



Cia. PEPA PLANA presents: "L'Atzar"

From within the fascinating catalogue of human creatures, the clown is possibly the only one that does not know discouragement. See the clown's serious attitude and wonderful perseverance when intensively attempting to find solutions to the problems that may arise. Watch how the clown's neurones produce brilliant solutions. The problem though, is that every outcome is followed by a brand new problem, which will need, once more, different solutions that, in turn, will provoke new difficulties. The clown's life may be hard, true. But luckily fate often intervenes with its repertoire of happy accidents, and so the clown ends up unexpectedly finding the unforeseen.

Mercedes Abad



Description:

Following the company's working method (that of improvisation) towards the creation of a self-managed production, we now attempt to play around concepts such as chance, the mistaken or successfully taken decisions and the magic. This is the starting point. Matters are increasingly getting tangled up when we dress up the outlined situations with the nose of a female clown.

The working team is very similar to that of the last two productions, which, at very least, facilitates the understanding of codes right from the start. This is the first production without text.



Artístic "L'Atzar"

Female Clown

Magic Advisor
Music
Costumes
Lighting
Photography
Director

Production

Pepa Plana

Màgic Andreu
Lluís Cartes
Rosa Solé
Jordi Llongueras
Joan Sànchez
Pepa Plana
Oriol Blanchar
La Vaca Flaca

Company trajectory:

Pepa Plana creates her company with a clear intention: doing clown theatre for adults. Her first show "**De Pe a Pa**" opened at the Tarrega Fair 98 and it ran for eight months at the Sala Muntaner in Barcelona. After 250 performances around Spain it is still touring.

She presented her second show "**Giulietta**" at the 9th Clowns Festival of Cornellà in 2000; it ran for a season at the Sala Muntaner and after 300 performances around Spain it is also still touring.

She is being getting very good reviews and some different awards for both shows.

In Tarrega Fair 2004, she is presenting her third show, "**Hatzàrdia**", opened at the Circus- Trapezi Fair 04 in the Fortuny Theatre of Reus. It is the first time that she plays with a non-verbal code. "**L'atzar**" comes out from simplifying the technical conditions of "Harzàrdia" to be able to present it in other kind of spaces.



PEPA PLANA

Valls 02/05/1965

Education:

- Graduated in Performing Arts from "Institut del teatre de la Diputació de Barcelona" 1989.
- Studies in Performing Arts from "Josep Ixart" School. Tarragona. 1983/84/85.

Further training and education in theatre and performing arts:

- Directorial Workshop. Avner Eisenberg. London, GB. January 2005.
- Eccentric Performing Workshop. Maine, EUA. Avner Eisenberg and Julie Goell. August 2003.
- Workshop on magic for clowns. Màgic Andreu. July 2003.
- Angela de Castro. Curse on Clown techniques. May 2001.
- Moshe Cohen. Curse on Clown techniques. June 2000.
- John Wright. Physical theatre. The Clown and Shakespeare. April 2000.
- Roberto Ciulli. Seminar on clown. Bogotá. Colombia. April 1998.
- Ohirulari clown. Virginia Imaz. País Vasc. Several courses on clown techniques. 94/95/96.
- Roy Bosier. Comical actor. September 1990.
- Stage internacional of theater. Paris. Ariane Mnouchkine. Théâtre du Soleil. April 1988.

Productions:

"L'atzar"- november 2004.

Premiere of "L'atzar" by Pepa Plana and Oriol Blanchar, in Theatre Tantarantana of Barcelona as part of "November Vaca 2004".

Over 70 performances, where it is still on show.

"Hatzàrdia"- may 2004.

Premiere of "Hatzàrdia" by Pepa Plana and Joan Busquets, in Theatre Fortuny of Reus as part of "Catalonia's Circus Fair-Trapezi'2004. May 2004.

Over 70 performances in Catalonia and Spain.

"Giulietta"- october 2000.

Premiere of "Giulietta" by Pepa Plana, Harris Gordon and Carles Chamarro. This is the company's second production in the "IX International Clowns Festival of Cornellà".

Premiere in Barcelona in Sala Muntaner, february 2001. Two months on show .

Over 300 performances in Catalonia and Spain, where it is still on show.



"De pe a pa"- september 1998.

Pepa Plana company presents its first production **"De pe a pa"** by Joan Busquets and Pepa Plana (monologue for a clown) in "Fira de Teatre de Tàrraga'98".

Premiere in Barcelona in Sala Muntaner, November-98 . Eight months on show.

"Fira de teatre al carrer Tàrraga '99", premiere in spanish language.

Over 250 performances around Catalonia and Spain. where it is still on show

Prizes and awards:

- **ARC 2004 Prize.** Circus category for **"Giulietta"**.
- **Honourable Mention** for **"Giulietta"** by the "IX International Clowns Festival of Cornellà".
- **Aplaudiment FAD 1999 Prize** for **"De Pe a Pa"**.

Further professional information:

- Artistic direction of the **"V International Festival of Female Clowns of Andorra la Vella"**. May 2009.
- Artistic direction of the **"IV International Festival of Female Clowns of Andorra la Vella"**. May-June 2007.
- Artistic direction of the **"III International Festival of Female Clowns of Andorra la Vella"**. April 2005.
- Artistic direction of the **"II International Festival of Female Clowns of Andorra la Vella"**. May 2003.
- Direction of **"An-danda-ra"** a clown's production by An-danda-ra Company. Opens in April 2003.
- Artistic direction of the **"First International Festival of Female Clowns of Andorra la Vella"**. May 2001.

