

a treasure in the palm of your hand

theater in institutions

TARGET AUDIENCE :
M/3 YEARS
DURATION : 00H06



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a treasure in the palm of your hand

**a tiny story about a huge place
in the memory of Estarreja**

SYNOPSIS

On the tiny stage, each grain of rice becomes a symbol of memory, of the streams that shaped the natural landscape of Estarreja, of the water that fed the factory turbine, and of the murmur of the machines.

Through the eyes of a child, we discover life inside the factory: the smells, the heat of the machines, the routine, and the hope. And when, at the end of the 1980s, the factory closes, the world around it changes, but the story is not lost. Reduced in scale, memory takes shape, inviting the audience to hold in the palm of their hand a living fragment of Estarreja's identity.

This is a show of evocation and small greatness, a tribute to the culture of rice, to industrial heritage, and to the people who made it all possible.

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 abroad. 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 through 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 Portuguese Republic – Culture, Youth, and Sports / Directorate-General for the Arts, Espinho Municipality / Espinho City Council, and Gondomar Municipality. The structure is based at FACE - Espinho Art and Culture Forum and headquartered in Gondomar.*

A TREASURE IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND

target audience : M/3 years

duration : 00h06

group : theater in institutions

premiere date : 12 September 2026 (Saturday)

premiere location : Museu Fábrica da História - Arroz × Estarreja × Aveiro

COLLABORATORS . PARTNERS . CO-PRODUCERS

Museu Fábrica da História - Arroz

PRESENTATION

Inside a tiny box fits a whole world made of small grains, stories, and silences. In this miniature show, the audience peeks into the life of a child who grew up among rice grains, the rhythm of machines, and the murmur of the old Estarreja Hydroelectric Plant. In each grain, a memory; in each gesture, a factory that rises and disappears. An intimate portrait that rescues the value of those who lived and worked there, now on a scale that fits in the palm of your hand.

THEATER IN INSTITUTIONS

Since 2003, Teatro e Marionetas de Mandrágora has acted as a strategic partner in cultural mediation, implementing educational services that utilize puppetry as a vital tool for dialogue.

Our institutional programs are widely disseminated across the country, providing venues with pedagogical tools designed to bridge the gap between institutions and their visitors. These are sensory-driven performances that invite the audience to engage through participatory contemplation.

By promoting Educational Service programs through the art of puppetry, we establish a unique rapport with the public. We aim to foster a global mindset—encouraging audiences to reflect, ponder, and, above all, cultivate new cultural habits. Integrated into heritage promotion and the decoding of artistic languages for young audiences, this project champions the puppet as a powerful vehicle for communication and learning within educational settings.

HISTORY

"a treasure in the palm of your hand", premiered at "Museu Fábrica da História - Arroz × Estarreja × Aveiro" on 12 September 2026 (Saturday). To date, it has performed in 1 venue, 1 city, 1 district, 1 country (Portugal) and participated in 0 festivals and 0 meetings and 0 internationals.

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

TESOUROPALMA - DOSSIER - EN **1.1 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_dwn/dossier/tesouropalma - dossier - en.pdf

Imagery Archive

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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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

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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)*





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