

# CALEIDOSCOPE

T E A T R O



**Open Sesame!!**

# ¡¡ Abrete Sésamo!!



UNA PRODUCCIÓN DE :



CALEIDOSCOPIO  
TEATRO

CALEIDOSCOPIO  
T E A T R O

[www.caleidoscopioteatro.com](http://www.caleidoscopioteatro.com)

Con el apoyo de:

 **GOBIERNO  
DE ARAGON**  
Departamento de Cultura  
y Turismo



# CALEIDOSCOPIO THEATRE

... offers you ...

... a performance of visual theatre, where images, objects, music and words make up a magical universe full of small stories to delight, provoke, excite, learn, play... around one protagonist.....

..... **a book....**

A lock  
guards treasures  
that are neither gold nor riches,  
but rather objects that teach by delighting....

they are small or plump,  
full of ideas.... or of drawings...  
they have leaves... but not from a tree...  
they have a back ....but they're not horses.... hee,  
hee...

you have the key that opens the lock....  
your hand.... your imagination...  
open them !  
...and ...

you will see, travel, play, dream...  
you'll go for a dip , or you'll get a fright...  
they're full of friends....

come and enjoy their thousand and one stories....  
all you have to do is say....  
the magic words....

..... Open Sesame !!!! .....



## ORIGINAL IDEA

We thought it was a fascinating object... that brought to mind many feelings and pleasurable experiences that inspire our creativity.... our imagination....

some **sensorial**...

... stroke a book, turn its pages...

... feel your cat purring while you read...

... lose yourself in its pages and see how the letters come to life, run around and play by themselves like the main characters of their own stories...

others **with a message**...

... Giving books to children and grown-ups can be the beginning of a fantastic adventure...

... María Moliner's passion for words, their combinations and meanings weaving the beautiful kaleidoscope of her Dictionary...

Buñuel's mocking humour, his way of telling stories... "a day without laughter is a day lost"...

We wanted to tell stories with images, where shapes were the message, as in the plastic arts.... we play with letters, we create characters...

....and playing and playing...

... the show was born.

... Who said books are boring?

... We open one and we find there two magic words that open the doors to the infinite treasure of your imagination...

... Open Sesame!!!...

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# OPEN SESAME!

presents books as magical, unexpected objects....

Who really knows that might happen when you open the covers? .....the letters will come to life or they'll grow out of a flower pot....  
María Babel and her cat Morenito [*Blackie*] will play with them.

Stories are not always what they seem and can change....

A little boy caught up in a great adventure, discovers how the book – “ A boring present” – turns into a great treasure, a box full of surprises.  
A large hand strokes it, illustrates it and invites us to open it by saying the two magic words:  
Open Sesame!!

# SUMMARY OF THE PLOT

## **The hand**

The show begins with a large hand that asks us to guess what something is... illustrating it with various different objects... and ta daa ... a book appears. Its actions are the link between two short stories, it introduces, links and ends the show.

## **The book**

The first story shows us how magical everyday things are... the book as an object and the elements it is made up of.

The playful letters.... music, rhythm, the naughtiness of the cat, poetry and the way Maria Babel looks after and creates letters... will show us the dreamier side of the performance.

## **The birthday present**

The hand strokes the book and introduces the second story, which makes everyday things magical.

Based on a “true story”, a little boy is given an unexpected present.... he wanted the nintendo or a skateboard.... but this playful book will plunge him into a never-ending adventure.

In the end, they will become friends and a soft light will illuminate the little boy’s face as he reads his book, enraptured.

Our message? ....a book is a wonderful toy, we must never lose the ability to play... to dream... to imagine... there are many stories yet to be discovered, to be invented....

## TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

The performance is the result of various different techniques, masks, handling of objects, puppets and dolls, inflatable elements that make up a three-dimensional stage, light and black camera.

In the first part, a poetic text is used and in the second, a “barb” as is done by puppeteers, which makes for freshness and vivacity. Music also plays an important role in the work because it is also used for “telling the story”.

It contains our idea of theatre for playing, with scenes for seeing, listening, participating,.... It is for everyone, families, children, and all those who want to enjoy that special look and amusing sense of our childhood.

# VISUAL THEATRE

Caleidoscopio carries on with its research and has chosen Visual Theatre as its form of expression

... "A theater that establishes its poetics using images in movement, shapes that can be understood without explanations, figures that play with time and space"

... "A theatre where matter takes on the life of the actor and approaches the senses, dynamically and sensually, where the actor transmits his personal energy to the image, giving it expression with his movement and voice."

