

ARACALADANZA

COMPañIA

National Children and Youth
Theatre Award 2010

LOOP



UNA PRODUCCIÓN DE
ARACALADANZA

DIRECCIÓN
Enrique Cabrera



Premio FETEN 2022
al mejor espectáculo de danza

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited, while imagination embraces the entire world."

Albert Einstein

"These blue days and this sun of childhood"

Antonio Machado



Show for five dancers, several technicians and scenic material

A dance show for children (4 +)

Running time 55

Produced by Aracaladanza

Co-produced by Festival Grec Barcelona 2021

Partners: Diputación de Albacete and Teatro del Bosque (Madrid)

Premiered in Teatros del Canal (Madrid) on february 4th, 2022

BEST DANCE SHOW FETEN 2022

Gijón, Spain



Aracaladanza jumps into *LOOP* as an unconstrained flow of moments that question the limits of the stage in search of its magic, and at the same time, yearns to unleash the imagination of viewers of all ages.

Together with the same avant-garde team of artists that have so willingly shared inventiveness, creativity and aesthetic values for nearly two decades, **Aracaladanza** now turns the stage into the main protagonist.

The Madrid-based company, standard-bearer of a rigorous, high-quality stage language for family and kids, is proud to have been endorsed in this case by the **Festival Grec Barcelona 2021** and of the support provided by the Cultural department of the **Diputación de Albacete** and the **Teatro del Bosque** in Madrid.

What remains after a show when the applause dies down and the curtain falls?

What is left once it's over and only a work light shines on?

Who clears up and resets the props?

What is an empty stage like?

And what happens then?

In LOOP the stage is a blank canvas.

Theatre within a theatre. Dance within a dance.

Aracaladanza's trademark, speaking of the language, work and mysteries of the stage itself, once again turns *LOOP* into a visual performance, floating free like a dream, using images to build what is forever about to happen under the spotlight.

That is the magic that *LOOP* aspires to bring



LOOP is a love letter written by **Aracaladanza** to the stage machinery, in which dancers, machinists and electricians, together with curtains, spotlights, flight cases, backdrops, linoleum floors, stairs, carpets and mats, turn dance into a magical performance where the stage, its elements and those who work on it are the stars.

After the round of applause heard at the end of the show, spectators will be witnesses and accomplices in this imaginary adventure in which they too are part of the performance.



With a subtle sense of humour that permeates the entire show, the set design is the theatre space itself, where everything that happens ends up being discovered in such a way that the magic reveals its own tricks without ceasing to amaze.

artistic and technical team

Concept and direction	Enrique Cabrera
Choreography	Aracaladanza
Performers	Carolina Arija Jorge Brea Raquel de la Plaza Jonatan de Luis Aleix Rodríguez Jimena Trueba
Choreography assistant	Raquel de la Plaza
Original music composition	Luis Miguel Cobo
Others music	A. Vivaldi
Stage set and costume design	Elisa Sanz (AAPEE)
Lighting design	Pedro Yagüe (AAI)
Stage video design	Álvaro Luna (AAI)
Crafting props	Ricardo Vergne (AAPEE)
Crafting costumes	Verónica Expósito y Mer Lacostu
Crafting stage sets	Mambo Decorados
Backdrop painting	María Calderón
Photography	Pedro Arnay
Marketing videos	Ana Verastegui
Poster design	Beatriz Sánchez Maceda
Lighting and video technician	Enrique Chueca / Edu Berja
Machinery technician	Oscar Alonso / Miguel Ángel Guisado
Production and press design	Javier Torres
Executive producer	Patricia Torrero y Enrique Cabrera
National distribution	Alberto Muyo
International distribution	Ana Sala – Ikebanah Artes Escénicas

the fascinating universe of Aracaladanza



Since 1995, **Aracaladanza** has been sharing its fascinating universe with audiences, from the standpoint of someone who is convinced that magic can magically transform reality through imagination and dance.

National Children and Youth Theatre Award 2010 for its "commitment" to this audience and its "aesthetic, artistic and technical high standards"; has repeatedly received awards at FETEN (The European Performing Arts Fair for Children), which has once again awarded ***LOOP*** as the Best Dance Show 2022; winner of several MAX awards; critically acclaimed; followed by a loyal legion of spectators and invited to national and international festivals, **Aracaladanza** stands out for its unusual way of working, projecting new scenic visions of the imagination and creating exquisite shows aimed at children and teenagers with simple stories that through costumes, music, light, rhythm and movement also manage to engage adults in a fantastic world that seeks to enter their dreams and with it, appeal to the imagination as a powerful tool for freedom.

about Aracaladanza

Fantasy, imagination and magic are the essential ingredients of **Aracaladanza**, a contemporary dance company from Madrid, which was awarded the 2010 National Theater for Children and Youth Award.

The pioneering work in Spain done by the company directed by **Enrique Cabrera** has become a European quality benchmark.

