

GIRAFFE

A magical, up-close dance-puppet experience for families and young audiences



THOMAS NOONE DANCE

A COPRODUCTION WITH THE GREC FESTIVAL OF BARCELONA 2026

Thomas Noone Dance presents **Giraffe**, an enchanting family adventure that combines the extraordinary puppets of André Mello, captivating dance theatre, surprising visuals and a bold contemporary soundtrack to create a world of imagination, humour and wonder.

Playful, surprising and full of heart, Giraffe is a joyful theatrical experience that celebrates curiosity, friendship and the beauty of seeing the world from a different perspective.

[Video Teaser](#)



The Story

When invited to a party, Giraffe realises her dancing doesn't match the others' expectations, sparking a wave of self-doubt which she attributes to Berta, the dancer who manipulates her. Giraffe blames Berta for her insecurities, leading to a magical separation where she retreats into a parallel video-projected world. There, she observes herself from a new perspective accompanied by Turtle, the wise storyteller, and ultimately finds acceptance - returning to the stage to reconcile with Berta and the other animals including the fabulous elephant, slinky serpent and somewhat over excitable Lion.

The piece explores self-acceptance, societal pressure, and reconciliation, all while playfully subverting gender norms and preconceived stereotypes. The video projections, created in collaboration with Carme Gomila, expand the stage into a dynamic, multi-layered space, sometimes duplicating characters, other times creating surreal and dreamlike scenes. The puppets, designed by André Mello in a stylised, bridge realism and childlike charm, ensuring accessibility for all ages.

With music by Jim Pinchen blending urban vocals and rhythms, electronic textures and richly layered acoustic instrumentation, Giraffe is a vibrant, heartfelt celebration of individuality, told through movement, storytelling, and a touch of theatrical magic.

The Collaborators

Thomas Noone, Choreographer

Founded his company in 2001 and has since created nearly 40 works. He serves as an advisor at SAT! Teatre in Barcelona, where his company is in residence. Noone also works with other companies, leads workshops, and is one of the leading figures in contemporary dance today.

Alba Barral, Assistant Director

A dancer with an extensive career, Alba has been part of Thomas Noone Dance (TND) since 2008, while also collaborating with Camaralucida, Dance On, and La Veronal. She supports Thomas Noone in workshops on his signature technique, Conscious Reduction.



Andre Mello, Puppet Creator

A sculptor specializing in puppet creation, Andre has designed puppets for Thomas Noone's works, including *After the Party*, *La gata que quería cambiar la historia*, and *Impostor*. He collaborates with Duda Paiva, a global reference in the fusion of dance and puppetry.



Marc Lleixà, Lighting Designer

Head of lighting at the Fundació Teatre Lliure in Barcelona, Marc designs lighting and audiovisuals for artists such as Juan Carlos Llerida, Àlex Rigola, Xavier Albertí, María Arnal, Marcel Bagés, Julio Manrique, and Juan Carlos Martel.

Jim Pinchen, Composer

A composer, multi-instrumentalist, songwriter and vocalist specialising in creating music that draws upon cinematic sounds, digital technologies and is inspired by music from around the world. Jim is also an award-winning TEDx speaker, a consensus building leader who ensures all voices are heard, and a practitioner who specialises in the use of music as a tool to support those living in areas of conflict/post conflict.



Oriol Esteve, Texts

Oriol has worked on programs like Buenafuente, APM?, and El Foraster, as well as documentary series, podcasts, YouTube channels, and TikTok. He directed Aupa-hi!, a humor program for ETB, and collaborates on campaigns with content creators and influencers.

Carme Gomila, Visuals

Specializing in audiovisual creation with a feminist perspective, Carme explores the hybridization of documentary, animation, and live visual arts. She has created visual proposals for artists like María Arnal & Marcel Bagés, Clara Peya, Ariadna Peya, and the dance company Alcance Elástico.

Montse Puga, Vocal Advisor

A graduate in Dramatic Art, Montse's extensive career as an actress extends to dubbing. She co-curates the programming at SAT! Teatre in Barcelona alongside Óscar Rodríguez.

Joel Mesa, Performer

Joel graduated in Contemporary Dance from Institut del Teatre in Barcelona. He has performed with companies in England, Poland, and the Netherlands, and upon returning to Barcelona, he joined Taiat Dansa, Javier Guerrero, Jesús Rubio, Leftlovers, and OtraDanza.

Berta Martí, Performer

After training at IT Dansa, Berta began working with the puppet company Per Poc, directed by Santi Arnal. She is now a freelance dancer, collaborating with Thomas Noone Dance, Cía. Per Poc, Jacob Gómez, Adrián Vega, and developing her own projects.



The Collaborators

Choreography and Direction – Thomas Noone

Choreography Assistant – Alba Barral

Puppetry – André Mello (Taller de Duda Paiva Company)

Music – Jim Pinchen

Script – Oriol Esteve

Vocal Coaching – Montse Puga

Video – Carme Gomila

Lighting – Marc Lleixà

Production – Sara Esteller

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