... "Use the techniques for animating shapes in a new way in order to achieve an essential theatre, without renouncing the characters and the dramatic game".

... "Systematize a theatre without formulas, constantly changing and questioning. A synthetic theatre, alternative, material, a visual theatre...."

...a performance, where images, objects, music and words make up a magical universe full of short stories meant to delight, provoke, move, learn, play.....

# THEATRE FOR PLAYING

In many languages, representing a theatrical work is referred to as “playing”, for example, in English “play” and in French “jouer”.

We would like to recover this amusing sense and share it with the audience, drawing them into the game and letting them participate and actively enjoy the rite of a theatrical performance, living it as a festive dimension, without losing its richness as a cultural event.

All this by means of Street and large format Auditorium Theatre, which take place on a stage and have itinerant actions that involve the whole space...

Dynamically and amusingly, they present an interactive adventure whereby the audience can find loads of friends to play with.

Elements of great visual force: masks, inflatable elements, pantomime, words, songs, music, puzzles, puppets, giant marottes... the work of the actors as inspired in the Comedia del Arte and the aesthetics that characterize the work of the Caleidoscopio Theatre comprise a surprising, modern work, that both children and grown-ups can enjoy...

Theatre for playing... an irresistible excuse for no longer being simple lookers-on, for having a great time and throwing ourselves into the wonderful world of the Theatre.



# **OPEN SESAME**

## **CAST**

**TITLE**

"OPEN SESAME"