Its productions have earned such important prizes as the Villa de Madrid for Best Choreography in 2005 for its show *¡Nada...Nada!*, and the prizes earned during the successive editions of the FETEN awards: Best Dance Show, Best Soundtrack and Best Lighting Design (1999) for *Ana y el arco de colores*; Best Costume Design (2001) for *Maletas*; Best Costume Design and Portrayal (2005) for *¡Nada...Nada!*; Best Show and Best Original Music (2007) for *Pequeños Paraísos*; and Best Show (2010) for *Nubes*.

The company has also won **MAX Prizes**, with 3 prizes in 2008 for *Pequeños Paraísos* (Best Children's Show, Best Costume Design and Best Stage Design) and 2 Max Prizes in 2011 for *Nubes* (Best Children's Show and Best Costume Designer). It was also a finalist in the Max Prize for Best Lighting Design for both productions.

But the recognition that **Aracaladanza** values the most is the privilege of fascinating an audience that is essential to the present and future of Spanish dance. It has done so throughout its history with 3 short pieces, 12 medium and large productions, 4 shows designed to be performed on streets and unconventional venues, 2 works specifically for babies and 8 commissioned national and international choreographies.

In the past five years, the company has raised the curtain more than **500** times; it has visited international festivals in Africa, Europe and Asia; it has worked in close cooperation with Argentine theatre and puppet companies; and it has performed on stages in Germany, Australia, France, Holland, Ireland, United Kingdom, Morocco, Mexico, Turkey, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. It has regularly been invited to international dance festivals all over the world and has managed get two of the most prestigious dance venues involved in its work: *Sadler's Wells Theatre* in London and the *Mercat de les Flors* in Barcelona. Plus, its latest productions have premiered in the *Abadía Theater* of Madrid, with which the company has a close creative relationship.

All of this would not have been possible without the support of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport and the Community of Madrid, both of which have provided their constant support for several years now.

about Enrique Cabrera – artistic director and choreographer

Enrique Cabrera, born in Buenos Aires (Argentina) in 1960 and living in Spain since 1989, is the driving force and true soul behind **Aracaladanza**, a company that he founded after winning the **Outstanding Choreography Prizes** with *Nigua*, which earned him the 8th Choreography Event in Madrid in 1994 and allowed him to travel to the **American Dance Festival** (EEUU).

Convinced from the outset that the source of inspiration came from creating for a younger audience, he poured all his talent into a single goal: to provide performances with proven technical and artistic quality.

His work with stage objects and elements has become his own personal “factory brand” which is easily identifiable as soon as the curtain rises.

His conception of art has allowed other renowned artists to get involved in his projects and feel like fellow participants in the very act of creation.

Because he has been the artistic director and choreographer of all the shows put on by **Aracaladanza** since it was founded, Enrique Cabrera has been asked to collaborate with different British organizations. Thus, he has held creation workshops in **The Place** (London) and in **Ipswich** (England), where he worked with a group of adolescent, non-professional dancers in 2006, for whom he choreographed a piece called *Dancing on the News*.

The warm reception of his work in the English-speaking world, where dance for families is on the upswing, as it was a decade and a half ago in Spain, drew the attention of the British company **Bare Bones**, which invited him to develop *Anywhichway*, which premiered at London’s **Royal Opera House** in the winter of 2005.

Furthermore, the dance agency **DanceXchange**, which is located in Birmingham (England) commissioned him to make a piece on the senses which premiered in April 2008 and was back on the stages in the spring of 2010; it is currently touring the United Kingdom and was presented in London at the **Royal Opera House**. *DanceSense* is its title. This choreography is part of a broader educational project aimed at teaching the senses in British schools.

Maiden Voyage Dance, the company from Belfast, which is interested in his concept of stage performance, invited him to create a piece for young audiences which premiered in 2014 and is called *Quartet for 15 Chairs*.

However, if his creative work is important, so is his teaching. And studying. He has taught children of different ages as well as adolescents and adults, offering dance, improvisation and composition workshops in different cities in Spain, the United Kingdom and Argentina.

He has repeatedly been invited by the British agency **DanceEast** to offer choreography creation workshops and to create choreographic pieces for young non-professional dancers and dance educators. **Dundee College** (Scotland) has invited the choreographer to teach classes to professionals who work with young audiences.

Nottingham University has always wanted to forge an alliance with the choreographer, and has asked him not only to teach master classes but also to convey to a group of British professionals his passion for the world of creation for children. The project, which has been under development for several years, entailed the creation of two pieces, *It's Mine* and *Sea of Clothes* (which is still on tour around the United Kingdom years later) and the residence of 6 dancers and a backup for 3 weeks in the headquarters of the company.

Likewise, in 2002 the international backing of his creative efforts brought him an invitation to **The London Contemporary Dance School (The Place)** to star in and direct a creative workshop for artists within **The Catch** international festival (London).

His work as a teacher has encompassed courses, seminars, dance workshops and master classes. One good example was the course **Dance and School**, which he taught to primary school teachers from Castilla y León. It was co-financed by the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Regional Government of Castilla y León and the European Social fund.