Other productions

Since 2006 participates in the production of **"La història del petit sastre" (The Valient Little Tailor)** with the **Granollers Chamber Orchestra**. In this production Plana tells the Grimm Brothers story, with the accompaniment of the orchestra directed by Francesc Guillén, and the scenic direction by Pep Bou.

"Un Tramvia anomenat Desig" (A Streetcar Named Desire). This production by l'Escena Nacional d'Andorra 2008 (Andorra's National Scene 2008) is a

re-examination (o poster adaptation) of the Tennessee Williams' classic with a different look into the character of "Blanche", which Pepa interprets with all her female clown baggage. The play opened on the 14th of November 2008 at the Teatre Comunal d'Andorra la Vella, followed by a season at Sala Muntaner of Barcelona in January 2009, and currently preparing a tour for the 2009/2010 season.



The media has reviewed it with comments such as:

The endearing Pepa Plana

The clown Pepa Plana, has created a range of endearingly captivating characters. She delves into the stock figures of the feminine imaginary world, from the cleaning lady to the stock mother, all just right for turning into the subject-matter of her gags, which are often imbued with a finely-spun melancholic, poetic tone. **Pepa Plana** has here a good show with little touches of magic, and evincing great attention to detail, such as the costumes, no doubt as a reward for constancy and plain honest hard work – efforts which bear fruit in these stories.

Pep Martorell in the newspaper *El Punt*, 13 September 2004.

Something to enjoy

Pepa Plana put on her clown's nose, went out on stage, and shone. She gave us an impeccable show. The show is full of fine moments – comic moments and touching ones too.

Joaquin Melguizo in the newspaper *Heraldo de Aragón*, 13 October 2005.

Solo

Pepa Plana is out on her own, making her way out onto the stage like a cleaning lady and then, through her ability to transform the most commonplace things into stage toys, succeeding in turning out a very intense show, with excellent staging and her constantly dazzling communicative power as a clown exhibiting wide-ranging abilities and captivating sensitivity.

Artez 100, August 2005.

Pepa Plana, a great clown

The Clown is perhaps the most accomplished personification of human existence. Pepa Plana has turned out a brilliant demonstration of this – an analysis of life through a direct language that is never recondite.

Joan Sala Vila, *El Vallès*, 8 April 2005.

A clown along more classic lines

Plana exhibits spectacular control over her body on stage – to the extent of looking like she's made of rubber – and carries on building up a clown who is touching, lyrical, full of herself (and very much so) and sexy, all backed up by incredible costume work. A clown that plays with everyone in the audience and wins them over unconditionally.

R. Porta in the newspaper *El Periòdic d'Andorra*, 5 March 2006.



Like a glove

What Pepa Plana does on stage looks very simple, but it is in fact very complicated: it's difficult to go out on stage and win over the audience in two minutes flat, without any trickery or any text to catch the viewer's attention. She avails herself of the finest traditions of the clown's art, as well as her considerable accomplishment as an actress, thanks to which she is skilled at sensing the mood of the audience, at pacing each effect, and at making the most improbable things seem believable. There are art theoreticians who tell us that creativity is simply an exercise in affinities, and the fact is that Pepa Plana wears the stage like a glove.

Miquel Vigo in the newspaper *Diari d'Andorra*, 5 March 2006.

Pepa Plana's tender and incisive humor

She appeared amongst the public that filled up the theatre. Humour has got a code, she suggested at the end. And she proved that she knows this code very well, because we couldn't stop laughing for a moment. She managed to bring out everyone's laughter even when she didn't move her blue and transparent eyes, with her extremely expressive face.

Maribel Nogué in the newspaper, *L'Enllaç*, 23 març 2006.

The nose as a shield

Pepa Plana's expressiveness runs through like a shivers from the first to the last row, managing to light up all the emotions. Wrapped by an audience filling the theatre, she tastefully joined together all the characters that wonder through "**L'Atzar**", a gallery of pitty souls with an eternal smile. Pepa Plana handles intelligently the dispensers of humor and melancholy, thus generating an immediate empathy which is, at the same time, long lasting.

Alfonso Arribas in the newspaper, *El Norte de Castilla*, 28 gener 2007.

Not only children

Kosmos Theater: Pepa Plana at the female clown festival

It is a widely spread mistake to say that clowns are only for children. The protagonists of the Female Clown Festival of Kosmos Theatre in Vienna show that this is not the case. And the catalan Pepa Plana and her play "**L'Atzar**" do prove so. A gaze, a few gestures – and from almost nothing it becomes a lot. Plana appears on stage as a housewife, a homeless person, a flamenco dancer, as well as improvising with whatever else may go on with the audience. It is a play to happily remember and, as it should be with a good female clown, it is never kept away from melancholy.

in the newspaper *Kurier*, Viena, 08 de desembre 2006



A massive spread of contagious laughter

The actress opened the square's programme in style, and quickly an atmosphere was created whereby the female clown and the audience didn't need words to communicate. Plana managed to captivate the audience right from the start. Magic tricks, tenderness, and plenty of fresh humor filled the audience with enthusiasm. **Norián Muñoz, in the newspaper *Diari de Tarragona*, 16 de setembre 2009.**

The five plays are own creations. "De Pe a Pa" and "Giulietta" are available in Catalan and Spanish. "Hatzàrdia" and "L'atzar" does not have text.