**AUTHOR**

ROBERTO BARRA

**ARTISTIC DIRECTION**

AZUCENA GIMENO

**TECHNICAL DIRECTION**

ROBERTO BARRA

**OBJECTS MASKS AND PROPS**

CALEIDOSCOPIO WORKSHOP

**WARDROBE**

PENELOPE - MONTSE PORTERO

## **ACTORS/HANDLERS**

ROBERTO BARRA

AZUCENA GIMENO

VICENTE MARTÍNEZ

YOLANDA CORRAL

ALINE BREDELET

JAVIER RIVASES

**LIGHT AND SOUND TECHNICIAN**

EMILIO GAZO

**LIGHTING DESIGN**

ROBERTO BARRA

**SOUND TRACK**

SELECTION R. BARRA

**GRAPHIC DESIGN**

SERGIO ABRAIN

**WEB DESIGN**

PALOMA BARRA

**INFLATABLE ELEMENTS**

MAYGAR GRUP

**FUNGIBLE ELEMENTS**

EL COTILLÓN /ASUN LÓPEZ

**PREFERRED AUDIENCE**

CHILDREN / GENERAL PUBLIC

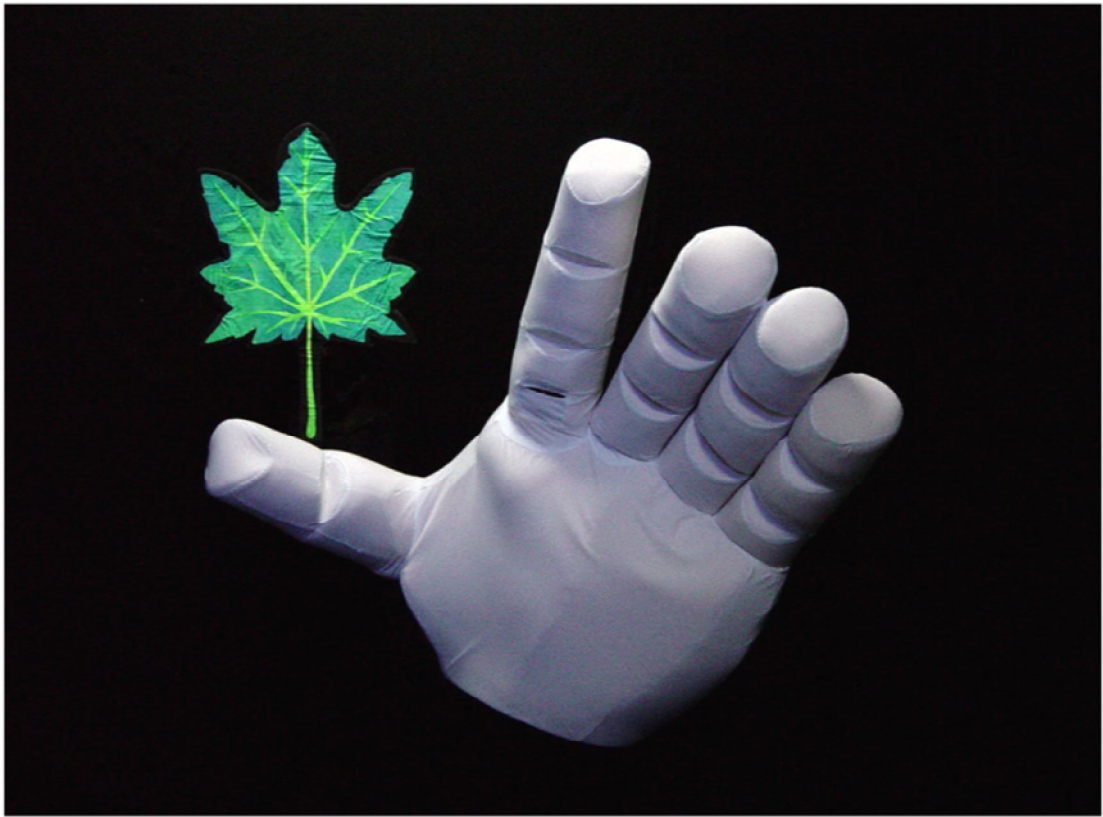
**DATE OF PREMIERE**

MARCH 2004

**PRODUCTION**

DIPUTACIÓN GRAL. DE ARAGÓN  
CALEIDOSCOPIO THEATRE

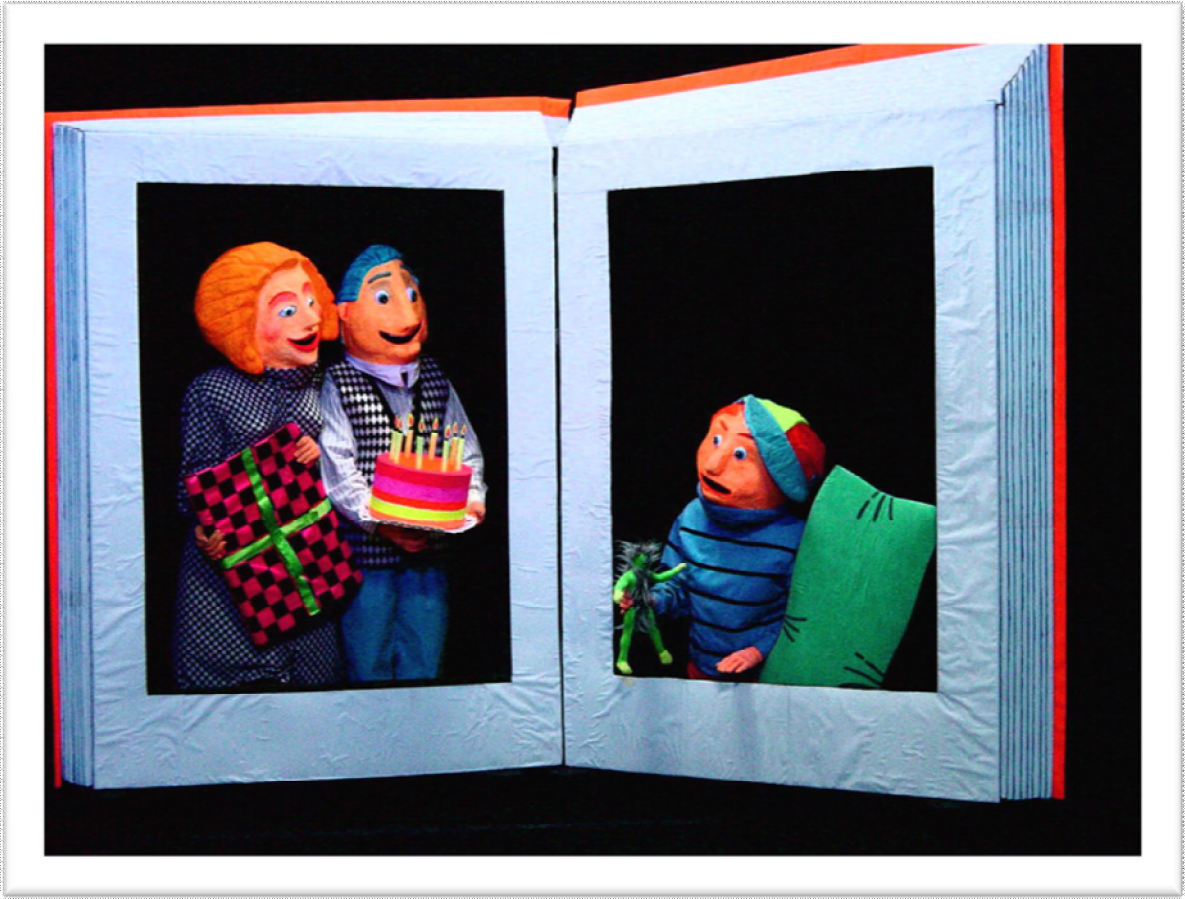




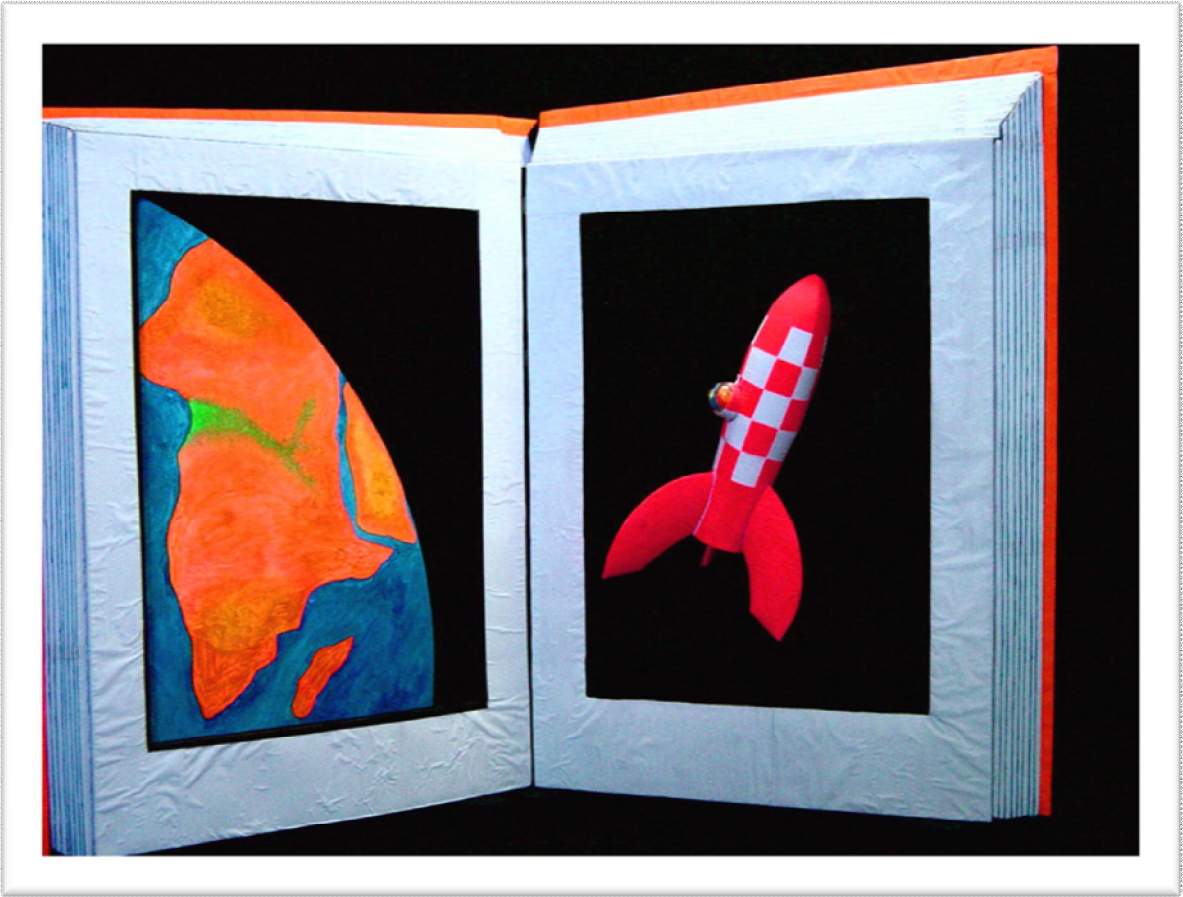


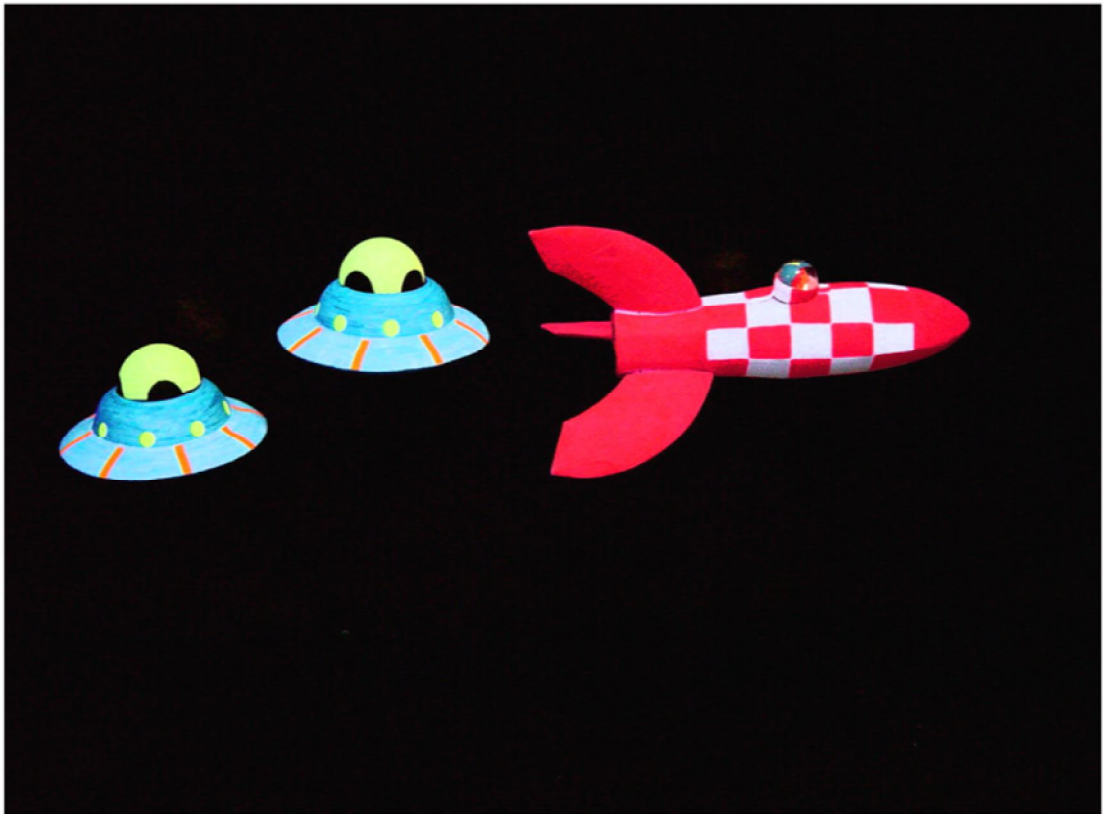












**" OPEN SESAME ! "**  
for schoolchildren.  
Scenes and contents.

**" Open Sesame " was born from  
Caleidoscopio's passion for books.**

We find them to be magical objects,  
inexhaustible sources of inspiration. Open the  
