



MONTAÑAS

MOVER



MONTAÑAS

English





**Jury Prize for the Most Innovative Show at the
XXV International TAC Festival in Valladolid 2024**

**Finalist for Best Dance Solo
at the Barcelona Critics' Awards 2024**

Co-produced by



With the support of



**Developed within the
residency program of**

**Compañía Nacional
de Danza**

Another piece on folklore?

Yes! And I will never think we have enough. We must discuss the need to bring dance, legends, and songs back to the people—beyond mere recording and museums. A living manifesto that calls for ritual as a lifeline for a society in distress. A call to collective consciousness, which somehow stirs within us, evoking emotions through certain sounds, melodies, dances, and rituals. An invocation of that primal feeling, the raw emotion that we now call folklore.

In this piece, you won't find a catalog of popular folklore. Instead, you'll encounter a declaration free of all that, expressed through my body and contemporary awareness. Today, the essence of Iberian tradition has often been twisted in favor of certain territorial or ideological causes, and I refuse to let politics define my experience or my connection to the original, vibrant spirit of a folklore that moves through me, beyond borders or timelines. Tradition should be something that flows naturally from one generation to the next—a joyful oracle of meeting and communion.

Tradition shouldn't belong to museums or archives; it should belong to the memory of the people, to homes and courtyards, to bodies and voices, living in the passage from one person to another. The bursting of the system's bubble post-pandemic has led humanity to look anew at the countryside, at rural life. I believe this renewed connection with nature must lead us back to our origins with a fresh perspective. While I don't believe traditions belong exclusively to rural areas, I do think their richness has been preserved most vibrantly there. We need to reconnect with the natural order of life, and I am committed to seeing folklore, in its purest form, as the soundtrack to this change.



A QUAKE OF FLESH THAT OPENS
FISSURES IN THE UNMOVING
MY BODY IS A MOUNTAIN, AGILE AND FREE
LET'S SET IT IN MOTION SO THE PROPHETS
COME TO DESECRATE IT

I am born of the meeting between Castilians and emigrants from Andalusia and Extremadura. I am a child of Castile. I am the body of its roots, of its steppes, of its high skies, of hunched shoulders, icy frosts, anise, dulzainas, conscription parties, soccer, petticoats, flowers on crosses, images carried on shoulders, wrinkles, and the horizon. But I am also a child of the *quejío*, of the *pasodoble*, of village fairs, of the Iberian essence, of shouts in the plaza, of silence, of forest legends, of shotguns and white breath. I am the underground vibration of a folklore that traverses our mixed identity. I feel my identity like a volcano, filled with diverse lava flows from different origins that make me vibrate, shake, and expand. I embrace them all, letting no ideology challenge any part of it. Ancient sounds and sounds yet to be heard. I cannot conceive of the transmission of tradition without evolution. This is not an archaeological endeavor, nor a museum preservation of traditions; it is a free, joyous, and beautiful song of what tradition means to me.

That is why I will move mountains. That is why I will dance. That is why I will call to the gods with my dance. That is why I will bring forth rain with ritual. That is why I will open my arms to embrace the emotion that unites us before the enigma of a never-before-heard melody. I will vibrate, shake, expand my body in an open space, attuned to the multifaceted rhythm of a tradition woven into my DNA like lacework, cherished by the wisdom of an elder and the wonder of a child. Awake. Alive. Tradition loses its meaning once it is recorded and forced into repetition. Tradition must be felt, cared for, and heard, so that it may then dissolve over time without resistance, giving way to new traditions yet to come.

Alberto Velasco
"Moving Mountains"





Alberto Velasco

An essential actor and creator in the Spanish performing arts scene, Alberto Velasco brings a multidisciplinary and eclectic vision that has shaped his unique and constantly evolving style. He has collaborated with notable artists such as Carlota Ferrer, Alberto Conejero, Chevi Muraday, Jérôme Bel, Marta Carrasco, David Serrano, and Hiroko Tanahashi, among others.

Some of his standout works and directorial creations include *¡VACA!* (2008), *Mademoiselle Monarquía* (2010), *Clift* (2015), *Danzad Malditos* (2015), *Dance to Death* (2016), *La Inopia; Coreografías para un bailarín de 120 kg* (2017), *Escenas de Caza* (2018), and *Clic; cuando todo cambia* (2020).


His work has received numerous awards, including the Max Award for Best New Production for *Danzad Malditos* (2015) and the GODOFF Award for Best Show for his latest creation, *Sweet Dreams* (2022). He also won the Actors Union Award (2022) for Best Lead Actor in Theater for *Sweet Dreams* and the Actors Union Award (2023) for Best Supporting Actor for *Los Nadadores Diurnos*.

