

The Formentera Office of Culture is pleased to present the island's programme of performing arts and musicals for the autumn 2021 L'Illa a Escena. Culture and education chief Susana Labrador encouraged Formentera residents "to enjoy this varied assortment of musical and theatrical performances the island's government has planned to foment the local cultural scene. From October to December the Sala de Cultura (Cinema) will host seven productions of dance, music and theatre for adults and children.

October

The month begins with "Nube Nube" — a poetic, "Little Mermaid"-inspired play about the notions of romantic love we receive from early childhood. With humour and love, Periferia Teatro explore everything we're capable of when we set out to help others, to love and be loved, and how, sometimes, out of love, we forget who we are.

A new production, "Nube Nube" has already won Feten's 2020 Prize for Best Puppet Show, the Golden Dragon Award for Best Children's Show at the 2021 Lleida Puppet Theatre Fair and the Children's Jury Award for Best Show at the 33rd Festitíteres in Alicante (2020). Recommended for children aged 3 and over, the show starts at 6.00pm on Saturday 2 October in the Sala de Cultura (Cinema).

As part of the programme of events for International Day of Trans Depathologization, the Formentera Office of Equality welcomes "Entremeses travestis", an all-ages variety show in which two drag queens mix folklore, activism, lipsyncing and voguing for a blend of fantasy and art that will guarantee a fun-filled night.

The show can be seen on Saturday 16 October at 8.30pm in the Sala de Cultura (Cinema).

Also in October, Choreographer/director Toni Mira blends dance, AV mastery and music to deliver a benchmark in contemporary Spanish creation with "Blowing". Blowing traces the journey of a small spore who is determined to fulfil a wish made by Yuri. It's a windy ride, and one that's chock-full of adventure. A visual, poetic and innovative show, where dance, live music and technology project us towards a fantastic, magical and absurd world. Recommended for all audiences, the show starts at 6.00pm Saturday 23 October in the Sala de Cultura (Cinema).

November

November 13 marks the return of the great Marcel Gros. Humour and imagination come together in "Contes Amagats", where the self-styled troubador of tales embarks on a journey down imaginary paths full of shapes, papers, sounds and colours... in search of the stories that aren't yet in books. Ready to go anywhere in search of his contes amagats, Marcel Gros realises that stories are everywhere if you can only catch them...and sometimes you stand still and the stories catch you! Don't believe the hype... "Contes Amagats", from multiple award-winning Marcel Gros, earned the 2019 FETEN Prize.

Recommended for ages 3 and up, the show starts at 6.00pm Saturday 13 November in the Sala de Cultura (Cinema).

And at the end of November, Guillem Clua's hit play "Smiley, una història d'amor" comes to Formentera. Smiley makes you laugh and touches your heart. With humour it depicts the fears we face when we fall in love, exploring the transformations wrought by new technologies like WhatsApp, smart-phones and a bevvy of other tools and devices while masterfully dissecting the contradictions that freight affective relationships. Joan M. Albinyana directs as actors Héctor Seoane and Joan Toni Sunyer put in performances which earned them both the Public Theatres of the Balearic Islands' award for best male performance ex aequo.

The play can be seen next Saturday, the 27th of November at 8:30 p.m. in the Sala de Cultura (Cinema).

December

In December, islanders can look forward to the musical "Tina, la bruixa fina". The main character in this showcase of songs and puppetry is a very clever little witch who is determined to learn the secrets of her trade. To do it, she'll have the help of the older and more experienced male witch, Tomassot. Kids, get ready for an evening of fun!

The show starts at 6.00pm Saturday 11 December in the Sala de Cultura (Cinema).

Wrapping up the L'Illa a Escena programme on Sunday 12 December are performances on flute and piano by Úrsula Pomar and Jota Hidalgo, a pair who first crossed paths as teachers at the Formentera School of Music and Dance. For the recital, a unique concert infused with classical music and inspired by the pair's passion for the island, Pomar and Hidalgo present a technically demanding repertoire full of beauty and virtuosity.

The concert starts at 8.30pm Sunday 12 December in the Sala de Cultura (Cinema).

Admission

All children's shows are priced at €4. Admission to adult shows costs €7 for those over 25, and €5 for those under 25.

In view of the unusual situation stemming from the Covid-19 crisis, the 2021 L'Illa a Escane will be free of charge for unemployed people and currently underemployed freelancers.

Tickets

Tickets may be purchased at entradesformentera.cat, where theatre fans can also find information on the start of ticket sales. Sales will generally open on Friday the week before each show.

Fomenting culture

In its bid to spotlight the performing arts, L'Illa a Escena is backed by the Institut d'Estudis Baleàrics and the Platea programme of the Spanish Ministry of Culture. The goal is to promote joint programming of professional dance, theatre and circus troupes, enriching the local cultural scene and guaranteeing islanders access to culture.

Safety protocols and current regulations will be in place at performances.

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