiers during the **Spanish Civil War**, collected and analysed by historian, archivist and photographer Oriol Riart in the book *Érem Feres* (Pagès Editors, 2023). This work explores the **impressions, fears, needs and emotions that soldiers from both sides recorded** while the war was unfolding on the front line.

These diaries, **written without the filter of memory or the distance of time**, offer a **direct and raw view of everyday life on the battlefield**. They describe deprivation, loneliness and exhaustion, but also hopes and small gestures that kept humanity alive in the trenches. It is a **shared experience that goes beyond sides and ideologies**, revealing the fragility and vulnerability common to all those forced to fight.

Although **the show is not a literal adaptation of the book**, it has served as the starting point for a process of scenic research aimed at giving voice to these personal experiences. The resulting dramaturgy seeks to **bring this reality—often unknown to today's children and young people**—closer through a human, intimate and empathetic perspective. **Humour** is used as a theatrical tool to soften the harshness of the subject and to create a shared space for reflection with the audience.

We did not want to create a show about the Civil War itself, but rather a piece with a **clearly anti-war and reconciliatory perspective**, exposing the **cruelty and absurdity of any armed conflict** and inviting the audience to reflect and ask their own questions.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Indoor theatre performance with live music

Recommended age: **10+**

Running time: **55'**

Number of performers on stage: **3**

Number of technicians: **1**

Touring team: **4**

Set-up time: **5h**

Get-out time: **2h**

Minimum stage dimensions:

9m width x 7m depth x 3,80m height

Optimal stage dimensions:

10m width x 8m depth x 5,5m height

Premiere:

Fira Mediterrània, Manresa, October 2025



ARTISTIC SHEET

Created by: **La Baldufa**: Enric Blasi, Emiliano Pardo, Carles Pijuan & **Lucía Miranda**

Directed by: **Lucía Miranda & La Baldufa**

Original music: **Òscar Roig**

Lighting design: **Horne Horneman**

Set design: **Carles Pijuan**

Costume design and making: **Rosa Solé & Associació La Nou**

Set construction: **Juan Manuel Recio, Carles Pijuan**

Technical direction: **Ferran López**

Historical advisor: **Oriol Riart**

Performers: **Enric Blasi / Emiliano Pardo / Carles Pijuan, & Pau Elias (música)**

Voice-over Catalan & Spanish: **Begonya Ferrer**

Production and distribution: **La Baldufa**

Photography: **David del Val**

Promotional video: **Laia Navarra**

Co-production:

- Fira Mediterrània de Manresa
- Laboratorio de las Artes de Valladolid (LAVA)
- Transversal. Xarxa d'activitats culturals

Residencies and creation support:

- Teatre l'Artesà, El Prat de Llobregat
- Centre de Creació d'Arts Escèniques El Canal-Salt
- La Sala. Centre de Creació d'Arts per a les Famílies de Sabadell
- L'Estruch. Fàbrica de Creació de les Arts en Viu de Sabadell
- Teatre Municipal de l'Escorxador, Lleida
- Teatre La Unió, Alpicat

With the support of:

- Generalitat de Catalunya - Departament de Cultura - ICEC



TECHNICAL SHEET

STAGE REQUIREMENTS

STAGE DIMENSIONS:

- Minimum: 9 m width × 7 m depth × 3.80 m height
- Optimal: 10 m width × 8 m depth × 5.5 m height
- If the stage is raked or not completely level, please inform in advance.

STAGE CONDITIONS:

- Black box
- Stage must be clear upon arrival
- Unobstructed load-in access

SMOKE & FIRE ALARM

- A smoke machine is used (provided by the company).
- The fire alarm system must be temporarily disabled:
 - During technical rehearsals
 - During the performance

This is necessary to prevent accidental activation caused by stage smoke.

WORKING TIMES

- Set-up time: **5 h**
- Get-out time: **2 h**

LIGHTING PLOT

- Full equipment layout
- Channel assignment
- Filters
- Lighting positions

LIGHTING

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY THE VENUE

- 14 PC 1kW
 - 2 PC (channel 25 in the lighting plot) for house light

If the venue already has dimmed house lights, these are not required.

- 7 profile spots:
 - 5 (15°–30°)
 - 2 (25°–50°)
- 11 LED PAR

Please specify brand and model/fixture. If not suitable, the company can provide its own equipment.

