

INTERNATIONAL PUPPET CONTEST & OTHER ANIMATION FORMS Mar_marionetas 2017

OVERALL PROGRAM AND PARTICIPATION RULES

Since 2006, Câmara Municipal de Espinho (here and after referred as CME) has been organizing the annual editions of “Mar_marionetas – International Puppets Theatre Festival of Espinho”, which comprises a series of eclectic shows and performances that reflect the current artistic panorama in the field of puppetry. The event also includes a series of recreational and pedagogic activities such as workshops, exhibitions, street animation and others that bring the community closer to this art form. Some of them are even integrated in the academic program of local schools under a project called “Mar_marionetas – o festival que não se esquece!” (“Mar_Marionetas – the festival that cannot be forgotten”).

In 2014, CME created the “Contest of Puppetry and other Animated Scenic Objects” in order to promote the production of puppets and other scenic objects that can be manipulated but also to advertise and unveil the work that is currently being done in this field by both renowned and emergent talents. In addition to its competitive scope, this event presents itself as a platform that allows the public to learn more not only about this craft itself but also about the outstanding work developed by the artists selected to enter the contest.

The past 3 consecutive editions have proven to be a unique and stand-out success, evidenced by the participation of artists and creators both from Portugal and abroad, and also by the interest demonstrated by the public and general community. In fact, last year’s edition welcomed participants from countries like Brazil and Spain.

In this sense, CME decided not only to continue the “Contest of Puppetry and other Animated Scenic Objects” but also to enhance its international character, focusing particularly on its advertisement in other world tours and competitions related to the making of puppets and other scenic manipulated objects.

The 2017 edition of the “Contest of Puppetry and other Animated Scenic Objects”, organized and promoted by Câmara Municipal de Espinho, is based on the following program and participation rules:

1- Goal

The “Contest of Puppetry and other Animated Scenic Objects” is an initiative organized and put forward by Câmara Municipal de Espinho and it is integrated in the “Mar_marionetas International Puppet Festival”. In addition to its competitive scope, it constitutes a platform that demonstrates the quality of the selected works and aims to promote the production of puppetry as well as the artists behind it. It also comprises all the plastic artists who despite not being directly involved with puppet artistic performance, are linked to its making (as objects).

2- Selected Works and Participants

- 1- The objective of the contest is the puppets and other scenic manipulatable objects that can be used in performing shows and theatres.
- 2- The themes, techniques and materials are not imposed and can therefore be chosen by the participants.
- 3- The contest allows the participation of puppeteers, artisans, artists, sculptors and plastic artists from all nationalities.
- 4- Students who attend plastic arts degrees/courses at high schools, universities (both public or private), professional schools or artistic academies are also allowed to enter the contest.
- 5- Each participant is allowed to present 3 different works.

3- Entry

- 1- In order to participate in the contest, each artist must submit an application composed of:
 - a) Duly completed entry form (document to be requested from the contest organization services);
 - b) A brief typewritten biographic note (maximum of 500 characters);
 - c) At least 2 photos in digital format – JPEG – of each of the items being presented at the contest;
 - d) Synoptic description of each of the objects being presented, indicating the dimensions and weight (for eventual display) as well as the manipulating technique used.
 - e) In case the entrant is a student, it is compulsory to present proof of registration and attendance, duly signed by the school/academy/university in object.
- 2 – The elements mentioned in the preceding paragraph are mandatory. Noncompliance with the above listed will result in the exclusion of the application.
- 3 -The contents of the application must be presented in digital format and recorded on a CD.
- 4 – Applications must be delivered, in person or by post mail, until the 17th January 2017 to Serviços de Cultura e Museologia da Câmara Municipal de Espinho, located at Museu Municipal de Espinho, Rua 41/ Av. João de Deus, 4500 Espinho.

4- Applications & Works evaluation

- 1- The entries for both the contest and for the exhibition will be ranked and selected by a panel of judges previously chosen for this effect.
- 2- Throughout the selection process, the judges will make their evaluation based on the elements provided by the candidates in their entries.
- 3- CME will communicate the selected works within the shortest possible time period.
- 4- Prior to the opening of the exhibition, the panel of judges will meet to evaluate and rank all the works that are competing in order to assign prizes.
- 5- The decision of the judges cannot be appealed.
- 6- The judges' deliberations and findings will be explained and recorded in the official meeting Minutes.

