



## BENJAMÍN ALONSO

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**PhD** at the University of the Basque Country (Gaston-Miron scholarship), **Master in Theatre Studies** from the Autonomous University of Barcelona and Barcelona's Institute of Teatre, **BA in Art History** from the Autonomous University of Madrid, Graduated from the **Centre Maschere e Strutture Gestualli** of Padova, Italy (scholarship from the Spanish Ministry of Culture) Graduated from The **International School of Theatre Jacques Lecoq** in Paris, France (scholarship from Provincial Council of Bizkaia), and **Graduate in Drama** by Antzerti (Theatre Studies Center in the BasqueCountry).

He also trained with Robert Lepage (creating for the stage) Jose Sanchis Sinisterra, Juan Mayorga and Larry Tremblay (playwriting), Antonio Fava (commedia dell'arte), Philippe Gaulier (clown), Theodoros Tersopoulos (Greek tragedy), Teatr Piesn Kozla, Yoshi Oida and Monika Pagneux (movement and actor's techniques).

Benjamin Alonso began his **professional acting** career with a production of George Buchner's **Woyzeck** in 1989, followed by Raymond Queneau's **Exercises in Style**, Neil Simon's **The Good Doctor**, Peñaflores's **The mocked drunk**, **Dracula, the Musical**, F. Durrenmatt's **Romulus the Great**, Slawomir Mrozek's **At sea**, Pío Baroja's **The Legend of Jaun de Alzate**, among others. He has also worked with companies as **Els Comediants** in Catalonia, **Vastok Company** in the Czech Republic or **NIE** and **TSF** in the UK.

From the beginning of his career, he worked at opera productions like actor, dancer and mime, mainly at Arriaga Theatre in Bilbao and the Royal Theatre in Madrid with major directors such as Luis Iturri, Gustavo Tambascio, Lluís Pascual, Jonathan Miller, Elijah Moshinsky, Graham Vick, Marina Bianchi or Giancarlo del Monaco among others. These works include **Hagar et Ishmael**, **Afternoon of poets**, **Othello**, **Medea**, **La Traviata**, **La Bohème**, **Rigoletto**, **The Abduction from the Seraglio**, **Tosca**, **Manon**, **Basarids**, **Rosenkavaller**, **Lucia de Lammermoor**, **Falstaff**, **Simon Boccanegra**, and others.

After finishing his training with the renowned master Jacques Lecoq in Paris, he focused his career on **stage and movement direction**. As director of movement and choreographer, he worked in numerous Spanish operettas like *The wonder of Damascus*, *Katiuska*, *The General*, *The duo of the African* and *The Jewish boy*, all produced and premiered at the Teatro Gayarre of Pamplona, as well as in the opera *L'Elisir d'Amore* produced and premiered at the Teatro Villamarta Jerez. Also in classics like *The Taming of the Shrew* (XXIII Classical Theatre Festival of Almagro) and *Love's Labour's Lost* of W. Shakespeare or *Verdemar Prince* of Valle-Inclán.

He is interested in new dramaturgies as well as in a contemporary vision of classic texts. He has created and directed: *Deus ex machina* based on the comedy of Woody Allen *God*, Bertolt Brecht's *The Good Person of Setzuan* and *Looking for Hamlet* from a screenplay by Kenneth Branagh, with the Theater of the Catalonia Polytechnic University; *Brossa life* from the poetry of Joan Brossa with the Theatre of the University of Barcelona; the concert-show *Travels and flowers* for piano, violin and actress in Barcelona's Nau Ivanow; *The Rape of Las Meninas* street theater for the City Council of La Laguna in Tenerife, *Full Moon* masked show based on the tragedy *Blood Wedding* by F. García Lorca; *Ferdinando* (FETEN Award), *Klar and Yoyo* and *Kuik, the ugly duckling* with the Teatro de la Luna puppet company of Madrid.

He was **stage director assistant** with **Ricard Salvat** in *X nit poetry* with Maria del Mar Bonet at the Auditorium of Sant Cugat in Barcelona and with **Ramon Simó** in Michael Frayn's *Copenhagen*, presented at the National Theatre of Catalonia in Barcelona. He was also assistant director with **Emilio Aragón / Fernando Bernués** in the children's opera *Noaye's Fludde* at the Royal Theater in Madrid.

In the last ten years he has developed an extensive **pedagogical work**: from 2007 to 2011 he directed the **Department of Theater in Catalonia's Polytechnic University** in Barcelona and he also taught in different schools and Universities. He has been **Movement lecturer in the Barcelona's Theatre Institute and in the School of Theatre of Santander**. He is also a coach in theater techniques applied to the enterprise since 2004 (Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Toulouse, Imantia, Icompani, Viventia, etc) and he worked in educational projects using the Performing Arts with some organizations such as the Community of Madrid, the Water Museum or "La Pedrera " in Barcelona.

His interests also include **playwriting** and he received *José Moreno Arenas playwright Prize* for *But, where is Juliet?*, *Café Bilbao Prize* for his script *Between chairs*, premiered in Guatemala City and published by Artezblai. Also, is the author of the children's play *Social animals' zoo*, performed in schools in the Basque Country for ten years.