books, stroke their covers and pages, play  
around with their letters, have fun with their  
pictures, dream with their stories and start up  
our best toy, our greatest treasure... our  
imagination.

This is why we have chosen them to be the  
main characters of our show, because they  
share our philosophy of...  
... **"teach by delighting "**

We would like to express our admiration for  
those who have created stories, with words,  
with pictures, writers and illustrators ... and ...  
especially for María Moliner, an exceptional  
person in love with books and words, who left  
us the marvellous legacy of her Dictionary and  
the example of her life. She was the inspiration  
for our character, María Babel.

The show uses various different techniques: masks, objects, inflatable elements, puppets and dolls... they make up a three-dimensional stage... light and black camera

Participate in what we call “Playing Theatre”, promoting, by means of play, the “physical act” of going to the theatre. Create spectators, invite them to enjoy an interactive proposal that brings the actors and the audience together in a very special way.

Given its visual theatre features, full of colour, music, interaction and poetry... the five senses are stimulated. It can also be used in programmes meant for children with special educational needs.

It contains many resources that can be used to later continue playing in class and at home. The following describes the scenes and their contents with suggestions for games and activities, which can be adapted as you see fit to the conditions and level of each group.

## AT SCHOOL

### **Beforehand....**

... We would have to motivate the children with guessing games about the book.

... We would reveal where the magic words that form the title of the show come from, and the power they have to open things that are locked... Open Sesame!

## IN THE THEATRE

### **Beforehand...**

In the lobby, the 'Mús Mús', the funny ushers, will welcome us.

### **The show...**

Performance of Open Sesame!

Audience participation in some of the scenes, with little stars and other elements.

### **Saying goodbye...**

The actors will chat briefly with the children, "assisted" by the cat Morenito [Blackie].

