

LEONOR
LEAL.
QUI SAP CAMINAR,
SAP BALLAR
[THE ISLAND AS A STAGE]

22.10.25 AT 6 PM
MUSEU DEL CALÇAT
I DE LA INDÚSTRIA,
INCA

Curatorship:
Iñaki Martínez Antelo and Alicia Ventura



Leonor Leal, *El lenguaje de las líneas*, 2024. Dance talk. Photograph: Carmen Verdú. Courtesy of the artist

PERFORMANCE

As part of Biennal B, artist Leonor Leal will dance in front of the Museu del Calçat i de la Indústria, in Inca. However, her performance will begin before that, with her dancing at the home of a shoe factory worker who, like so many others, used to walk to the factories in the area on a daily basis. Leal will combine walking and dancing on her way to the museum square, where she will perform wearing shoes made by Carmina Shoemaker. The phrase that gives this performance its title is inscribed on their soles: “quien sabe andar, sabe bailar”.

One of Leal's flamenco teachers uttered this phrase years ago, emphasising the importance of walking and stage presence. Through this action, the artist gives it new meaning and asserts its potential: at any moment, a step can become a dance. Although our feet are responsible for the most basic movements, they are also capable of turning, jumping, tapping and exploring space. Leonor Leal adopts the phrase as a starting point and takes it further: anyone can dance. In fact, we all dance somehow all the time: walking, travelling, leaving somewhere behind, going somewhere new, turning a corner, changing course, celebrating a new path or making a mistake along the way—experiencing everything that happens to us as our own choreography.

Apart from their own body, shoes are surely the most fundamental tool for a flamenco dancer. They make music, speak for us and accompany us. The artist cannot detach herself from them. They speak for her, protest and become a tool for war. However ephemeral dancing may be, the feet want to leave their mark, they want to speak, write and trace lines on the floor that modify the artist's work. “I dance as I want to be. I spin until my thoughts are clear. I brush the air and try to transform the atmosphere with my arms. I lose myself, praying while dancing and then drawing in the air again. Perhaps my dance won't get documented on paper, but I know what I embroidered on the ground with my heels.”

This performance features live musicians. The composition draws inspiration from the rhythms of shoe-making machines, popular flamenco lyrics about walking and melodies that inspire people to explore the square, the village and the entire island. The aim is to transform this dance performance into a dynamic encounter where shoemaking and dance intertwine, enabling us to express ourselves through movement, venture off the beaten track and make our mark on the world beyond the ground we walk on.

Leonor Leal's work is characterised by her exploration of the boundaries of flamenco from a contemporary perspective, treating the body as a territory for research and memory. Having trained in classical, Spanish and flamenco dance, she combines traditional techniques with open choreographic structures, collaborating with musicians, writers and artists from other disciplines and constantly reflecting on movement, rhythm and words. Her recent projects explore the relationship between dance and everyday life, the stage and life, and heritage and personal exploration, opening up new ways of experiencing flamenco.

Leonor Leal (Jerez de la Frontera, 1980), a distinctive dancer with a solid training in both classical and Spanish dance, expresses her creativity through flamenco. She is versatile, enjoys varied contexts and grows with challenges.

Since 2008 she has pursued a solid, stable stage career, which she combines with a range of projects (theatre, educational pieces and video dance).

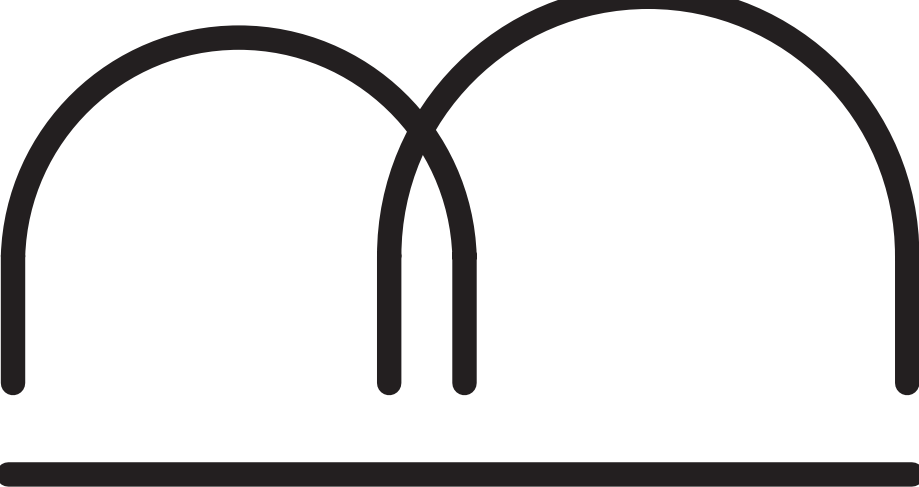
She features in the top international flamenco events, including the biennials in Seville and Holland, and festivals in Jerez, Dusseldorf, Esch-sur-Alzette in Luxembourg, Nîmes, Mont-de-Marsan, Toulouse, London and New York.

Her solo work has earned a range of accolades, including Outstanding Dancer at the 2008 Certamen de Coreografía de Danza Española y Flamenco in Madrid; Best New Artist at the 2011 Jerez festival, for her piece *Nocturno*; Special Jury Award at the Festival de Teatro en el Sur 2019; Best Dance Show at the 2019 Premios Escenarios in Seville, and nominations for Best Female Dance Performer and Best Dance Show at the 23rd Premios Max de las Artes Escénicas in 2020.

ARTISTIC CREDITS:
Performance: Leonor Leal
Guitar: Canito
Sing: Javier Rivera
Drums: Antonio Moreno

- Dance Facing South Until the Breeze Blows
- A Landing Along the Path for Twisting and Turning
- If You Were to Lose Your Anger One Day, How Would You Dance?
- Embroider the Ground with Your Feet for the World's Shawl

DANCE PATHWAY:



BIENNAL B is an initiative promoted by Es Baluard Museu d'Art Contemporani de Palma and the Consell de Mallorca, with the support of numerous institutions, agents and collectives of the island.

BIENNAL B highlights the cultural richness of the island of Mallorca and the Balearic archipelago with art as a tool.

BIENNAL B is a transversal, inclusive and non-seasonal project, born with the ambition to shape a creative ecosystem capable of integrating contemporary artistic practices with crafts and trades for the sustainable transformation of the Balearic territory.

BIENNAL B will activate ecological and cultural connectivity actions, a series of interdisciplinary creative projects and an international congress on art, culture and science.

PROJECT: Biennal B. The Island as a Stage
TITLE: «Leonor Leal. Qui sap caminar, sap ballar»
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