



ECLIPSE

MATIAS UMPIERREZ

PRODUCED BY
TEATRO ESPAÑOL/NAVES DEL MATADERO & STUDIO MATÍAS UMPIERREZ
WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE ROLEX MENTOR AND PROTÉGÉ ARTS INITIATIVE



Synopsis

In 2018, a 9,000-year-old stone mask was discovered. Nine millennia of hiding faces and chasing the idyll of the Other. We were already masked when we saw the first eclipse and, frightened by the superposition of the sun and moon, we ended a battle (1375 BC).

How many identities can coexist in one? Are any of them truer than the rest? Perhaps the one that appears on our identity card or the one that is hidden in our computer records? If we are masked, what is our identity?

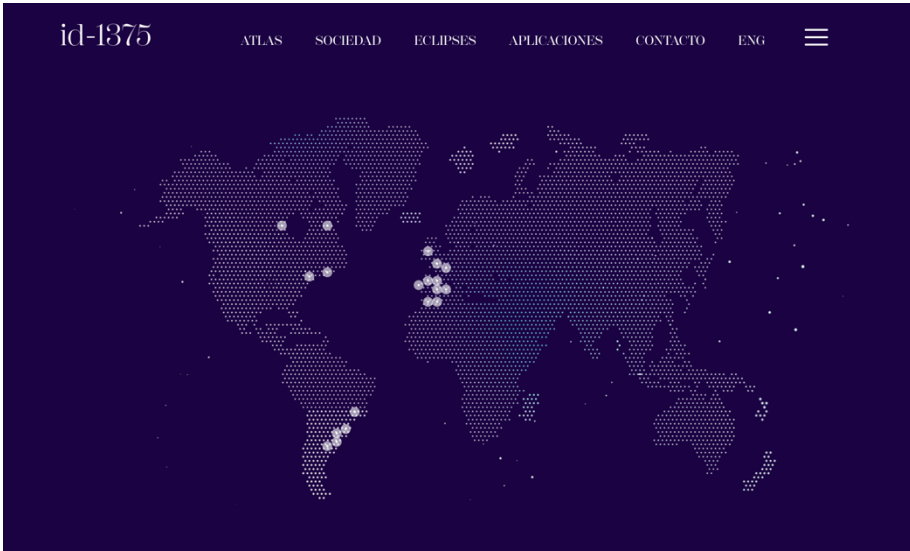
This new project by Matías Umpierrez is an unfinished catalogue of anonymity. It's a conference. A performance. A concert of fictions.

Onstage, an anonymous lecturer and his double revive the meaning of the word mask by calling it, as in Ancient Greece, “persona” (prósōpon) while weaving together stories of celebrated and forgotten mask-wearers on a transhuman planet eclipsed by screens, leaders, slaves, files, rebellions, ghosts, hacktivists, secret societies, astronauts, deepfakes, myths.

** Most of the masks presented at this conference-performance belong to SOCIETY id1375, a masking society that operates globally. More information: www.id1375.com*

Eclipse **Teaser** > <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYkgG1ybT1w>





Origin

by **Matías Umpierrez**

I was born into a family that has migrated for several generations. When I was a child, my father told me: "I am going to teach you my trade, ceramics and plaster, because if someday you emigrate, you will have one more tool to survive". When in 2015 I emigrated, almost unconsciously, I had the need to return to molding clay, to feel the familiarity of my materials and my father's craft. Eclipse transports me to the genesis of my identity as a person and the origin of my practice as an artist from the creation and use of the mask in the performing arts.