# AT SCHOOL

## Later...

... We can talk freely about the play, expressing what they like about it, the sensations and feelings it brought out in them. Remembering all the short stories included in our characters' adventures.

... We can work with the skills of attention and observation, drawing a picture of what they liked best, what impressed them most...

... And, above all, we can go on playing with whatever the show suggested to us.

... Caleidoscopio offers you a bunch of activities and games, which we hope will prove useful to you. We want to reach the audience, provoke them, move them, make them laugh, think, dream, with funny stories for people who are not in a hurry, young and old alike, some for watching, others for listening, some for playing and others for inventing... **teach by delighting**

# SCENES AND CONTENTS

In order to make it easier to understand the show, we have divided it into three parts:

## THE HAND

### **Three guesses....**

... A large hand, covered in a white glove, greets us and asks us to guess something... illustrating it with various different objects ... and ta daa ... the star of the story appears... a book.

... It introduces, links and ends the show. The pleasure of stroking a book.... This scene presents the book as a magical object, which hides treasures in it ... surprises ... it is like the magic hat of a magician... When you open its covers, anything can happen, all you need is your hand, the key to your imagination.

### *Games and activities:*

... guessing games related to books, here are some for you to try.... Create a book of riddles gathering together others that depend on letters, words, ink, paper or other objects associated with books.

*"I have leaves but I'm not a tree  
I talk to you but I have no voice  
If you open me up I won't complain  
Guess who I am..."*

*"It has leaves but it isn't a tree  
It has a back but it isn't a horse"*

*"Without it  
I will never be able to learn  
With it  
I will never be a fool."*

*"With my leaves well stuck together  
so that the wind cannot blow them away  
I don't give shade or shelter  
But I do teach and entertain"*

*"When its pages are open  
it illustrates your mind  
if you ever lend it to someone  
you'll never get it back"*

*"It has leaves and it isn't a walnut tree,  
It has leather but it isn't an animal."*

*"I have a great time with it,  
I get excited with its stories,  
Don't think I'm a clown...  
But rather ....*

# A BOOK

## **María Babel and Morenito...**

**... The magic of everyday things... of simple tasks...**

... Morenito the cat appears, naughty and playful, making the children laugh with him... he opens the book and funny letters start to come out of the book and greet us...

... María Babel teaches him to look after it...

... She feeds the letters, as if they were hens... She pours water into a flower pot and makes words bloom there... She weaves a letter j, and with her ball of wool they will make a circus...

### *Games and activities:*

... In a simple and pleasant way, we will talk about María Moliner, about her legacy and how she loved words and books; adapting this information to the different ages of the children.

... Who writes books?... Who makes the beautiful drawings for them?

... Where are they made... and how?

... Let's make a book together.

## **The circus of letters...**

... The lion tamer and the beast...

... The beauty and the clown...

... Tightrope walking letters that make wild somersaults on the wool... and, of course! Morenito jumping and playing with the balls of wool, will get all tangled up in the wool.

What was big, becomes small and small things... get big. In the Theatre, anything can happen...

### *Games and activities:*

The letters come to life here and we invite you to play with them

... We can draw an Animated Alphabet together, matching each letter to an object, animal or person... depending on its shape...

... We can also imagine the letters to be characters in a place or situation... a circus, a beach, a landscape, a jungle...

... There are other alphabets in other cultures; if there are any Arab, Chinese, Russian children in the audience... they can teach us some letters or words written in their language. We can invent meanings for things depending on their shape.

# THE PRESENT

**Happy birthday! ...**

**... make an everyday thing magical.**

... A little boy is playing in his room ... he is given a present for his birthday... but then he discovers that it isn't a skateboard, or Ronaldo trainers, or a video-console... which is what he was expecting... but rather a book.....

... He goes into a temper tantrum which blows him away into an imaginary world...

## *Games and activities:*

... Depending on how old the children are, we will discuss this spoilt little boy's reaction, and how his behaviour evolves.

... We could also talk about the "consumer madness" that surrounds us... "I want this because I've seen it on TV "... how little we appreciate what we have, the excessive number of toys some children have and that they soon tire of... Do we like books?... Which are our favourite books...?

## **The teasing book**

It comes to life, swallows... spits... sticks its tongue out... and it changes shape... plunging the little boy into an endless number of adventures.

