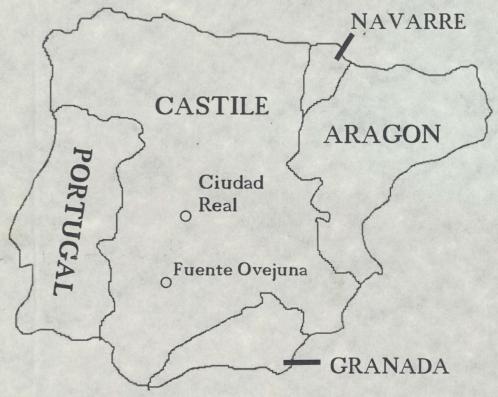


FUENTE OVEJUNA





COMMANDER'S CONQUEST



Summer has only just begun, and yet already our brave Overlord - Commander Fernando Gomez De Guzman - is leaving our beautiful town to strike out on a new conquest! The conquering hero has joined forces with the young and virtuous Grand Master of Calatrava to attack the city of Ciudad Real. This brilliant plan will aid that gracious nobleman, His Majesty King Alonso of Portugal, in his plan to conquer all the Spanish lands - even King Ferdinando of Aragon and Queen Isabella of Castile will bow before him!

What, you may be asking, can a humble citizen of Fuente Ovejuna do to assist our brave Commander? You can help prepare a cart full of goods to give him upon his safe return! All citizens are hereby requested to contribute one item to the Cart of Gratitude. After all, our Selfless Commander is fighting only to defend our little town from cruel invaders.

Furthermore, our generous Commander has invited all the women of Fuente Ovejuna to a private party to be held at his house shortly after his return (no men allowed). How chivalric is our Commander - he never forgets the ladies of our town, not even in a time of war!



THE ORDER OF CALATRAVA



What is the world coming to? Our learned Commander is troubled that a growing number of young people lack knowledge of the Military Order of Calatrava.

The Order is a society of knights who made possible our recapture of the Spanish lands from the Moors. In 1158, the Moors were attacking the city of Calatrava - and had it fallen, most of our lands (including Fuente Ovejuna!) would now be under Moorish rule. All hope seemed lost - but a Cistercian monk (and former knight), Diego Velazquez of Navarre, would not give up so easily! He gathered a group of monks and trained them in the military arts, creating an order of religious knights to defend the city. This turned the tide of war against the Moors, pushing them down to Granada - where they still reside to this day!

Sadly, the Masters of the Order are no longer united as once they were. Our Commander righteously pledges allegiance to the noble King Alonso of Portugal, but there are others who fight for King Ferdinando and Queen Isabella. Cheer on our noble Commander as he fights with the *true* knights of Calatrava!

Specialities of Fuente Ovejuna - JELLIED TONGUE -

A delicious dish made from boiled tongue, gelatine and veal gravy.

One large boiled tongue (cold), two ounces of gelatine, dissolved in one-half pint of water; one teacup of browned veal gravy, one pint of liquor in which the tongue was a-boiled, one tablespoonful of burnt sugar for coloring, three tablespoonfuls of vinegar, one pint of boiling water; put together the gravy, liquor, sugar, vinegar and a tablespoonful of burnt sugar dissolved in cold water. Add the dissolved gelatine and mix well, then the boiling water, and strain through flannel. Cut the tongue in slices as for the table. Let the jelly cool and begin to thicken. Wet a mold with cold water, put a little jelly in the bottom, then a layer of the tongue, more jelly, and so on until the mold is full; cover and set in a cool place. To turn it out, set the mold in hot water for an instant, invert upon a dish and garnish with celery sprigs and nasturtium flowers. Cut with a sharp knife perpendicularly. This is a handsome and delicious dish, and easily made!

WARNING!

The Union of Castile and Aragon

Our ever-cautious Commander has advised us to be suspicious of any outsiders who could be the spies of our enemies.

Queen Isabella of Castile and King Ferdinando of Aragon have recently married, thus uniting their Kingdoms. With Navarre also allied to their Kingdoms, the rightful conquest of Spain by Portugal will not be an easy task.

Isabella and Ferdinando are cruel tyrants, who use torture and subterfuge to enforce their illegitimate rule. Keep an eye out for outsiders! This should be an easy task, considering we number only 300 people. But trust no-one...

