



Pep Ramis (Manacor). Born in Mallorca into a family of art and music lovers, he studied the cello, puppetry and singing. Since childhood, drawing has been part of his daily imaginative life. His interest in performance began in 1985, when he discovered that this brought together all his previous experience, with the body at its core. After working with La Dux—formed by Maria Antònia Oliver and María Muñoz—in 1986, in 1987 he took part in the piece *Scirocco* by Adriana Borriello, in Italy. In 1989, with María Muñoz, he founded the creation group Mal Pelo, building sets and installation spaces. He is now a performance director, dancer–performer and co-director of the creation centre *L’animal a l’esquena* in Celrà, Girona.

Mal Pelo

In January 1989, María Muñoz and Pep Ramis founded the dance company Mal Pelo. From the start, the group has based its work on a constant search for different languages. This crossover of languages gave rise to ideas for the stage rooted in a confluence of great depth, clarity and simplicity. In their early years the group combined many tours (of Europe, the US and Latin America) with periods of creativity in various different countries. These travels stimulated an exchange of ideas, techniques and working methods with other artists that strengthened the group’s artistic search.

Since 1989 Mal Pelo has presented, among others, the pieces *Quarere* (1989), *Sur*, *Perros del Sur* (*South, Dogs of the South*, 1992), *Dol* (*Grief*, 1994), *La Calle Del Imaginero* (*The Street of the Imagineer*, 1996), *Orache* (1998), *El Alma del Bicho* (*The Bug’s Soul*, 1999), *L’animal a l’esquena* (*The Animal on our Back*, 2001), *Atrás los*

ojos (*Behind the Eyes*, 2002), *An el silenci* (*An, Silence*, 2003), *Bach* (2004), *Atlas* (2005), *Testimoni de llops* (*Testimony of Wolves*, 2006), *He vist caballos* (*I've Seen Horses*, 2008), *Todos los nombres* (*All The Names*, 2010), *Cain & Cain* (*Cain & Cain*, 2011) and *La esperanza de vida de una liebre* (*Life Expectancy of a Hare*, 2013), *The Fifth Winter* (2015), *7 Lunas* (*7 Moons*, 2015), *The Mountain, the Truth and the Paradise* (2017), *On Goldberg Variations / Variations* (2019), *Inventions* (2020).

In 2001 Pep Ramis and María Muñoz founded *L'animal a l'esquena*, a centre for multidisciplinary creation based on a 19 hectare farm in Celrà (Gerona). This refuge encourages experimentation and the exchange of ideas between directors, musicians, video artists, theorists and dancers who come to take part in residencies, workshops and laboratories.

Awards

Mal Pelo has received, among others, the Premi Nacional de Dansa 2002 awarded by the Generalitat de Catalunya for the piece *L'animal a l'esquena* and for the initiative of the arts centre of the same name in Celrà.

They have also won the Premio Nacional de Danza 2009 in the creation category, awarded by INAEM – Ministerio de Cultura, in recognition of the company's track record in choreographic creation and in opening up new paths in contemporary dance. The piece *Bach* and the creation centre *L'animal a l'esquena* both earned special mentions. Since 2000 Mal Pelo has been company in residence at *L'animal a l'esquena*.

Premi Ciutat de Barcelona de Dansa 2017 for the generous and delicate way in which María Muñoz' piece *Bach* was handed on, and its brilliant, exceptional performance by Federica Porello, who sheds new light on the rich choreography.

Prize of the Professional Journalists, Barcelona 2018, for best performance to *Bach* of María Muñoz and Prize of the Critic to Federica Porello like better feminine interpreter in dance by its interpretation of *Bach*.