

The Ballet Nacional de España will cast its spell with Manuel de Falla's *El amor brujo*

On 15th and 16th May, the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid will host
Manuel de Falla's emblematic work at its Auditorium,
located on the Leganés Campus, at 8:00 p.m.

Madrid, 13th May 2026. Manuel de Falla's *El amor brujo* will take centre stage on
15th and 16th May. The venue will be the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, which
will host this iconic work at its Auditorium on the Leganés Campus.

Under the baton of Manuel Coves, the UC3M Orchestra will perform a version
featuring cantaora Esperanza Fernández, narrator Ana Hernández Sanchiz, and
principal dancers from the Ballet Nacional de España: Inmaculada Salomón,
Débora Martínez, Miriam Mendoza, Eduardo Martínez and Matías López.

Spells, songs, dances, love... Rubén Olmo, Director of the Ballet Nacional de
España, reimagines *El amor brujo*, bringing a more contemporary and personal
vision to Manuel de Falla's classic.

Halfway between monodrama, ballet and concert suite, *El amor brujo* is one of
the most emblematic scores in the Spanish orchestral repertoire, with its 'Ritual
Fire Dance' as its best-known movement. Reworked numerous times between
1915 and 1925 in different formats, the piece remains permanently open to
creation and reinvention, as well as to collaboration with artists rooted in
flamenco.

"This new ballet is a metaphor for love," explains Rubén Olmo, who has drawn
solely on the characters from Falla's famous choreography in order to explore
the freedom of love and its different forms. As he explains, "Love cannot be
controlled. Love must be allowed to be free, to flow. Its freedom must be felt. It
is a nod to the freedom of love. Everything ends up where it is meant to be: in
free and true love."

This project is a joint initiative by the Orchestra of the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid and the Ballet Nacional de España.

Programme:

EL AMOR BRUJO
Ballet Nacional de España

Auditorium, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Friday, 15th May 2026, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, 16th May 2026, 8:00 p.m.

Last tickets available

<https://cultura.uc3m.es/eventos/el-amor-brujo-394/>

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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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