His latest creation, *Mover Montañas*, was awarded Most Innovative Show at the XXV International TAC Festival in Valladolid 2024.

Velasco also collaborates as stage director for Manuel Liñán's works, including *¡VIVA!* (2019) (Max Public Award 2020), *La Otra Escena*, *Pie de Hierro* (2021), and Carlos Rodríguez's *Eterno / Ballet Flamenco Homenaje a Picasso* (2022).

On television, Velasco has appeared in series such as *Amar es para Siempre* (A3), *Vis a Vis* (A3/Netflix/Fox), where he portrayed Palacios (winning Best TV Actor at the 2017 Reino de León TV and Film Festival and nominated for Best TV Actor at the 2019 Actors Union Awards), *Señoras del (H)AMPA* (T5/PrimeVideo), *Madres* (T5/PrimeVideo), and *By Ana Milán* by Atresmedia Studios. His film roles include *On the Go* by María Royo and Julia de Castro, *La Mano Invisible* by David Macián, *De Chica en Chica* by Sonia Sebastián, *Una Nueva Vida* by Marina Seresesky, *La Familia Perfecta* by Arantxa Echevarría, and *Las Niñas de Cristal* by Jota Linares.

In 2021, Velasco joined *The Good Mood Productions*, directed by Daniel Écija, as a content developer. In 2023, he was awarded the Cambio de Plano grant from Netflix/DAMA Autor to develop his fiction project *Villa Futuro*. He has also written and directed short films such as *Volcánica* (2017) and *El Rey de las Flores* (2021) (winning Best Short Film CYL at SEMINCI, Best New Author at FICIE, and Best Short Film at the Vila de Noia Festival).

A low-angle shot of a man with a beard and a pink shirt, looking upwards with his arms raised. He is holding colorful ribbons in his hands. The background is a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the upper left portion of the image.

“Dance was not created for a handsome, beautiful, slender man to perform. The meaning and origin of dance are being lost. This has to stop. Everyone has the right to dance. The people danced. The men, the women, the elders, the young... and they danced for feelings, for life, and for death. Communities that dance and sing do not die.”

Antonio Gades

ARTISTIC TEAM

CREATION AND INTERPRETATION: Alberto Velasco

CHOREOGRAPHY: Alberto Velasco, Manuel Liñán &
Osa + Mujica

MUSIC: Mariano Marín

TEXTS: Alberto Velasco

PERCUSSION: Pablo Martin Jones

COSTUME DESIGN: Sara Sánchez de la Morena

TRAINING COAT: José Galván

MASKS: Iker de la Calle

TAILOR: Manuel Paul

PHOTOGRAPHY: Dominik Valvo, Marta Arjona &
Marta Vidanes

VIDEO & TEASER: Adrián Pascual

DESIGN: Laura Velasco

COLLAGE POSTER: Pablo TheCuadro

TECHNICAL: Raúl Escudero

VOICEOVER (CASTILIAN): Petra Martinez

GALICIAN TRANSLATION: Javier Gallego

VOICEOVER (GALICIAN): Lucía Álvarez

CATALAN TRANSLATION: Abel Ferris

VOICEOVER (CATALAN): Gemma Brió

EXECUTIVE PRODUCTION: Elena Martínez

DISTRIBUTION: ElenArtesescénicas

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Mario Mediero, Pau Estrem, Fundación Antonio Gades.





The press has said

“...A revolutionary dance-theater solo performance...”

Afonso Becerra / Artezblai

“...One of the season's must-see shows...”

Julia Vernet / Recomana

“...This stage animal known as Alberto Velasco never leaves the audience indifferent. Mover Montañas is an honest and daring performance...”

Carmen Escribano / TamTam Press

“...Irreverent folklore against fatphobia...”

Mercedes L. Caballero / El País

“...Provocative, seductive, and occasionally grotesque, Velasco created a triumph of dance...”

Ória Valls / Diari de Tarragona

“...An imposing presence... His mischievous and seductive gaze beautifully exemplifies the joy of dance...”

Oriol Puig Taulé / Nuvol

“...CAPTIVATING...”

Miguel Ángel Conde / El Mundo



Video Links

[Full show video](#)

[Internacional Teaser](#)





VOICEOVER AVAILABLE

Mover Montañas features available voiceover texts in the following languages, with translations accessible via the QR code on this page:

- CASTILIAN
- CATALAN
- GALICIAN
- VALENCIAN
- BASQUE
- FRENCH
- ENGLISH
- ITALIAN
- PORTUGUESE

(Please inquire about the possibility of providing this in another language not listed in the translations.)



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P R E N S A

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**ALBERTO
VELASCO**

