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Ogni anno, decine di migliaia di persone si immergono in una spettacolare festa al Carnevale di Santa Cruz de Tenerife, uno dei festival pi rinomati della Spagna. Spesso paragonato al famoso Carnevale di Rio de Janeiro, questo evento celebrato per la sua atmosfera vibrante e grandiosa. Con costumi sgargianti, parate energiche e un'atmosfera vivace, il carnevale trasforma la capitale di Tenerife in un vivace centro di espressione culturale e celebrazione gioiosa. Il carnevale offre una serie di eventi progettati per intrattenere e immergere i partecipanti nel suo spirito festoso. Uno dei momenti salienti l'elezione della Regina del Carnevale, dove le concorrenti mostrano costumi elaborati, alcuni dei quali pesano oltre 100 kg, in una spettacolare dimostrazione di arte e creatività. Questa competizione attira spesso un'attenzione significativa, dando il tono ai festeggiamenti. Le strade di Santa Cruz de Tenerife prendono vita con musica, danza e colori durante il carnevale. La Grande Parata, o Cabalgata, una delle preferite dal pubblico. Questo evento vivace presenta musica latina, balli di salsa e costumi intricati. I visitatori possono unirsi al divertimento acquistando maschere, parrucche o costumi dalle bancarelle vicine. Il festival si conclude con la Sepultura della Sardinia, una tradizione unica in cui un enorme pesce di cartapesta viene portato in parata attraverso la città prima di essere cerimoniosamente bruciato sulla costa. Questo atto simbolico accompagnato da uno spettacolo pirotecnico mozzafiato, segnando la fine delle celebrazioni. I festeggiamenti iniziano con l'Inaugurazione il 31 gennaio, seguita da una serie di eventi coinvolgenti come i Concorsi di Murga dal 7 al 14 febbraio, e le Elezioni di Gala delle Regine del Carnevale Junior e Senior rispettivamente il 16 e 19 febbraio. I momenti salienti includono il Concorso di Comparsas il 22 febbraio, la grande Parata di Apertura il 28 febbraio, e la parata "Ritmo y Armonía" il 22 febbraio. La Settimana del Carnevale principale, dal 1 al 9 marzo, presenta le Comparsas di Ritmo e Armonía, i Carnevali diurni, lo spettacolare Corteo principale il Martedì Grasso, la Sepoltura della Sardinia il 5 marzo, e culmina con il finale del carnevale il 9 marzo, che include una parata di auto d'epoca, una festa di fine carnevale e un grande spettacolo pirotecnico. Molte attività locali adattano i loro orari durante questo periodo, con il Martedì di Carnevale, 4 marzo 2025, osservato come giorno festivo. Il Carnevale di Santa Cruz de Tenerife ha radici che risalgono al XVIII secolo, evolvendosi da semplici balli in maschera alla celebrazione elaborata che oggi. Nel corso degli anni, ha ottenuto riconoscimento internazionale, essendo stato dichiarato "Festival di Interesse Turistico Internazionale" dal governo spagnolo. I temi cambiano ogni anno, scelti attraverso il voto pubblico, aggiungendo un elemento di attesa all'evento di ogni anno.Ultimo aggiornamento: 19 dicembre 2024Annual carnival in the Canary IslandsSanta Cruz de Tenerife CarnivalThe Queen of the Carnival on parade (2006)GenreCarnivalDate(s)February/March (depending on the year)Begin(s)Two weeks before Ash Wednesday (about 52 days to Easter)End(s)Weekend after Ash WednesdayFrequencyAnnualLocation(s)Santa Cruz de Tenerife, SpainMajor eventsParade, parties, Queen selection, Piata weekendFiesta of International Tourist InterestDesignated1980The Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife (Spanish: Carnaval de Santa Cruz de Tenerife) is held each February/March depending on the year in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, the capital of the largest island of the Canary Islands, Spain and attracts people from all over the world.It is considered the second most important,[1] most popular and internationally known carnival, after the one held in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil).[2][3] Partially for this reason, the city of Santa Cruz de Tenerife is twinned with the city of Rio de Janeiro.[4][5][6]In 1980, it was declared a Fiesta of International Tourist Interest by the Secretary of State for Tourism. It aspires to become an intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO.[7] In 1987, singer Celia Cruz went to the Carnival Chicharrero with Billo's Caracas Boys; attended by 250,000 people, the concert was registered in the Guinness Book of Records as the largest gathering of people in an outdoor plaza to attend a concert. In 2019 for its part, more than 400,000 people danced to the rhythm of Juan Luis Guerra during the Carnival of the day thus surpassing the record reached in 1987 with Celia Cruz. Although, however, due to the unexpected mass response there was no notary officializing this figure for the Guinness Book.[8]The festivities on the streets of Santa Cruz de Tenerife start on the Friday before Carnival with an opening parade, which reaches its height during the night when thousands of people in fancy dresses dance until the early hours of the next day. The party continues night after night until Ash Wednesday. That day, people of Santa Cruz de Tenerife celebrate the "entierro de la sardina" (burial of the sardine), and with this event the carnival is officially over. However, the party starts up again the following weekend, known as the weekend of the piata. The festival has two parts: the official Carnival, and the Carnival on the street. The official carnival has more than a hundred groups, including murgas, comparsas, rondallas and other musical groups. The street carnival is more loosely organized, and comprises the people celebrating on the streets. Thousands of people come each day to the streets to participate, most of whom wear a disguise in accordance with Carnival tradition.NiF-NiF Carnival orchestraThe Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife has been celebrated since the time of the earliest European settlement, and possibly earlier. In 1605 Gaspar Luis Hidalgo alluded to the habit of reversing the sexes in dress.