

ESPANGGLISH

The Spanish Department's Fortnightly Newsletter



Las Salinas de Maras, Maras, Peru

¡Bienvenida de vuelta!

Hi everyone and welcome to the Spanish newsletter! We hope that everyone is staying happy and safe especially working from home. It might possibly give you more of a chance to try out some of our activities too.

This newsletter has been created for all those interested in the culture and languages of Spain and Latin America. Whether you're studying Spanish or not there is bound to be something for you in this newsletter. From cooking to music to stories to events.

If you have any suggestions or responses we would love to hear from you. Anything related to Spanish and the Latin American world is welcome just drop us an email at:

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Espanglish is a biweekly newsletter so there aren't any deadlines. We look forward to hearing from you!

By Ruby Manhota, Maleeha Ahmad and Kiran Nutan

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La Tamborrada

La Tamborrada is a celebratory drum festival held every year on January 20 in the city of San Sebastián located in the northern autonomous community of Vasco Country.

La Tamborrada es un festival de tambores celebratorio que se celebra cada año el 20 de enero en la ciudad de San Sebastián ubicado en la comunidad autónoma norteña del País Vasco.



What is it?

At midnight, in the Konstituzio Plaza in the "Alde Zaharra/Parte Vieja" (Old Town), the mayor raises the flag of San Sebastián. The festival lasts for 24 hours. Participants, dressed as cooks and soldiers, march in companies across the city. The celebration ends at midnight, when people congregate at the Konstituzio Plaza and the city flag is simultaneously lowered at various locations

Tamborrada has become the main festival of San Sebastian. It is a celebration of what it means to be a donostiarra (the people of San Sebastian as they are called in Basque) and it is a way for citizens to connect with their identity. The celebration also represents the overcoming of a tragedy and the union of citizens in pursuit of happiness. All this is demonstrated in the "march of San Sebastian", a song that sounds often during the festival.

History:

It originates back to the Independence war around 1813, when Napoleon's troops invaded San Sebastian. Women collecting water from fountains would see the troops going through the city playing drums. The women began to play music with their jugs on the way to the fountains to mock soldiers. As the time passed, this defiant sign kept growing, as well as, its meaning among San Sebastian's inhabitants.

How is it celebrated?

The festival is celebrated entirely on the street with the constant drumming processing heard for 24 hours straight. You don't have to belong to any neighbourhood or society to enjoy and be part of it, in fact most citizens don't belong to any one and it is thoroughly enjoyed by tourists likewise.

By Ruby Manhota



Ratoncito Pérez

En muchos países hispanohablantes, no hay un "tooth fairy" y en lugar, hay un ratón. El ratoncito Pérez apareció por primera vez en 1877, en un libro, que se llamó "Cuentos, oraciones, adivinanzas y refranes populares". Luego, más tarde, en 1894, Madrid, la autora fue contratada para escribir una historia sobre los dientes, porque Alfonso XII acababa de perder su primer diente. Ella escribió una historia sobre cómo el ratoncito Pérez vivía en una caja de galletas y con frecuencia se escapaba a los dormitorios de los niños que habían perdido los dientes. Ahora, se dice que cuando un niño pierda el diente, Ratoncito Pérez lo cambiará por un regalo.

In many Spanish-speaking countries, there is no "tooth fairy" and instead, there is a mouse. The mouse Pérez appeared for the first time in 1877, in a book, which was called "Stories, prayers, riddles and popular sayings". Then later, in 1894, Madrid, the author was hired to write a story about teeth, because Alfonso XII had just lost his first tooth. She wrote a story about how the mouse Pérez lived in a cookie box and often ran away to the bedrooms of children who had lost their teeth. Now, it is said that when a child loses his tooth, the mouse Pérez will exchange it for a gift.



By Kiran Nutan

La Dieta Mediterranea

The Mediterranean Diet is the way almost all spanish people eat food. It differs from country to country, but at its core it is characterised by high consumption of fruit and vegetables, whole grains, legumes, dried fruit, olive oil and a moderate consumption of fish, dairy and red meat.

La dieta Mediterránea es la forma en que casi todos los españoles comen comida. Difiere de un país a otro, pero en su núcleo se caracteriza por un alto consumo de frutas y verduras, granos integrales, legumbres, frutos secos, aceite de oliva y un consumo moderado de pescado, productos lácteos y carne roja.

Spain in particular is very much known for its high consumption of olive oil of 10 litres per person per year. Considering in America this figure is approximately 1 litre per person it is fair to say that Spain really loves olive oil. The Spaniards are also famous for their wine consumption with their own health minister advising daily consumption twice that in France.

