



# PALOMA

## OFFBEAT BALLAD

*by and with* Michela Marrazzi

*music* Mattia Manco / Rocco Nigro ▪ *dramaturgy and art direction* Tonio De Nitto  
*animation by* Nadia Milani ▪ *puppet* Michela Marrazzi ▪ *scenery, props* Simone Tafuro  
*costumes* Lilian Indraccolo ▪ *Thanks to* Laura De Ronzo, Blablaba, Raffaele Scarimboli  
*production* Factory Compagnia Transadriatica - Teatro Koi

*Paloma* is a dialogue between two souls. It is a scenic and emotional exchange between a charming doll, which reproduces the reality of an elderly woman's gestures with grace and detail, and that of music, which inspires, accompanies and supports them.

Paloma on stage is a singing soul, with big deep eyes, and with her baggage full of the time that has passed and that will never return. From each suitcase, Paloma brings out fragments of her story: childhood, youth, and a past love.

With her there is another figure who waits, observes, and silently determines the accomplishment of this journey back in time using a musical instrument and a metronome to mark the inexorable passing of minutes, and of life.

This figure of time or who knows who, is a mysterious presence, and Paloma naively tries to escape from him with her load of memories.

Onstage Michela Marrazzi is with her doll, a hybrid puppet (portée) in foam rubber to which she has given shape, gestures and soul, and a musician whose accordion marks time to the emotional crossovers of this journey.

Eolo Awards 2022 - *mention for Puppet Theatre*



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## **ABOUT THE SHOW**

A show with a dual interpretation for children and for the adult audience that has to come to terms with the passing of time and the quest for meaning in their own lives. Here, Paloma gently helps us to face the fear of death, believe in life and learn to free ourselves slowly from what is superfluous.

In the South American tradition (which has always bravely dealt with issues such as death, totally integrating them into its own culture) you will never die as long as there is someone who remembers you and tells your story. It's exactly what happens when Paloma at the end of the show sings: "if you sing about my story, I will never die but I'll live forever.

The director, Tonio De Nitto



**EOLO AWARDS 2022**  
**MENTION FOR PUPPET THEATRE**

For the care and attention with which Michela Marrazzi, following the dramaturgy and direction of Tonio De Nitto, animates, in the true sense of the word, a hybrid puppet in foam rubber with the features of an elderly woman in search of her past time, infusing her with a tender charge of humanity in a show of touching melancholy, which is counterbalanced by the accordionist Rocco Nigro who, complete with a metronome alongside, reminds her how time is an inexorable enemy to deal with.

## REVIEWS

[...] If this is theater for children, then we should all better move over there since rarely has there been such creative perfection in *mainstream* theater. Well organized scenically and directorially by Tonio De Nitto, the story is moving and poignant. We understand it step-by-step, suitcase after suitcase, while the metronome marks the rhythm of life: the suitcases contain past memories marked by the wrinkles of the puppet that still wants to play, dance and sing despite age, pain and grief. And we also want to with her. Discovering that the beauty of life has an intriguing sound and dance step is an invitation to make a musical score of our encounters, our loves, and our losses, putting swirling rhythms and inevitable slowdowns in the pentagram. I leave it to the public to experience the discovery of this magnificent materialized dream, inviting them to be carried away by the sirens of enchantment, and to remember that from today you can freely sigh aloud, without needing to silence any microphone.

Annamaria Monteverdi, [inthenet.eu](http://inthenet.eu)

[...] Exciting and poetic, Paloma's breath becomes gradually heavy. The spectator's heart measures the beats of her own until it disappears in the dark, leaving an indelible shadow of itself on the next beat. Stories, he says, make us live forever, for as long as there is someone who will recount them.

Simone Nebbia, Theater and critics

[...] The atmosphere that pervades this beautiful show is one of touching melancholy, mixed with healthy irony that makes everything deeper and acceptable at the same time. The Spanish melodies with a South American flavor, imbues everything with authentic magic and an ancestral flavor. Every movement of the puppet is studied in detail in its difficult relationship with the animator and the accordionist who inexorably controls it, not only musically, but also with gestures and facial expressions, reminding her of her duties and her most intimate pleasures. But as we know, in the end, we will also be able to understand that even time can be a good ally. It allows us to soothe even the deepest wounds, but also to make the memory of those who left us ever more alive. It will suffice to just pass it on to those who come after us.

Mario Bianchi, [Eolo-ragazzi.it](http://Eolo-ragazzi.it)

