

November 20, 1820. Captain Pollard's whaler ship the Essex, weighing in at 238 tons, 3 masts and 27 meters length overall, is rammed and sunk by a great white sperm whale who roams the vicinity of Isla Mocha (Mocha Isle), front side of Tirúa, Chile. The few surviving sailors fearfully dub the beast Mocha Dick, and upon landing tell of the ship's wreck. Years later, Herman Melville will draw inspiration upon this report to write about literature's most famous whale...



Mocha Dick

La Mona Ilustre presents Mocha Dick, their latest theatrical production in partnership with UC Theater (Teatro UC). The troupe, with a trajectory spanning eleven years, tackles their sixth work, based on the comic 'Mocha Dick, the Legend of the White Whale' (Mocha Dick, la Leyenda de la Ballena Blanca), by the chileans Francisco Ortega and Gonzalo Martínez. Mocha Dick is an epic journey through an ocean full of monsters. A sea tale centered on our fears and the courage of facing them, told through the pacing of an adventuregenre, so rarely seen in theatre.

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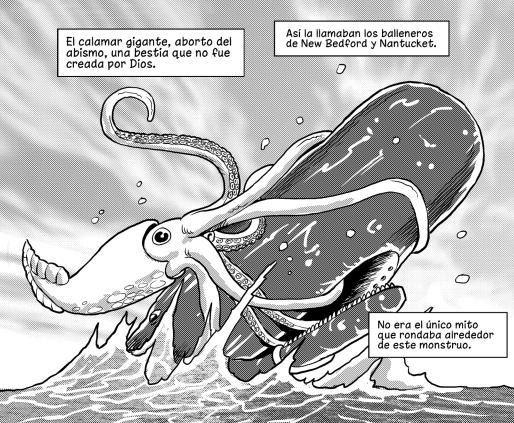
An outstanding theatrical production, dynamic, playful and mobile. ARTE Y LITERATURA

Pure scenic joy. THE CLINIC

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ABOUT THE COMIC BOOK

The comic book, which gives a surprising local origin for the renowned Moby Dick, is one of Hispanic America's most popular graphic novels of the last 10 years, with more than 50.000 copies sold, and two awards won in Chile, one in Mexico and another one in Argentina. Drawing on the sinking of the Essex and the white whale that terrorized sailors on the first half of the 19th century, the authors propose a great, shaping adventure, an uncertain final journey with destination unknown, while revealing aspects of Chile's cetacean slaughtering past and also acquainting us with a mythological view of whales of Lafquenche culture, and it's particular relationship with nature.



" Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear, not absence of fear " Mark Twain



Review

A group of sailors embark upon an expedition giving pursuit to Mocha Dick, the dreaded white whale of every port. The journey turns into violent slaughter in order to lure the whale, for it is rumored it shows up to defend it's kind. Time passes to no avail on account of young Aliro Leftraru, a crewmember who has comitted himself to hinder the journey, convinced that Mocha Dick is mother to all whales, source to the Mapuche myth of Trempulcahue. The expedition, driven by reckless ambition, superstition and fear to what is different, takes the crew through the glacial waters of the south pacific ocean, questing for their fears and themselves.



The rich imagery of the book, the sea and it's monsters as a symbolic universe, it's poetry and evocative mood, the dread of facing the unknown, or how small we feel when crossing a vast ocean will appear through visual poetry that reminds us of the dazzling stagings of XVI century baroque opera with it's bombast, pomp and flourish, but also straightforward, ficticious, full of effects and manipulated asight. Live instruments, songs and the surreal humor of the only sailors who agreed to take part in such an ill-fated journey merge in a scenic adventure as risky as the story being told.

Creativity in it's ultimate expression. EL MERCURIO

Precise, efficient, solidly executed and filled with lovely images that linger in the mind. EL MOSTRADOR

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ARTISTIC TEAM

CAST Alex Acevedo, Paula Barraza, Diego Hinojosa, Mercedes Mujica, Isidora Robeson y Nicolás Ruiz ... MUSICAL COMPOSITION Camilo Salinas .. SCENIC DESIGN, COSTUME DESIGN AND PROPS Katiuska Valenzuela ··· PROPS PRODUCTION Amanda Basaez, Nicole Salgado y Juan Diego Rivas .. SCENE PRODUCTION Equipo Teatro UC -- DESIGN ELEMENTS CONSULTING Eduardo Jiménez y Guido Reyes - LIGHTING DESIGN Miguel Bregante y José Luis Cifuentes .. SCRIPT CONSULTING Andrés Kalawski ·· MARKETING Fogata Cultura ·· DOSSIER PHOTOGRAPHY Fototeatro.cl .. PRODUCTION José Luis Cifuentes ·· DIRECTED BY Miguel Bregante.





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