

# TUMBALA FUSTA

LA RUTA 40

XAVIER BOBÉS

PAU MATAS



FAMILY SHOW  
TEXT AND OBJECTS  
THEATER

**PWinning project of the BECA MANS 2023**, promoted by Viu el Teatre, aimed at the creation and production of shows for family audiences.



**FETEN AWARD 2025 Best Object Theater Show**



**Spanish and international  
distribution**

Ana Sala  
anasala@ikebanah.es  
+34 619951791

**Production and distribution in  
Catalonia**

Maria G. Rovelló  
produccio@laruta40.net  
639 544 353



*The experience of boredom in early childhood ignites the imagination and initiates independent and self-motivated observation, play and imagination. This situation also guides one to realize essential causalities between things.'*

## THE THINKING HAND

*by Juhani Pallasmaa*



# TUMBALAFUSTA

Tumbalafusta is the result of a process of collective creation by La Ruta 40, a Catalan company with more than thirty years of experience in text theatre and creation for adults, with **Xavier Bobés**, a stage creator with a passion for the poetics of objects, and **Pau Matas**, playwright, musician and sound spaces designer.

It is a show for family audiences that combines **text theatre, object theatre and music**. It revolves around fundamental themes such as **friendship, imagination, childhood, play and the passing of time**.

Wood is the main element of this proposal, in which two pairs of hands move pieces around the space and make **landscapes, stories, games, questions, images, words...** appear in an imaginary journey in which performers and spectators will share questions about how the world around us works, following the constant process of discovery that comes with growing up.

The creation process has been opened on different occasions to children and families in order to incorporate their viewpoint in the making of the piece.





# SYNOPSIS

A wooden box silently awaits its fate.

Two pairs of hands begin to move their pieces around the space. And landscapes are built as houses, a neighbourhood, a village, a town, a city...

And from the interplay between these four hands and this pair of heads everything is transformed.

Stories emerge from pieces of wood that are home.

From the neighbourhood arise sounds that are music.

And from the city we hear the voices of many boys and girls.

And we wonder what we are doing there.

And we discover how everything around us works.

And we learn.

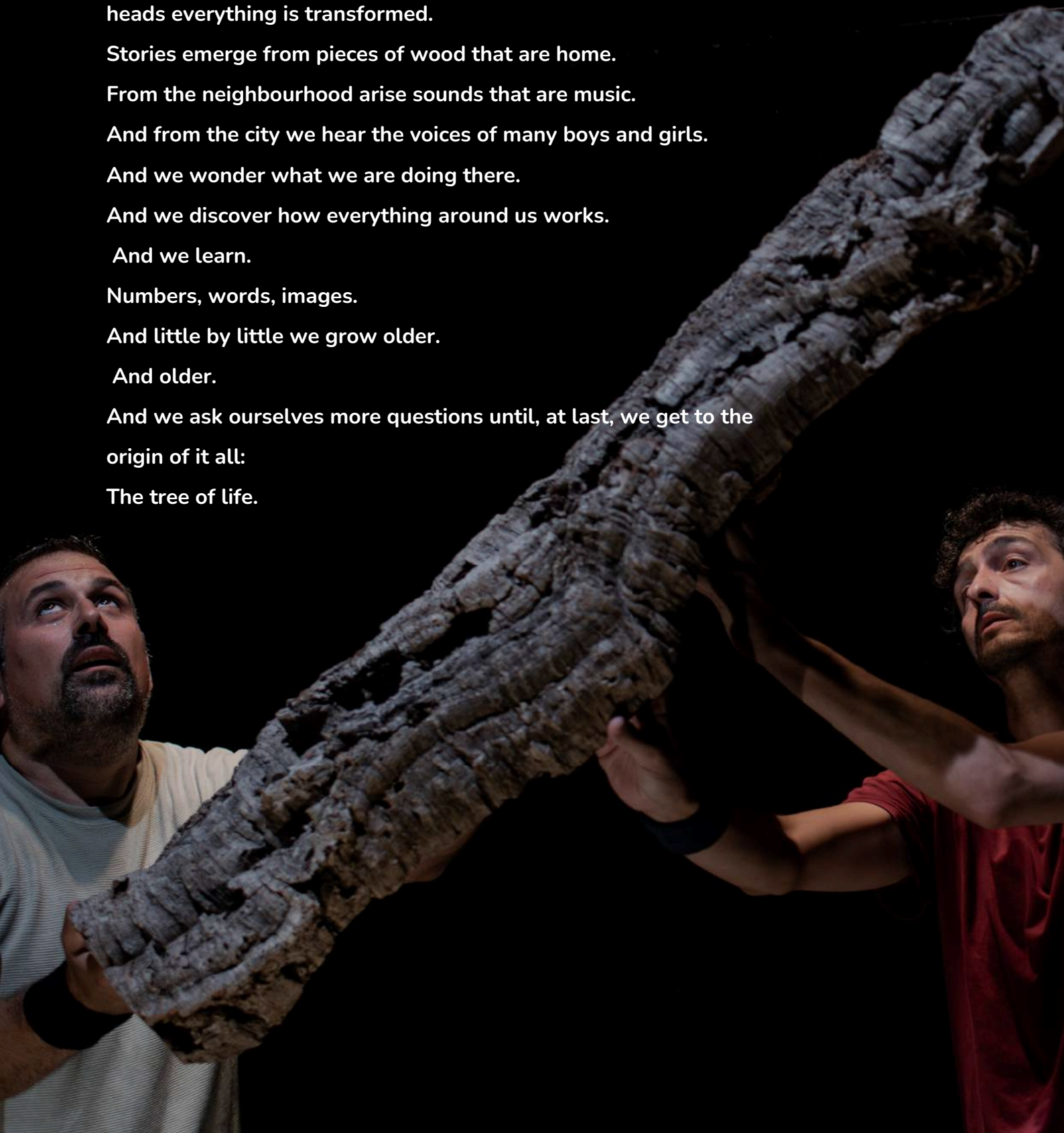
Numbers, words, images.

