

My name is Marissa Gutiérrez, I'm Mexican and member of Los Vagamundos, we are a scenic group, we are dedicated to puppet's arts, we have a Lambe and others productions with different techniques of puppets.



Last November, thanks to UNIMA INTERNATIONALE I was the opportunity to assist at Festin de los Munecos at Guadalajara, in Mexico. It was a great experience, I could be part of participants workshop about paper theatre by Alejandro Benitez. In this workshop, I



could work with others puppeteers, their names are Guillermo López Ruvalcaba, Fernando Olmos and Karina Valle, We chose an African legend about the origin of the moon, the history counts at the beginning of time the sun was the only exist, and at night

when the sun has gone, just all that remained was darkness and the people of next village were going to Bamako and robbed their cattle and food. The villagers could not to fight back, because they couldn't see anything, in Bamako was a girl who was worried about her village, she wanted to help them, one night, while the girls was asleep, the god N'Togini appeared to her in dreams and told her how she'll can help her village, she gone to the river and went into it, before she touch water, the son's of god N'Togini, Djambe, appeared and took her to the heights of the heavens and told her: now, you'll be the light of your village, your smile will illuminated during nights and so, the habitants of Bamako will can defend oneself. That's the origin of moon according the Africans. With my team build with carton and another materials of paper the production to history. We decided to do a small revolving stage, here you can see some photos of process. Like us, were other people who build your own paper theatre with their history. Last day, each group present their history to the others. For me was a great experience to know the work the others colleagues and be able to create new universes, also he people who had never experienced puppet theatre, and of course Alejandro's work, always he was sharing with us our experience, videos about the technique of paper theatre and tips for our work.



This wasn't the only thing at the Festin de los munecos, there was at the same time, the workshop with Humberto Gacilia about the exploration of mechanisms applied to puppet art and his exposition named "Puppets seen from their inner mechanics" at Ex Convento del Carmen, it was interesting, because the almost puppets has made with different cotidians objects. During the week, I could see the plays: Alma Nómada of Magali Chouinard; Odin of company L'illusion theater de Marionettes from Quebec; Federico, Granada y Primavera of Mexican company Teatro Tinglado, La peor señora del mundo, that was a Alejandro's Benítez work and Ogo, of Le theatre des petites ames, from Quebec too.



The Festin de los Munecos, was a valuable experience to me, it gave me the opportunity to know other ways of bringing ideas to the stage, I could talk with some and asked them about the constructions of their puppets or why they were decided talk about the sea, about the loneliness, friendship, etc. Really, I'm so grateful with UNIMA, because, I really think sharing and meeting with others is the most beautiful way to improve our work and person. I left with a lot of questions and interest in sharing what has been learned, after The Festin, I think the paper theatre like option very interesting and great to Lambes.

In conclusion, I want to thank and congratulate Miguel Angel Gutiérrez and all the team that made the Doll Fest possible, the Luna Morena company and Unima for achieving festivals like this one. ¡Long live the puppets!