

Constância Dolls

theater in institutions



TARGET AUDIENCE :
M/3 YEARS
DURATION : 00H30





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Constância Dolls

**in safeguarding intangible
heritage**

SYNOPSIS

The challenge of creating a theatrical project based on the heritage of a territory was an exciting one. A territory marked by the convergence of the Zêzere and Tagus rivers underpins the growth of this region, founded on maritime trade and the boats that crossed the rivers.

The proposal that came to us from the Caminhos do Médio Tejo program promoted the appreciation of the art of making these dolls, which have been rescued by the Municipality of Constância. New doll makers have been trained to continue this legacy, which stems from the genuine intention of providing children with an object for play, games, and identification.

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 República Portuguesa - Cultura, Juventude e Desporto / Direção-Geral das Artes, Município de Espinho / Museu Municipal de Espinho e Município de Gondomar. The structure is based at FACE - Fórum de Arte e Cultura de Espinho and headquartered in Gondomar.*

CONSTÂNCIA DOLLS

target audience : M/3 years

duration : 00h30

group : theater in institutions

premiere date : 29 November 2025 (Saturday)

premiere location : Cineteatro de Constância x Constância x Santar



PRESENTATION

This project goes beyond promoting a tradition. It seeks to activate the cultural memory of the region by involving the community and stimulating interest in local heritage.

Women take on the role of making these figures. Girls in the past did not have toys, and it was from this need that dolls made of cane, wool, and fabric were born. This preserves the legacy of childhood history. Our proposal for intervention does not seek to replace, but rather to expand the artistic, playful, and educational dimension that these figures possess.

The scenographic component was fundamental here, with a miniature theater being built inside the skirt of a huge sculpture that refers to the figure of the traditional doll.

Another fundamental factor is the appreciation of figures and personalities from the region, such as Alexandre O'Neill, Vasco Lima Couto, and even the presence of the voice in the text written by Camões. However, we chose to take a bold path: who could these dolls represent, beyond the existing social structures and social stratification?

We opted for the representation of female personalities who have changed and influenced the national territory over time. We imprinted a concrete personality on these figures, traveled through different names and deeds, and allowed personalities such as D. Teresa de Leão, Amália Rodrigues, Florbela Espanca,



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.









TOUR

DATA	LOCAL
29 NOV 2025 . SATURDAY . 21h00	Cineteatro de Constância, Constância, Santar
13 APR 2026 . MONDAY . 11h00	Centro Escolar de Ferreira do Zézere, Constância, Santar
14 APR 2026 . TUESDAY . 11h00	Centro Escolar de Areias, Constância, Santar

TOTAL : 3

HISTORY

"Constância Dolls", premiered at "Cineteatro de Constância x Constância x Santar" on 29 November 2025 (Saturday). To date, it has performed in 3 venues, 1 city, 1 district, 1 country (Portugal) and participated in 0 festivals and 0 meetings and 0 internationals.

Its history includes 3 shows for an audience of 130 spectators.

"Constância Dolls" has been touring for 6 meses at the time of creating this document.





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

BONECASDECONSTANCIA - DOSSIER - EN **3.2 MB**

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

Other Documents

BONECASDECONSTANCIA - FOLHA DE SALA **2.7 MB**

<https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/matter/prj/mtm/bonecasdeconstancia/dwn/bonecasdeconstancia - folha de sala.pdf>

Imagery Archive

IMAGERY ARCHIVE PROMO **185.1 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_dwn/zip/prj_bonecasdeconstancia.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE PHOTO SESSION **749.2 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_dwn/zip/ses_bonecasdeconstancia.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE IN SITE **11.4 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_dwn/zip/sit_bonecasdeconstancia.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE WORK IN PROGRESS **93.2 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_dwn/zip/wip_bonecasdeconstancia.zip

IMAGERY ARCHIVE VERNISSAGE **697.8 MB**

https://www.marionetasmandragora.pt/_dwn/zip/ver_bonecasdeconstancia.zip

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

Direção Artística 914 514 756 Clara Ribeiro
Direção Artística 938 438 097 Filipa Mesquita
Direção Plástica 938 940 122 enVide neFelibata

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www.instagram.com/marionetas_mandragora
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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www.marionetasmandragora.pt/bonecasdeconstancia

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