And little by little we grow older.

And older.

And we ask ourselves more questions until, at last, we get to the origin of it all:

The tree of life.



# VALUES IN THE CREATION



Tumbalafusta is linked to free play and unstructured materials, which would be those play elements that do not have a unique or specific function but can be whatever the child may imagine. They have no limits, rules or specific instructions, their functionality is given by whoever uses them. In our case, we have chosen **wood as a material without a definite structure**, which encourages free play and imagination.

We believe this type of material and proposal has great theatrical potential. **We work with the object as a core generator of universes, action, narration, fantasy...**

We promote giving a second chance to the meaningful load of objects and the fact that whatever happens on stage can be open to multiple interpretations and readings, instilling the **contrast between the gaze of the adult and that of the child**.

We want to reflect on the objectual experience in childhood, the trial and error, the cause. And to bring all this to the stage, into the ritual, as a series of causes and effects. We want to work with curiosity and absolute attention.

## REVIEWS AND OPINIONS

‘An exercise in sincerity and intimacy (even if fictitious) that connects with the child's heart, regardless of the viewer's age.’

**Jordi Bordes / EL PUNT-AVUI**

‘A delicate, intelligent, precious and precise family show. A praise to imagination, to childhood, to friendship and to the passing of time. Bravo.’

**Josep Maria Miró / Playwright and director**

‘A hymn to imagination and friendship for all kinds of audiences that turns scraps of wood from a carpentry shop into living, poetic matter to tell stories and celebrate ourselves. And how difficult it is to go so deep in reflecting on the passing of time from such a simple place.’

**Alberto Conejero / Playwright and director**

“‘I am absolutely a fan of well-thought-out family proposals, with sensitivity and aesthetics, that treat children as intelligent little people. This ‘Tumbalafusta’, by Xavier Bobes and La Ruta40 is wonderful”

**Clara Narvi3n / Cultural journalist**





# ARTISTIC CAST

Creation and playwriting

**Xavier Bobés, Pau Matas and La Ruta 40**

Directors

**Xavier Bobés and Pau Matas**

Interpretation

**Alberto Díaz and Sergi Torrecilla**

Music

**PauMatas**

Construction of stage elements

**Pep Aymerich**

Lighting design

**Conrado Parodi and Conchita Pons**

Production manager

**Maria G. Rovelló**

Pedagogical counselling

**Laura Tamayo**

Technical manager

**Emili Vallejo**

Technician on tour

**Esther Porcel**

Director's assistant and stage manager

**Alba Balboa**

Production

**La Ruta 40 and Festival Grec**

Production support

**Beca Mans (Viu el Teatre)**

**Teatre de Lloret**

Supported by Departament de Cultura  
de la Generalitat de Catalunya

- Age: from 5 years old
- Disciplines: text theater and object theater
- Duration: 50 minutes
- Audience layout: Italian stage with bleachers or audience on stage
- Available in Catalan, Spanish, and with English subtitles

A **free play area** is offered at the end of the show with replicas of the wooden pieces used in the performance.

A separate space is required, out of view of the audience when entering the room.





## LA RUTA 40



La Ruta 40 is a theatrical adventure that began in 2011 in Barcelona, with the aim of transforming the stage into a space for discovery and reflection. With a permanent team made up of Alberto Díaz, Maria G. Rovelló, Albert Prat and Sergi Torrecilla, and open to cross-generational collaborations, the company not only creates shows, but also builds bridges between generations and disciplines, making collaboration the cornerstone of its creativity.

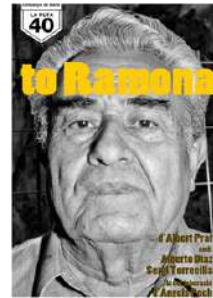
Its creations have not only captivated local audiences but have also left its mark on international festivals and stages such as Temporada Alta, Festival Grec and Fira Tàrraga. With an innovative vision, the company has explored contemporary theatre and sought collaboration with external playwrights and directors in order to be at the forefront of the performing arts.