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY THE COMPANY

- 6 Robe LEDBeam
- 5 candelabras. *With cabling between 5 and 10 m*
- 1 overhead projector. *With 3 m cable.*
- 1 shadow projector. *With 8 m cable.*
- 2 practical light bulbs. *Cabling must reach the set.*

Note: dimmer-controlled fixtures require additional load.

LIGHTING CONTROL

The company uses EOS Family software for lighting control. A 5-point DMX connection is required. If you have 3-point DMX, you will need to provide a female DMX adapter to connect the EOS system backpack (provided by the company).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Dimmed and direct power lines according to lighting plan
- 2 street structures (lighting towers)

The focus should be about 80 cm from the ground.

SOUND

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY THE VENUE

- P.A. System
- 2 stage monitors
- XLR cabling for:
 - Set microphone
 - 2 DI
- Side patch for wireless microphones

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY THE COMPANY

- Set microphone
- 2 DI
- 4 wireless microphones

SOUND CONTROL

- Mixing desk: minimum 10 channels
- Reverb and delay required*

If effects are not available, the company will bring its own mixing desk.

The technician must be able to program effects.

- Minijack input required

DRESSING ROOMS & HOSPITALITY

- 1 dressing room equipped with WC, chairs, hangers, showers with hot water at least one mirror.
- Sufficient bottled mineral water for set-up, performance and get-out

STAFF REQUIRED

- 2 people for loading / unloading
- 1 stage technician
- 1 lighting technician
- 1 sound technician

TECHNICAL COORDINATION : La Baldufa

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BRIEF BIOGRAPHY: LA BALDUFA

Premio Nacional de Artes Escénicas para la Infancia y la Juventud 2020

La Baldufa was created in Lleida in **1996**. During these **30 years** we have been committed to creating **innovative and quality** performing arts shows, designed to be enjoyed by people of all ages, with special attention to **children and family audiences**.

One of the defining aspects of La Baldufa is that all our work, and even our day-to-day activity, is rooted in a **strong sense of social commitment**, present since the very beginning.

In our creative process, we **combine this social awareness with a distinctive visual universe**, always in service of the dramaturgy. Clown and **physical theatre** are the languages we feel most comfortable with, but we also enjoy **experimenting and blending disciplines**. Our creative process is slow, deep and holistic: we “cook” our shows over time, and during production **we prioritise residencies and theatre-based creation periods**, allowing us to fully immerse ourselves in the process and **build connections with the local context**.

We are committed to theatre for all audiences, but we place particular emphasis on **children and young people**, as we believe that contact with the arts at this stage is essential **to fostering critical and sensitive individuals**. For this reason, we defend that children’s and family theatre must have **the same level of quality and artistic rigour** as work aimed at adults. With this conviction, and **in defence of cultural rights** for all, we are members of **CIATRE, TTP** and **ASSITEJ**.

In **2020**, we had the honour of receiving the award “**Premio Nacional de Artes Escénicas para la Infancia y la Juventud**”, granted by the **Spanish Ministry of Culture and Sport**. The award recognises the company’s trajectory and highlights our “conception of the spectator as a capable, critical and reflective individual, regardless of age,” as well as our ability to create “universes of great poetic and visual richness.”

Over the years, our productions have also received **numerous recognitions**, including the **RECOMENDADO** label awarded by the Spanish Network of Theatres, Auditoriums and Public Festivals for most of our shows.

We have performed in many major national venues and festivals, including **Teatre Nacional de Catalunya, Gran Teatre del Liceu, Fira Tàrrrega, Festival Grec in Barcelona, Teatro Español, Centro Dramático Nacional, Teatro de la Abadía in Madrid** and **Fira de Titelles de Lleida**.

Internationally, we have toured in more than **20 countries**, performing at leading **venues and festivals**. We have also carried out artistic **residencies abroad** and participated in most **Catalan and Spanish theatre circuits and networks**.

Driven by our **social commitment**, for years we have also developed **small-scale social and cultural initiatives in our neighbourhood**, an area with high levels of segregation, migration, poverty and social exclusion. Since 2022, we have been organising the **Enre9 Festival, a live arts festival** aimed at empowering and energising the local community. From 2008 to 2023, we also organised the **Esbaiola’t Festival** in Esterrri d’Àneu, created to bring high-quality cultural experiences **to children and families in the Catalan Pyrenees**.



Companyia de Comediants La Baldufa, SCCL

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25003 Lleida

www.labaldufateatre.com



Co-production:



With the support of:



Residencies, collaborations and support for creation:

