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INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE
LAS ARTES ESCÉNICAS Y DE LA MÚSICA

**BALLET NACIONAL
DE ESPAÑA**

Ballet Nacional de España returns to the Úbeda Festival

*Rubén Olmo and Miguel Ángel Corbacho present a new
choreography of the Concierto de Aranjuez in concert version*

Úbeda, 2nd June 2023. When presenting its 2022–2023 season, the Ballet Nacional de España announced that it would begin a series of **special collaborations with symphony orchestras** over the course of the season. These collaborations would feature the **company's principal dancers and soloists**. June was chosen as the starting point for this initiative.

The **35th Úbeda Festival** will host the premiere of a new programme in which Spanish dance accompanies classical music in symphonic concert form. On this occasion, the collaboration will be with the **Orquesta Ciudad de Granada**, conducted by **Manuel Coves**.

The programme comprises the overture to Fernando Sor's ***La Cenicienta***, Joaquín Rodrigo's ***Concierto de Aranjuez*** and Manuel de Falla's ***El sombrero de tres picos***. The first work will be performed by the orchestra alone, while the latter two will feature dancers from the Ballet Nacional de España.

The main new addition to the programme is the **world premiere** of a new choreography for the ***Concierto de Aranjuez***, created by **Rubén Olmo**, director of the Ballet Nacional de España, and **Miguel Ángel Corbacho**, Assistant Director. The Ballet Nacional de España already had a complete ballet based on the *Concierto de Aranjuez* in its repertoire, choreographed by Pilar López. It was a work of pure Spanish classical dance that transported audiences to an earlier era. On this occasion, Rubén Olmo and Miguel Ángel Corbacho have created a flamenco-inflected choreography, seeking out the flamenco rhythms within the original score.

The programme concludes with ***El sombrero de tres picos***, now a classic of the company's repertoire. With this work, the Ballet Nacional de España also joins the commemorations marking the **50th anniversary** of **Pablo Picasso's** death. Picasso designed the sets and costumes for *El sombrero de tres picos*. The choreography presented is by Antonio Ruiz Soler, adapted for the concert version by **Maribel Gallardo**, rehearsal director at the BNE.

The **Courtyard of the Hospital de Santiago** in Úbeda will host the programme, which will also feature guitarist **Rafael Aguirre** and guest cantaora **Gema Caballero**.



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The soloists performing in the programme are **Débora Martínez, Eduardo Martínez, Estela Alonso, Pilar Arteseros, Irene Tena, Carlos Sánchez, Cristian García, Álvaro Gordillo** and **Matías López**.

Following its premiere at the Úbeda Festival, the programme will also be performed on 30th July 2023 at the MUSEG Festival in Segovia.

Programme

Soloists of the Ballet Nacional de España

Director: **Rubén Olmo**

Orquesta Ciudad de Granada

Musical Director: **Manuel Coves**

Rafael Aguirre, guitar

Gema Caballero, cantaora

La Cenicienta, overture (Orchestra only)

Concierto de Aranjuez (World premiere) (Principal dancers and orchestra)

El sombrero de tres picos (Principal dancers and orchestra)

Hospital de Santiago, Úbeda

2nd June 2023, 10:00 p.m.



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About the Ballet Nacional de España

The Ballet Nacional de España (BNE) has been Spain's leading public company for Spanish dance since it was founded in 1978 under the name Ballet Nacional Español, with Antonio Gades as its first director. It is one of the production units of the National Institute of the Performing Arts and Music (INAEM), which forms part of the Ministry of Culture and Sport. The BNE's mission is to preserve, promote and pass on Spain's rich choreographic heritage, embracing its stylistic diversity and traditions through its different forms: classical dance, stylised dance, folklore, escuela bolera and flamenco. It also works to bring Spanish dance closer to new audiences and strengthen its national and international profile within a framework of full artistic and creative autonomy.

Rubén Olmo, director of the Ballet Nacional de España

Rubén Olmo, winner of the 2015 National Dance Award, joined the Ballet Nacional de España in September 2019 with the aim of preserving, promoting and expanding the reach of the traditional Spanish Dance repertoire, while also incorporating new creations and opening the company to avant-garde approaches and experimentation. This marks his second period with the BNE, having previously danced with the company from 1998 to 2002.

From 2011, he served as director of the Ballet Flamenco de Andalucía, an institution belonging to the Regional Government of Andalusia, where he premiered his own productions, including *Llanto por Ignacio Sánchez Mejías* and *La muerte de un minotauro*. Before that, he founded his own company, for which he created productions such as *Érase una vez*, *Belmonte*, *Las tentaciones de Poe*, *Horas contigo*, *Naturalmente Flamenco* and *Diálogo de Navegante*. He has also worked as a choreographer and dancer with leading figures in Spanish Dance, including Aída Gómez, Antonio Najarro, Eva Yerbabuena, Víctor Ullate, Antonio Canales, Rafael Amargo, Isabel Bayón and Rafaela Carrasco.

Further information and interview requests:

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