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Strangers in their land

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Datasheet

**** **In a strange land. Company:** SOM Produce. **Distribution:** Diana Navarro, Avelino Piedad and Alejandro Vera. **Text and Address:** Juan Carlos Rubio. **Place:** Great theater. **Date:** Saturday, January 8. Full.

The IMAE can congratulate itself on a beginning of the year by selling out the tickets for one of its first shows scheduled at the Gran Teatro. After its premiere at the Spanish Theater last November and its corresponding weeks on the bill, *In a strange land* his national tour begins in Córdoba and perhaps something must have had to do with the hand of our countryman **Juan Carlos Rubio**, author and director of the work, in this fact.

Fiction (we define it that way since, despite dealing with real characters, said meeting never took place) takes us back to the afternoon of July 12, 1936. On the almost naked stage of the Spanish Theater the singer **Concha Piquer and Rafael de León** they review lyrics and music of *Tattoo* while they await the arrival of Federico García Lorca, who agrees to meet with the tonadillera because of the friendship he professes for the Sevillian lyricist and poet.

The delay of the Granada-born woman makes the Valencian woman uncomfortable, a woman who is implacable with anyone who disrespects and who always demonstrated by using a strong hand among the members of her company. Despite the bad start of the event, its development is calming down the spirits, especially thanks to the grace of Rafael who, as a balance, balances **the egos of the diva and the author** of the moment.

Under the pretext of obtaining a song from the poet expresses for her, the *Great Lady of the Copla* reveals the real reason she wanted to talk to Federico: her flirtation with Rafael, who feels for **Lorca** A surely unrequited love is something that worries the singer, who feels the responsibility to protect her young author.

Also to this fact is added the drama of the dark times that run, with the threat of an imminent military uprising and what it would mean for Rafael and Federico to live outside the shelter of **a Spain without a Republic**. Throughout the meeting, between gossip, jokes, songs and other confessions, we will learn about the lives of these three great people with a genius that broke boundaries and has transcended to this day.

Juan Carlos Rubio signs a text at the height that we are accustomed to and, with brilliant dynamics, his dramaturgy plays with emotions. Despite the non-existence of the story, the motivations, circumstances and events that link its protagonists are absolutely credible, generating a situation that could be perfectly so if it had happened and that is where it arises. **the magic of the play**.

Another of his great assets has been the choice of **distribution** which, with the same precision, directs. Avelino Piedad is all self-assured with his jovial Rafael and gives the most humorous moments. He is followed behind by Alejandro Vera, who is incarnated again in Federico, someone who has already interpreted in Lorca, the personal correspondence with Histrión Teatro and he does so generously displaying a whole range of registers.

All the public knew the prodigious voice of **Diana Navarro**, who bears the greatest musical weight of the work. What has undoubtedly been a revelation is her coming out as a theater actress, something that obviously from professional experience is not on the same level as her quality as a singer, but it can be said that she defends with great dignity and will surely make her grow. in each role that I represent. Thanks to the great complicity and versatility that they display, the trio of interpreters deservedly earned the warm applause of the respectable.

In a strange land offers the opportunity to reconcile and not only with a musical genre that is relegated to the folkloric sphere associated with our elders. It is also a look at the need to vindicate **the freedom of the human being** and how our identity and its roots expressed through art should unite us over ideologies that have caused so much damage in our history. Let us acknowledge the facts, defend rights, grant peace and recognition to all the victims of past conflicts. Let's stop feeling strangers in our land.

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