The Spanish Society of Endocrinology and Nutrition says that one of the main pros of the Mediterranean diet is that it helps prevent illnesses like obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular problems.

Some famous dishes that fit the mediterranean outline include paella, gazpacho, tortilla espanola, ajo blanco, pisto, and many more. Be sure to check out previous issues to find some amazing recipes we particularly like.

By Ruby Manhota



El Teatro en España

Este artículo trata del teatro español y obras españolas. España tuvo un gran impacto cultural en los teatros e incluso provocó algunos avances en el teatro inglés.

This article is about spanish theatre and spanish plays. Spain had a big cultural impact on theatres and even sparked some developments in english theatre.



The Golden Age of Theater

This period of time refers to theatre in Spain between 1590 and 1681 (Shakespeare was active between 1585 and 1613.) During the 1500s and 1600s the impact of the arts on society was much greater so there was a huge increase in Spanish Theatre. Plays were enjoyed by

all members of society as they were accessible to the lower classes and sponsored by the upper classes. Many plays were performed in the court of Phillip III boosting the popularity of theatre throughout the country.

During this period of time, Spain was a strong catholic country so religious plays were a big factor in Spanish theatre. They explored the mystery of the Holy Communion by mixing the human and supernatural. However, Spain was the only European country to simultaneously include religious and secular plays.

During this period of time, Spanish playwrights produced 4 times as many plays as in England and 20,000 are still considered masterpieces. However, due to the sheer amount of work required, many of the plays written in this time haven't been analysed, studied or translated into modern Spanish, so there may be even more. There were many different genres,



ranging from operas and tragedies to comedies. Major themes throughout these plays include honour, hypocrisy, reputation and morality. Many of these themes coincide with the themes within Shakespeare's plays as Europe was a very religious continent at the time. A huge difference between English and Spanish theatre is the difference in attitudes towards actors. In England, actors were seen as immoral and were sometimes viewed as sinners, especially during the 1600s. In Spain, however, actors were accepted in church and viewed as worthwhile members of society. Women could become actresses in 1587 but it wasn't until the 1660s that women could act in England.



Lope de Vega

Lope de Vega was a key figure in Spanish Golden Age theatre and is seen to have had the biggest impact on Spanish Literature after Miguel de Cervantes (the man who wrote the first ever proper novel.) He had a very interesting and eventful life, mainly due to his love for several women. After writing angry and offensive plays about his lover who married a different man, he was banished from the Kingdom of Castile. During this time, he married a young woman and fought in the Spanish Armada. Once he returned, he wrote his first important play, which revolutionised the way that scenes and acts were divided.

His first wife died so he remarried and had a son and three daughters. However, he fell in love with a married actress called Micaela and had five children with her. He divided his time between his two families along with several other women, writing a multitude of plays to afford enough to keep them all happy. After his favourite son and one of his lovers died, he became drawn to priesthood and wrote plays and poems with deep, religious meanings.



In 1612, he succeeded in becoming a priest. He continued to write plays (mainly comedic and philosophical towards the end of his life) and to fall in love with more women until his death in 1635. In his lifetime, he wrote 1800 plays (80 are considered masterpieces), more than 500 poems (he has been criticized for valuing quantity over quality), 2 wives and 11 lovers. He was featured on a google doodle for his 455th birthday.s,res,



La Casa de Bernarda Alba

Being a woman in 1930s Spain was very hard. Society was very judgemental and based on reputation. La Casa de Bernarda Alba (The house of Bernarda Alba) is a play set in 1936 about a family of sisters who have to live under their mother's firm rule as she strives to maintain their reputation within society. Upon her second husband's death, Bernarda Alba imposes a strict eight-year mourning period on her daughters in accordance with her family tradition. It explores repression, passion and conformity and can teach you a lot about that time period.



Lockdown reading project: Expand your cultural experiences and read a translated version of this Spanish play.

The whole play can be found in English for free on this website:

<https://www.poetryintranslation.com/PITBR/Spanish/AlbaActI.php> Let us know if you read it!!

By Maleeha Ahmad

EXPRESIÓN DE LA SEMANA

This fortnight's proverb is "A falta de pan, buenas son tortas." literally means **In the absence of bread, cakes are good.** This doesn't make a lot of sense but what it's trying to say is that even if you don't have the best at least you have something. Now with us all in lockdown and online learning we have to make do with the circumstances and look on the bright side and remember to try and **help those who are in need at the moment :-)**

siempre sé feliz!