My masks | [A secret society: id1375](#)

In the summer of 2018, I began to create a collection of masks that integrate a secret society, distributed globally. They are pieces materialized physically in clay, silicone and virtually through augmented reality. People who acquire their masks, and are part of the secret society, have the opportunity to worship each piece as an artistic or sacred artifact; they can also use them to invoke their double as an archetype or as part of a fiction. More information: www.id1375.com

Masks presented during ECLIPSE

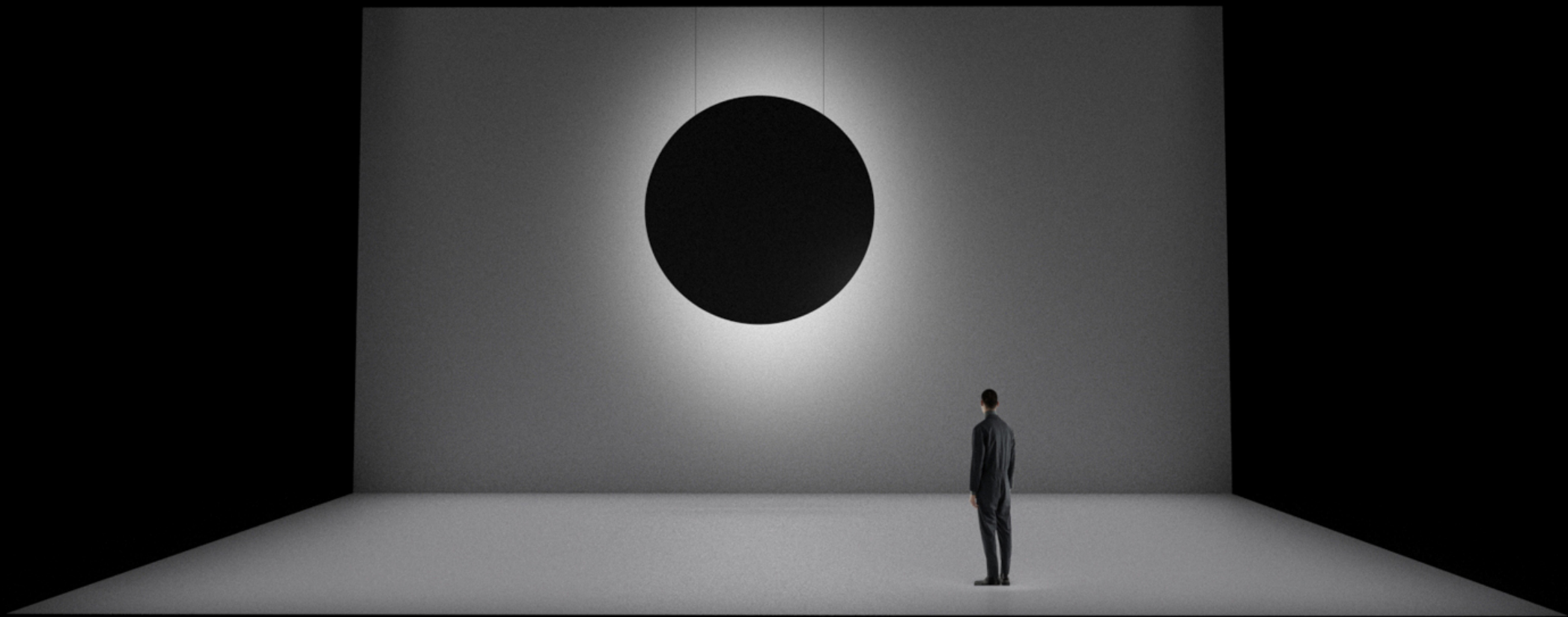
During the show, stories of masks relevant to history and fiction will be presented; for example, the 9,000-year-old mask recently found in the West Bank, the Visard masks of the 16th century, the very diverse masks of mortuary use, those created during the German expressionist movement, masks of the mud men, masks of shame, masks of the Anonymous collective, masks of astronauts, virtual masks, among others. Also included are some masks and myths of *SOCIETY id1375*.





ECLIPSE and the masked speaker

The play is presented by an anonymous performer who on stage will show the interplay between speaker and actor, document and scene, reality and fiction. His face will be covered by a series of masks and his voice will be transformed by sound filters that will change its tone and intensity.





The ECLIPSE staging

The performance begins as a conference where an anonymous masked person projects images, masks, texts.