5- Judging

The panel of judges selected for the "Contest of Puppetry and other animation forms" will be composed of:

- a) A representative/member of CME;

- b) The winner of the first prize of this content's 2016 edition, Raúl Constante Pereira;
- c) A well-known plastic artist picked by the contest's organization for this purpose.

6- Prizes

1- The prize(s) to be awarded in the Contest are as follows:

- a) 1st prize – 1.200,00€ (one thousand two hundred euros);
- b) 2nd prize – 500,00€ (five hundred euros);
- c) 3rd prize – 350,00€ (three hundred fifty euros);
- d) Jury's Special Prize for young artists and creators 500,00€ (five hundred euros);

2- The Jury's Special Prize for young artists and creators will be awarded to the best work developed by students who are currently attending art degrees/courses at high schools, universities (both public or private), professional schools or artistic academies. The goal of this award is to stimulate the art of puppet making among younger generations and discover emergent talents in this field.

3- If none of the works presented proves to be worthy of the prizes mentioned above, the panel of judges reserves the right to not assign them.

4- The Judges might be awarding honorable mentions, if a work so deserves.

5- The first prize - mentioned above in subparagraph a) – is an acquisitive prize.

6- Therefore, the author of the work winning first prize will transfer ownership rights of the work in question to CME and it will become part of Museu Municipal de Espinho's art collection, where it will be displayed.

7- Winners will also receive a certificate, that corresponds to the specific prize being awarded to each of them.

8- The ceremony where the prizes will be assigned will take place during the 2017 edition of "Mar-marionetas – International Puppets Theatre Festival of Espinho".

7- Exhibition

1-The exhibition of the selected works will take place from the 5th March 2017 until 26th March 2017, at Centro Multimeios de Espinho, during the 2017 "Mar-marionetas – International Puppets Theatre Festival of Espinho.

2-In order for the works to be integrated in the exhibition mentioned above, it is imperative that all works are delivered no later than 10th February 2017 (deadline for the delivery of all items). Works delivered after that date, will be excluded from eligibility.

3- Delivery of the works can be done in the following ways:

a) In person, at:

i) Serviços de Cultura e Museologia da Câmara Municipal de Espinho, located at Museu Municipal de Espinho, Rua 41/ Av. João de Deus, 4500 Espinho;

ii) Museu da Marioneta, at Convento das Bernardas, Rua da Esperança, n.º 146, 1200-660 Lisboa;

b) By post email, to the following address: Museu Municipal de Espinho, Rua 41/ Av. João de Deus, 4500 Espinho, attention: Serviços de Cultura e Museologia (shipping costs to be covered by the entrant).

- 4- The items must all be individually and correctly packed so that they can be transported. They must also present no damages of any kind and be properly named and identified.
- 5- The works selected to be exhibited can only be returned after the end of "Mar_marionetas – International Puppets Theatre Festival of Espinho".
- 6- The works will be available for pick-up and return at the same place where they were delivered, from the April 7th until April 14th 2017.
- 7- For participants living/coming from abroad, the organizers of the event will ensure their works' return, through appropriate means.

8- Right to renounce the monetary prize value

- 1- The winner of the first prize will be able renounce the amount offered, being no longer entitled to it if they wish to keep the work's ownership and copyrights that would otherwise be transferred to Museu Municipal de Espinho. In this case, the winner will be denied exhibition in the Museu Municipal de Espinho art collection, as per paragraph 6- PRIZES, subparagraph 6-.
- 2- If the winner of first prize wishes to proceed according to the subparagraph above, only a 1st prize certificate will be awarded.
- 3- The right to renounce the monetary prize value and therefore retain ownership and copyrights of the work that has been assigned the first prize must be communicated by the author to the competition's organizers at the moment of the awards assignment, so that it becomes public that there has been a renunciation to the monetary inherent to this prize. The organizers must also be given notice of such decision in writing.

9- Final Provisions

- 1-The event's Organizers ensure the protection of author and copyrights of all the process and items that are part of the candidates' entries, while also reserving the right to reproduce and publicize, by any means (photo, video, etc...) the works selected for the exhibition and competition, as long as they are not being used for monetary gain and always include authorship information.
- 2-The Organizers also ensure that the identity of the applicants that do not get selected to be part of the Contest are kept confidential throughout the entire process.
- 3-The panel of contest judges and CME reserve the right to decide any issued or questions arising, taking into consideration the purpose and principles that guide the realization of the event.
- 4-Issues not concerning the organization and function of this contest will be resolved by the Mayor of Espinho and after consulting of Culture and Museology Services.