During the 2019-20 season, the company was commissioned by the Teatre Lliure to programming for three months at the Lliure, under the name Lliure&Espai, and has worked in residence at the Nau Ivanow (2013-16), at L'Excèntrica, Centre d'Arts Escèniques in Santa Coloma de Gramenet (2017-18) and at the Sala Beckett/ Obrador Internacional de Dramaturgia (2018-19).

Its shows have been recognised with awards and acknowledgements, such as the 3rd ADETCAT - Catalunya Teatre Award (2020), the Critics' Prize for Best Small format Show for 'Reiseführer' (2019) or the Butaca Award for Best Small format show for 'El llarg dinar de Nadal', recognitions that revalidate its commitment to the performing arts and constant innovation. Yet, beyond the awards, the real value of La Ruta 40 lies in its ability to connect with its audiences, which are as diverse as its productions and become a special part of the company.

Like the longest and most spectacular road in Argentina, La Ruta 40 invites us to embark on an unforgettable journey through theatre.

# SHOWS LA RUTA 40



## AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

3rd ADETCAT Award - Catalunya Teatre 2020 in the category  
of 'Singular Artistic Project'

### Reiseführer

22nd Critics' Award 2019 for  
Best small format show  
Nominated for the Butaca 2020 Award for Best  
small format show  
Nominated for the Teatre Barcelona 2020  
Award for Best original text

### El llarg dinar de Nadal

Butaca Award 2015 for Best small format show  
Finalist of the BBVA Theatre Award 2016 for  
the Best show

### Cúbit

BBVA Theatre Award 2017 for Best actress:  
Anna Azcona  
Finalist for the BBVA Theatre Award 2017  
for Best show  
Nominated for the Butaca Award 2017: Best  
small format show  
Nominated for the 2017 Butaca Award: Best  
Actress (Anna Azcona)  
Nominated for the 2017 Butaca Award: Best  
text

# CURRÍCULUMS

## **Xavier Bobés**

Stage creator. He defines himself as self-taught. Passionate about the poetics of objects, he has been researching all kinds of everyday objects for twenty years. He collaborates with other creators as a creative consultant in the speciality of object dramaturgy. He investigates the symbolic/theatrical content of objects and all that is apparently banal. And he does all this through creation, rehearsal and teaching.

In 2022, together with Alberto Conejero, he created the show 'El mar: Visió d'uns nens que no l'han vist mai', premiered in February 2022 at the TNC in Barcelona and is currently on tour.



## **Pau Matas**

Playwright, musician, sound designer, graduated in Audiovisual Communication at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra and in classical guitar at the CMMB (Municipal Conservatory of Music of Barcelona).

As a playwright, he co-wrote 'Odisseus' with Oriol and Quimet Pla (Sala Beckett, 2016). He also co-wrote with Oriol Pla 'Travy' (Teatre Lliure, 2018), a project awarded the 2018 Critics' Award for Best small format show. On the other hand, he has co-written with Lali Álvarez 'Tha Tzpar (L'espera)' premiered at Fira Tàrrrega 2018. As a playwright, he collaborates with Clàudia Serrahima. In the audiovisual field, he works on the ideation and scriptwriting for video clips with the Asimètric Films production company.

The sound and music field has allowed him to have another bond with the performing arts. Over the last six years, he has created sound designs and soundtracks on a permanent basis and has premiered some forty shows.



### **Alberto Díaz**

Actor, director and teacher. Graduated at the COL·LEGI DE TEATRE DE BARCELONA.

He has worked in theatre, cinema and television. In theatre he has participated in more than thirty plays under the direction of renowned directors such as Lluís Pasqual, Josep Maria Pou, Carlota Subirós and Lurdes Barba, and with companies such as Dei Furbi, Arcàdia, Teatre del Repartidor and Males Companyies. He is a founding member of the company La Ruta 40 where he has participated in its 13 shows from different fields: creation, interpretation, direction and production. He also teaches at centres such as ERAM or the COL·LEGI DE TEATRE DE BARCELONA.



### **Sergi Torrecilla**

Graduate of both the INSTITUT DEL TEATRE DE BARCELONA and the COL·LEGI DE TEATRE DE BARCELONA. His latest works in theatre are 'Retrat de l'artista mort,' by Davide Carnevali at the Teatre Lliure, 'El Mar: Visió d'uns nens que no l'han vist mai,' by Xavier Bobés and Alberto Conejero at the Teatre Nacional de Catalunya and 'Una casa en la montaña,' by Albert Boronat at the HeartBreak Hotel. Founding member of La Ruta 40 where, in addition to being an actor in several productions, he has participated in the collective creations 'Reiseführer', with Ferran Dordal, and 'Tumbalafusta', with Pau Matas and Xavier Bobés.



### **Maria G. Rovelló**

After working for four years as a management assistant at La Seca-Espai Brossa (2011 - 2015), she established herself as a freelance in production and distribution, working steadily for various theatre companies. She is a member and production manager of La Ruta 40.

Over the last few years, she has worked with companies such as Solitària Teatre, Qars, Centaure Produccions, La Mecànica, Gelabert Azzopardi, Dei Furbi, for Bàrbara Mestanza, Pau Carrió, to mention a few.