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"We live by waters breaking out of the heart." - Anne Carson

Lope de Vega (1562-1635), sometimes dubbed the "Spanish Shakespeare" in English-speaking countries, was far more prolific than the Bard of Avon. He was the author of well over three hundred plays that graced the stages of Madrid's wrrales, or outdoor courtyard theatres. Writing for a socially mixed and often raucous audience, he declared that the only real rule of play writing was that spectators must enjoy what they were watching; established distinctions between comedy and tragedy, speech and song, 'elite' and 'popular' forms, existed to be broken. Thus, in Fuente Ove juna (as in the music and dance of Flamenco) violence and suffering coexist with sensuality and playfulness. The play tells the story of a real town in Cordoba, Spain, which in 1476 rebelled against its feudal overlord. As the title suggests, the play's protagonist is not a single person but a whole community: Fuente Ove juna, a sleepy village forced to discover its spirit, its courage—and its inner darkness.

"There is still such a thing as love in this town," declares one of Lope's characters; "There is still such a thing as jealousy. / There is still such a thing as brutal lust. / There is still such a thing as sudden revenge." The key word here is "still." Lope's Fuente Ovejuna is not only a town; it is also a metaphor for a state of being in which the "uncivilized" emotions we prefer to hide are driven to the surface and show how easily they can still master us. In rehearsal we have explored these feelings, vivid as primary colours: hatred, rage, fear, desire. Most of all, we have explored love. The name "Fuente Ovejuna" means "the sheep spring" or "the sheep well"; the waters of the well keep the villagers (and their sheep!) alive in a very arid landscape. But finally it is love and an unshakeable desire for dignity that allow the villagers to survive their own cruelty as well as the cruelty of others. The real well springs from the heart of the community.

It has been a privilege to work on this extraordinary play with such a wonderful cast, creative team, and crew—and, of course, with the gracious and

gifted artists of El Viento Flamenco. Like Lope, we hope you en joy the show.

Creative Team

Director Roberta Barker
Set and Lighting Design
Costume Design Peter Perina
Patrick Clark
Fight Choreography
Voice and Speech Coach
Assistant Director and Programme

Assistant Set Designer Sarah Speedie

Assistant Costume Designer

Laura Langford

Production Team

Stage Manager Shani Hamilton Greenlaw Assistant Stage Manager Angela Wiggins Construction

> Philip Freymond (Crew Chief) Kelly Barnhill Arwen H. Ross

Props Rebecca Aldridge (Crew Chief)
Raunie Ratcliffe

Kathryn Bishop Lighting Tom Barkley (Crew Chief) Katherine Jenkins

Rebecca Norman
Head of Wardrobe
Buyer
Christine Deurerlein
Rachel Denkers

Buyer Rachel Denkers
Cutters Alyssa Carrigan
Meghan Chapman
Lynn Cullen
Hilary Doda
Emily Duann

Deborah Hubble Davic MacMillian Maura Marche Shauna Miller Elinor Morrissey Lauanna Murphy Carolyn Prest

Amy Rose
Jill Smith
Brooke Stewart
Heather Thorleifson
Ruth Albertyn

Daintry Chapple

Mario Coculuzzi

Jackie Beaton

Jen Coe Sam Crossley Leo Doiron Georgia Duvall Leesa Hamilton Jacqueline Lonteigne Emilie Marsolais Emily Meelman Julia Piva

Kamlie Thomeh

Allison Underwood

Melaine Worobetz

Cast (in alphabetical order)

Esteban Matthew Amyotte
Cimbranos/Esperança Linzee Barclay
Jacinta Zoe Bercovici
Juana Julia Cudmore
Alonso Ann Doyle
Alderman of Ciudad Real/Rosalita Sarah English

Captain Flores Ryan Galloway

Frondoso Thomas Gibson Mengo Michael Goldlist

Commander Fernando Gomez de Guzman

Jonah Hundert

Grand Master of Calatrava Hilary Jardine

King Ferdinando /Father Oliver

Aeneas Maddalena
Leonelo Aldea Mulhern
Laurencia Christina Parker
Queen Isabella Leah Randell

Alderman of Ciudad Real/Farmer Marc Richler
Sergeant Ortuño Thomas Smith

Pascuala Lisa Snow

Barrildo Katie Swift
Don Manrique Emerald White

In Collaboration with El Viento Flamenco

Flamenco Choreography Evelyne Benais

Maral Perk
Flamenco Guitarist Claire Hodge

Flamenco Percussionist/Dancer Megan Matheson

Flamenco Singer/Dancer Maral Perk





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Costume, Contemporary Costume,

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Susan Stack house On sabbatical, 2005-6

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