



*Teatru
Manoel*

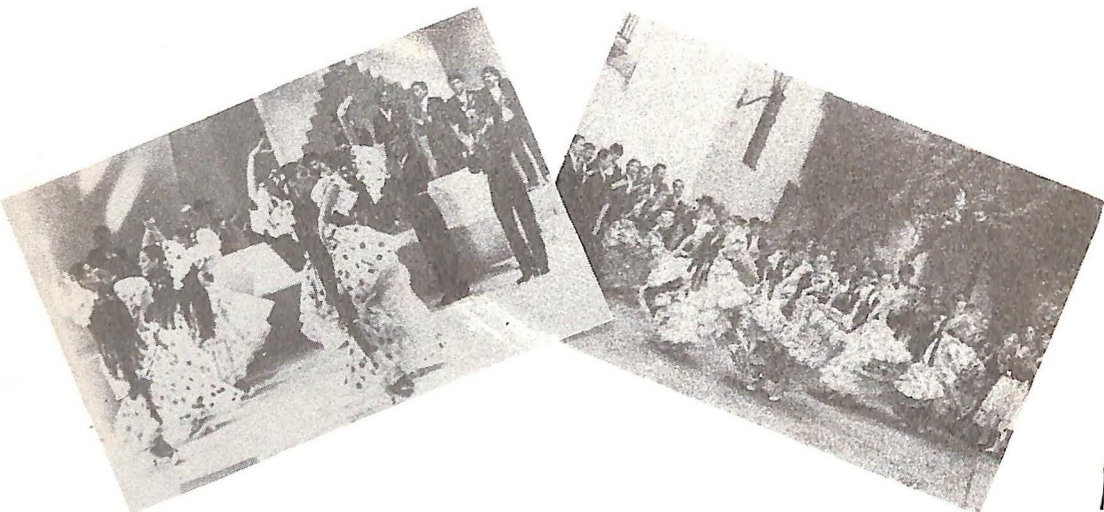
1083

1732



THE
MANOEL
THEATRE
MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE
in association with

a memorable evening of FLAMENCO, BOLERO and SPANISH DANCING
CIUDAD de SEVILLA
at the Manoel Theatre on Friday, 9th May at 7.30 p.m.



BRIEF CURRICULUM OF THE GROUP OF POPULAR DANCES "CIUDAD SEVILLA"

The Group of Popular Dances 'Ciudad de Sevilla' was created in the city of the same name seven years ago, thanks to the enthusiasm of a group of young students and workers whose ambition is the diffusion of Andalusian culture through its dances and music.

Under the patronage of the Excmo. Ayuntamiento of Seville, they started their first shows and in this manner, they made various tours in the province of Seville and in Andalucía.

The Group of Popular "Ciudad de Sevilla" has taken part in important festivals in Europe and America. Among these, on three occasions in the Festival of the Pyreness; Festival of Mechelen and Jambes (Belgium); Festivals of Tarcento, Tempio Pausania and Alatri (Italy); Festival of San Juan (Peurto Rico); Festival of Oloron, Montrejeau, etc. (France); as well as taking part in Festivals and cultural activities in countries like Ecuador, Morrocco, Austria, United States of America, among others.

The Group of Popular Dances "Ciudad de Sevilla" has represented Spain in the Defilé of the "Día de la Hispanidad" celebrated in New York in 1980, and has also performed in official activites organized by the Government of Spain and the Autonomous Community of Andalucía, with performances in the presence of Their Majesties the King and Queen of Spain (on two occasions); His Holiness the Pope; and the Presidents of Spain, Italy and Senegal; as well as in the presence of many other international personalities.

The Group has had confirmation of a tour of performances in Arab countries under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain.

At the moment, it is carrying out a great work of recuperation of dances, as well as of costumes and of popular traditions. The Group has at its disposal a very vast repertoire of dances, with more than twenty-five choreographies and mounting in different styles: flamenco, Spanish classical dance, bolero school of the XVIII century and regional dancing.

The Group always performs with live music, with the help of a the musicians who use guitars, lutes, bandurrias, drums and other string and percussion instruments.

PROGRAMME

TANGUILLOS DE CADIZ	- REGIONAL DANCE
FANDANGOS REGIONALES	- REGIONAL DANCE
LA CANA	- FLAMENCO
SEVILLA DE ALBENIZ	- SPANISH CLASSIC
TRIANA	- SPANISH CLASSIC

INTERVAL

SOLO OF "GUITARRA FLAMENCA"	
FANDANGOS FLAMENCOS	- REGIONAL DANCE
SEVILLANAS POPULARES	- REGIONAL DANCE
ALEGRÍAS DE CADIZ	- FLAMENCO
BODA DE LUIS ALONSO	- SPANISH CLASSIC

Antonio Manoel De Vilhena

Grand Master *Antonio Manoel de Vilhena*, a Portuguese, was elected Grand Master in 1722. A man of great intellectual qualities, he was popular with all, and his "savoir faire" earned him everyone's love.

At the beginning of his reign, fearing a second Turkish invasion of Malta, he promptly took steps against such an eventuality, and the enemy, seeing his preparedness, sailed away without even attempting a landing.

Having fortified the Island, he began to find ways and means of encouraging civil enterprise, and in the political field he managed to negotiate a treaty of peace with the Sultan of Constantinople.

As a befitting gesture towards the People of Malta, he built in 1732 the Manoel Theatre which is a living monument to his achievements. It keeps his memory fresh and glorious in all those who cultivate the Arts and all those who seek an honest recreation. as is implied by the Theatre's motto: "*Ad honestatem populi oblectationem*".



THE MANOEL THEATRE FOYER

The Bonici Palace on the corner of Old Bakery Street, acquired by the Manoel Theatre two decades ago, has been completely restored and now constitutes its foyer. It can be approached from the auditorium, the level of your box, or from the original courtyard. Climbing the staircase with its shallow steps of white Carrara marble you see at every turn shell-shaped niches in one of which you may find the bust of your favourite composer. Further up, double doors inset with bevelled-edged mirrors lead to impeccable cloakrooms.

There are wall brackets and chandeliers from Vienna, heavy silk curtains in bluey/green and gold, a pair of candelabra once the property of the Messina family.

You will see engravings characters and scenes from famous operas and showcases in which are to be found *memorabilia* of the Theatre collected throughout the years. An antique mirror hangs above the eighteenth century mantelpiece. Beautiful furniture has been collected from the Auberges and carefully restored. The ceiling is a particular delight, the newly hand-painted beams, so near in colour to the curtains, are decorated with the Maltese Cross and small crowns picked out in gold.

Keeping guard over all this splendour stands the bust of Grand Master Antonio Manuel de Vilhena which was recovered from Manoel Island.

A visit to the Manoel Theatre Foyer is a must for every art lover, this splendid old house, restored to its pristine glory, makes a marvellous venue for any art Exhibition. The setting and acoustics are perfect for recitals and poetry reading.

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