## **The sea...**

... Mysterious periscopes.... squid in their ink... tentacles that trap him and make him small. The little boy sitting on the book, as if it were a cliff, watching how they sail... on a sea tongue, illustrations from fairy tales and adventure books:

... dolphins and mermaids from "*The Odyssey*"  
... the balloon... from "*Around the world in 80 days*" or "*Five weeks in a balloon*" by Jules Verne ...the storm and the ship... from "*Sinbad the sailor*" from "*A thousand and one nights*"...  
... The giant octopus... from "*The mysterious Island*" or "*20,000 Leagues under the Sea*" by Jules Verne.

... Pinocchio and Monster from "*The Adventures of Pinocchio*" by Carlo Collodi...

...the little soldier on the ship... from "*The Brave Tin Soldier*" by Hans Christian Andersen.

... the bright sun from *"Icarus"*... and Neptune god of the sea... main characters in tales from Greek Mythology....

... the whale from *"Moby Dick"* by Herman Melville...

... Kaboom! Everything changes and the little boy is sailing in a paper ship on a sea of stars, which the children shake, accompanied by a beautiful, white giant whale, we will have the feeling that we are on the bottom of the sea, watching the waves of light and water above our heads.

### *Games and activities:*

... Books contain loads of stories...fantastic... heroic... tender ... wise... funny... adventurous... and beautiful.... You will find many of them in the Library.

... We have chosen the works of Jules Verne, perhaps because of the way they combine fantasy and science. He creates a kind of science-fiction that reality often confirms to be true.

...As a game, we can invent a future world together and draw it.

## Dragons and princesses

The book changes, turning into a castle where the desperate Princess Teresa walks along the battlements... a fierce Dragon holds her prisoner... the little boy helps her and there is a kiss.... but things are not always what they seem.... shocks and laughs...

### *Games and activities:*

... We can play with the shape of the book and think of all the things it can be turned into... castle... ship... house...

...fantastic beings... a “swallow-it-all” book... an accordion book...a dancing book... The children can draw or make them with construction paper.... St. George and the Dragon is a universal tale... but ... we're also very fond of "Te quiero Valero" by Fernando Lalana.

... Traditional tales are full of popular wisdom... and are ideal for telling and listening ... to learn about other cultures ... The magic words Open Sesame come from the story of “Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves”... from “The 1001 Nights”.

## Trip to the Moon

The little boy travels in a beautiful rocketship... lands on the Moon and... finds ... some flying saucers.... With a little bit of snot on them... explosion of stars....

At this point we would like to turn to comics and the cinema.

... The rocketship is inspired in "Objective, the Moon", by Hergé starring Tintín and Milu, and the music of "2001 a space odyssey" by S. Kubrik. We use one by Mastreta for the chase. Music is very important to the performance because it helps to "tell the story" and reinforces the action, as in the cartoons.

### *Games and activities:*

... The older ones can draw a story with cartoons, like in the comics

... Choose some music and do some body expression inventing whatever situations or stories the music suggests to us: fear... suspense... clumsy dances... comic situations... We make a mask of a snot-nosed Martian, we colour it and decorate it.

## **Discover...find...share...**

The little boy appears back in his room... the book is there, he opens it and a soft light illuminates his face as he reads, enraptured.

Our message?.... a book is a fantastic toy, we must never lose our capacity for playing... dreaming... imagining... there are many stories still to be discovered... to be invented.

The hand ends the performance... and the letter I (from the word FIN) like the hands of a clock, signals the hour of THE END.

### *Games and activities:*

When we created Open Sesame! we used the ideas of a true magician in the art of inventing stories...

.. Gianni Rodari and his "The Grammar of Fantasy" an endless source of inspiration and a wonderful antidote for boredom.

We recommend it.

Enjoy yourselves!... you can find us at...

**[www.caleidoscopioteatro.com](http://www.caleidoscopioteatro.com)**



# THE CRITICS SAID.....

## FETEN 2004: I WANT MY CHILDREN TO SEE THIS!

*...My thanks to the Aragonese people of the Caleidoscopio Theatre, who took me back to my childhood on Tuesday afternoon and, as opposed to what the television name for the show might make you think (Open Sesame: please, change it or bring back Ali Baba), children and parents alike were moved in the Jovellanos by a performance that was totally new in its simplicity. Absolutely simple but wonderfully nice, highly elaborated visual poetry, enough to move a child at the beginning of his life with what he perhaps already hates: numbers and letters. Because it was all about letters and the first numbers! And Captain Ahab-child chasing the whale over the black sky of the auditorium, and the cat chasing the balls of wool (ONE, TWO) and the children, wild with excitement, wanting to catch them in the air, totally caught up in the performance. As I always say: If you can do something with two elements, why turn the stage into the ship's cabin of the Marx Brothers? ....*