Nor should we lose sight of the different courses on childhood education and cultural management he has taken in recent years. Among them is the one organized by the Directorate General of Education of the Community of Madrid in 1994 entitled **The Creation of Dance Shows for School Audiences**. In 2002, he attended the international seminar organized by the Complutense Institute of Musical Sciences which examined **The Distribution of Dance in Spain**.

During the different editions of the Dance Competition of Madrid in 2004 and 2007, he was a member of the jury which shortlisted the works to be presented at that national competition.

And in 2005, the Ministry of Culture invited him to participate on the jury to choose the dancers who would receive grants to go abroad.

He has also been an active contributor to the **Trasdanza** program, and late last year he prepared the choreography entitled "*Cinco taburetes y no me puedo sentar*" for this program.

That same year, 2010, he was invited by Teresa Nieto to participate as a performer in the show entitled "*Tacita a Tacita*" by Teresa Nieto en Compañía celebrate the company's 20th anniversary.

His special work also drew the attention of key musical institutions in Barcelona's cultural life. Both the **Palau de la Música** and the **Auditori de Barcelona** have invited the choreographer to set to motion the music of great universal composers.

about the artistic team

Aracaladanza is a company that has always been concerned with bringing together a group of creators whose high quality work seeks to unite all scenic languages.

Remaining true to this vision over time has had its artistic results internationally acclaimed by programmers the world round and, at the same time, rewarded with numerous prizes and the audiences' praise.

Elisa Sanz, Pedro Yagüe, Luis Miguel Cobo, Álvaro Luna and **Ricardo Vergne** play a major role in the creative development of each of the shows that **Aracaladanza** presents on stage, thanks to dancers who have engaged in the emotion and magic of this long-term project.



the press says:

"**Aracaladanza** pays tribute to theatre in its dazzling new production '*Loop*'".

"... there are (good) dramatic effects, intelligent humour, showmanship, endearing moments, more than a few surprises, a fair amount of absurdity and no story, which familiarises children and teenagers with an unconventional narrative diametrically opposed to the traditional tale but very close to existing dance forms. And in that respect, it is certainly didactic."

"**Enrique Cabrera** has a very personal notion of the meaning of entertainment that began to take shape many years ago in his native Argentina. His dance is always activated and becomes effective from the interaction with objects and gadgets of all types, sizes and textures."

"Their dance rigorously applies classical choreography techniques but the ingenuity, the overflowing creativity and the skilful sense of performance, make it look novel, effective and tremendously entertaining for the whole audience."

"'*Loop*' is a success and more than a steppingstone in **Aracaladanza's** already remarkable career."

Omar Khan – El País, 6th February 2022

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"**Aracaladanza**, a veteran company in FETEN that knows what it means to win, produces genuine delicacies like '**Loop**', a visual dramaturgy that is pure beauty, hypnotizing the audience from beginning to end, making them enjoy and even laugh, because humour abounds in the different choreographies that are magically interwoven on stage".

"Far from hiding the stage entrails, **Aracaladanza** shows them off, puts them on display, uses them as part of the dance, and even includes the technicians."

"They received much well-deserved applause at Jovellanos (theatre) and yesterday, in front of the 800 attendees almost filling the venue, they again obtained a prolonged ovation with the dancing of children and adults in their seats to the sounds of 'Funky Town'."

M. F. Antuña - El Comercio, Asturias. 13th February 2022

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"'**Loop**' captivated us right from the beginning with that pseudo ending with which it all began that took us to the other side of the curtain where fantastic machinery lives that makes it possible for a show to pull us away from real life and immerse us in a fantastic world where everything is possible".

"The show behind the show, a real loop that does not end here but perpetuates itself in everything that happens after our applause, in the eyes of **our three young spectators** of 6 and almost 8 years old, who could not stop staring at the stage even when it was time to go, in our subsequent conversations, in our memory..."

Coral Gil – El Pequeño Espectador, 14th February 2022

" *'Loop'* stands out for capturing and cradling our senses: it's pleasant to watch, it's reassuring, holding and rocking us but with an infusion of energy".

"It quickly connects with the audience's curiosity and opens a door between fantasy and reality."

"*'Loop'* is a play that will delight both discerning palates and first-time viewers, leaving a sweet taste in the mouth."

Lidia López Teijeiro – El Pequeño Espectador, 14th February 2022

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"If they stop in your city look out for *Aracaladanza 's 'Loop'*. A dancing performance for boys and girls with a beautiful and powerful aesthetic, a great show full of wonder. Their plays are original, of the best artistic and technical standards that never cease to marvel. They have proved to be top performers yet again. I invited friends and they loved it, and so did their children."

Jesús Tirado – Ocho pistas, 18th February 2022

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LOOP is an Aracaladanza's production in co-production with the Festival Grec Barcelona 2021 (Spain), and with the collaboration of Diputación de Albacete (Spain) and Teatro del Bosque (Spain).

LOOP is supported by the Ministry of Culture and Sports for its national tours.



www.aracaladanza.com