An eclipse will burst the scene and, from that moment on, the conference will be transformed into a concert of fictions that interweaves 21 scenes composed of stories of masked people ranging from a stone mask, to the unknown of the Seine, the Anonymous collective, the masked philosopher, the gunpowder plot, the mud men, the masked dancers, the visard mask, among others.

The dramaturgy of the piece raises the relationship of humans with their multiple identities, the theater with its multiple genres and different ways of masking such as the use of virtuality to mask our identity, the use of symbols to mask territories and the use of badges to mask hidden collectives or societies.

The scene will play a series of overlaps between the human and the transhuman, the speaker and his masked double, physical objects and virtual presences, music and voice, scenography and projections.







Voice synthesizers: the voice of the masked speaker will be intervened/masked by different sound synthesizers generating transformations during the play in order to narrate the projected scenes, as well as to reproduce the voices (through live electronic treatment) of each character. Their voice will mutate through distortions, effects and sound filters made in real time.

Music: incidental throughout the show.

Length of the show: 90 min.







Artistic and technical team

Performer
Anónimo

Voiceovers:
Robert Lepage

Dramaturgy and direction
Matías Umpierrez

Set design
Max Glaenzel

Technical direction and videomapping
David Benito

Original music
Rafael Sucheras

Lighting design
David Benito y Matías Umpierrez

Sound design
Rafael Sucheras y Oscar G. Villegas

Executive Production
Laura G. Cortón

Direction assistance
Josefina Gorostiza

3D design in visuals
Mariano Basti

Makeup design
Sarai Nuñez Mellina

Technical assistance
Beatriz Francos

Sound operation
Oscar G. Villegas

Sound design assistance
Ramiro Borelli

Guitar recording and mastering
Martín Yubro

Props assistance
Marta Tardieu

Collaboration in costume design
Jorge Dana

Set construction
Readest

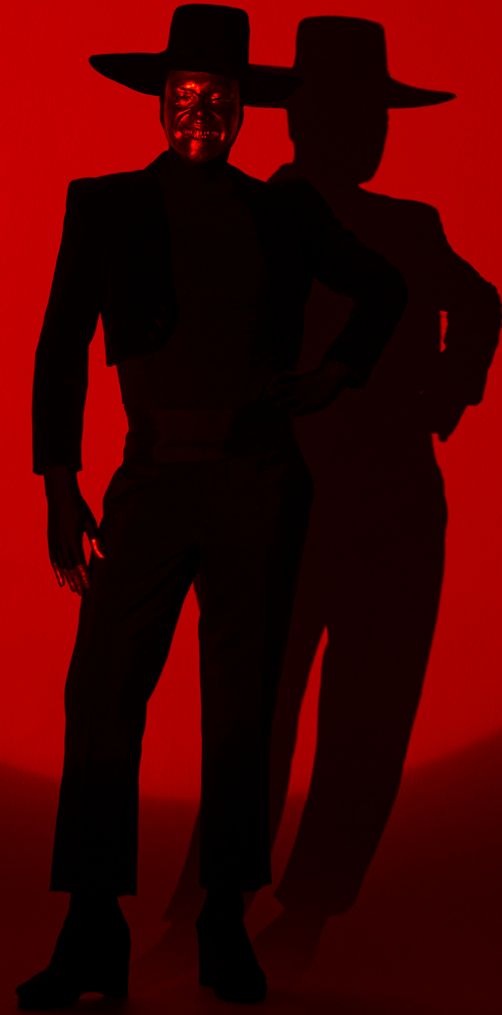
Set construction assistance
Rocío Sánchez Prado

Recording and postproduction video party masked:
Vorágine TV (Daniel Caño, César Caballero, Adolfo Velayos)

Masked video party performers:
Anonymous

Management and international distribution
Art Republic (Iva Horvat & Elise Garriga)

Produced by **Studio Matías Umpierrez & Teatro Español** with the support of the **Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative**.
Matías Umpierrez dedicates a show to the memory of Julieta Vallina, an exceptional actress who changed his perception of acting.



ECLIPSE

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Art Republic

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