[www.noticiasteatrales.galeon.com](http://www.noticiasteatrales.galeon.com)

-from the stalls-

M<sup>a</sup> Anunciación Fernandez Antón

## Large-format Black Theatre.

*The veteran Zaragoza company, Caleidoscopio Theatre, which are celebrating their twentieth anniversary this year, presented their large-format performance with black light and giant puppets, "Open Sesame!!" A visual performance that invites us into the ever surprising interior of a large book, with the added enjoyable charm of large balconies that come out from the stage and fly over the audience. A good show performed and handled by five invisible actors-puppeteers with the efficiency and skill that characterizes this historical group. Caleidoscopio Theatre was born in 1984 and, following a long and steady career, has spent the last years offering shows that are mainly large-format with giant puppets and marionettes performed in open spaces.*

[www.cyberpadres.com](http://www.cyberpadres.com)

Ferrán Baile

## FETEN 2004

*Other noteworthy shows were: .....the spectacular staging of large-format with black light, "Open Sesame!" by the Zaragoza group Caleidoscopio Theatre*

[www.ayto-gijon.es/fmc/feten](http://www.ayto-gijon.es/fmc/feten)

# Pequesconmarcha.com

## CALEIDOSCOPIO

### Open Sesame!

The play presents us with the story of a little boy who is given a book as a present. This is not what he was expecting, but the different stories will capture his imagination and he will discover that this object is a real treasure.

More noteworthy than the story itself (although this is interesting, given the message it conveys), is the staging with puppets and animated objects that appear and disappear on a dark background, where we can see how they move about, and even around the audience. Bright colours, dynamism and interaction with the audience are assured. Not once, not twice, not three times, but several times more, we hear the spectators exclaim in surprise.

If you want more information about the company that is performing this work, consult their web page.

Internet: [www.caleidoscopteatro.com](http://www.caleidoscopteatro.com)

READ the schedule of their performances

M. J. Brezo

# Open Sesame: A happy world through a book

00:19. Saturday, 6th January.

\* **Company:** Caleidoscopio. Theatre for children

\* **Place, date, timetable and price:** On an international tour; in February in the Community of Madrid.

***“Open Sesame: A happy world through a book”***

The Zaragoza group Caleidoscopio delights children. Their children's theatre was in the capital city for only three days in the alternative auditorium Cuarta Pared. It is a shame that a group of such quality should be part of the cultural offer in Madrid for such a short time, whereas other commercial shows that contribute nothing stay longer.

Open Sesame is a work full of colour, with characters that are brought to life by five actors from the Caleidoscopio company. The author is Roberto Barra, who also plays the role of a whale, a dragon, cat. Azucena Gimeno is the artistic director and is also mother, princess, UFO. And the other actors-handlers are Yolanda Corral, grandmother, hand, Juanjo Garces, book, earth and Vicente Martínez, father, frog and rocketship, among other characters.

Caleidoscopio started up in 1984 and has since performed more than 20 shows. They have specialized in street theatre, puppets, clowns, marionettes, masks and giants, all inspired in popular folk lore. They have toured all over Spain, travelled to places in conflict and, in January, represented Spain at the International Puppet Theatre Festival in Yunlin, Thailand. In February, they will begin a school campaign in Getafe, Parla and Villarreal.

Caleidoscopio filled the auditorium of the Cuarta Pared in their two daily performances for three days running. The little ones cheered, took part and learnt how important books are. The show Open Sesame has a pedagogical message. The little boy who is the star of the play lives a thousand adventures, including visiting outer space or travelling to the bottom of the sea. He learns the letters and experiments with animals, thanks to a book.

The actors move brightly-coloured, life-size puppets and figures. They draw us into a world of fantasy. Parents have just as much fun as their children, who take part in the 'flight' in the auditorium of immense balls, a whale or the earth itself. Its pedagogy, its simplicity and tenderness make a deep impression both on the young, and on the older, who imagine a happy world while they are there.

***Maria José Brezo***

***“LA REPUBLICA” Digital Daily paper***

***January 2007***




2009

CALEIDOSCOPIO's

25th Anniversary

as a theatre for playing.  
As the Theatre is a  
collective art, thanks to  
all of you and all of us  
who have made this  
dream possible



A oskuras



¡¡Abrete Sésamo!!



Cuando sueñas



LAMAR EN SOLFA



LOS DUENDES DEL BAUL

CALEIDOSCOPIO