[citation needed] Early written references date from the end of the 18th century, in the writings of visitors. The journal of Lope Antonio de la Guerra pea in 1778 includes a dance held in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, where he then talked about comparsas (bands playing conga music). In 1783, the Corregidor reported the use of masks "being banned by royal instructions". In practice the ban was not carried out, and a carnival feature was the mixing of the masked upper class with the common people. During the dictatorships of Miguel Primo de Rivera (19231935), and General Franco (19401960), the Carnival was known as "Winter holiday" as a ruse to circumvent the ban that had been enacted against it. Despite the ban, the festival continued to take place in Santa Cruz de Tenerife and Cádiz, Spain. In 1954 with Los Bigotudos (today known as Afilarmarca NIFU-NiF) performed the first murga (musical theatre).[citation needed]Since 1962, a poster for each year of the Carnival has been created. Artists such as John Galarza, Gurrea, Javier Mascal, Dokopull, Csar Medieval, Cuisixir, Pedro González, Fierro, Paco Martínez, Mel Ramos, Enrique González, Maribel Nazca, Elena Lecuona and many others have contributed to their designs. For the 2009 Carnival, it was proposed that an open competition take place for participants to design the official poster for that year.[citation needed]The main venues for Carnival competitions and the election of the Queen have been the Teatro Guimer (until 1985) and the Plaza de Toros (19861988) Its central circular stage was decorated with a silver crown in 19861987 and a golden crown in 1988. Additional venues have included the Plaza de Espaa in 2005, the Centro Internacional de Ferias y Congressos de Tenerife and the Esplanade of Parks in 2008. Since the construction of the Centro Internacional de Ferias y Congressos de Tenerife, additional Carnival venues have varied.In recent years tickets for several events (especially the Final Murgas Adultas Contest and the Gala of the Queen) have sold out completely (over 20,000 seats) between 15 and 60 minutes after tickets go on sale. The Gala of the Queen, with a stage spectacle that crowns the first lady of the Carnival and groups awarded for their efforts, is broadcast each year by a national network for the entire country and broadcast via satellite to all continents. Networks covering the event include RTVE, Televisin Canaria, Antena 3 Televisin, Canal +, Galavisin and Telecinco.In May 2000, the Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife became the Carnival Capital of the World and headquarters of the 20th Convention of the Federation of European Carnival Cities (FECC). The convention, held on the island of Gran Canaria, featured appearances by Carnival performers and concluded with performers from the Carnival of Las Palmas.Carnival Poster (1976) on a tile located on Constitution Avenue (Santa Cruz de Tenerife).1987 Rome: This was the first year that the Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, was themed. For this, the perimeter of the Plaza de Espaa was surrounded by an Ionic-style paired colonnade, giving the appearance of a circular Roman temple. The portal of the lintel of each pair of columns, was adorned by two Atlantic maskers (chicharrero) crowned with laurels. This was the year the Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife entered the Guinness Book of World Records.1988 Wil: World. The colonnade of the previous year was recycled, painted in salmon and topped with white palm leaves made from fiberglass, giving the appearance of palm trees. Every two or three palms were on platforms which were reproductions of previous carnival Queen costumes in white fiberglass. A model of King Kong stood on a pedestal.1989 Millennium Egypt: The Plaza de Espaa replaced the Plaza de Toros as the main stage. It was decorated with two large sphinxes and an Egyptian-style palace gate.1990 Story World: The scene at the Plaza de Espaa was that of a story in two parts. One story was "happy" (with a smiley-faced house) and the other "dark", with a tree whose branches were shaped like hands in a tribute to the film Poltergeist.1991 Space: The tower of the Plaza de Espaa was integrated into the scenery, transforming it into a giant telecommunications antenna dominated by metal, neon and laser lights.1992 Cinema: The stage of the Plaza de Espaa evoked a Western movie set. The stage was extended to almost half the surface of the square. This was the first year that Antena 3 Television broadcast the Queen Gala nationally and internationally (on Antena 3 Internacional); previously, it had been broadcast by RTVE, TVE1 and La2 TVE Internacional.1994 Atlntida: The stage was highlighted with oceanic colors. The gala was presented by journalist Willy Garca. The queen that year was Maria Candelaria Rodriguez, who wore "Diva" (by Marcos Marrero) for Casinos de Tenerife.1995 The Thousand and One Nights: Scenes from the Arabian story adorned the stage of the Plaza de Espaa, inspired by the film Aladdin.1996 Mexico: The main stage of the Carnival moved to the newly opened Centro Internacional de Ferias y Congressos de Tenerife. The theatrical set evokes a neighborhood in Mexico, and the characters were stereotypical negative portrayals of Mexicans as "drunk, lazy and violent". The Mexican Consul was in attendance, and it was broadcast in America by Galavisin and in Spain by Telecinco. The show nearly created a diplomatic conflict: Televisa closed its office in Tenerife, which was owned by Canal 7 del Atlntico (ECO Noticias). Construction errors on the set required help for the queen candidates to cross the stage. Its highlight was a performance by Enrique Iglesias.1997 Prehistory: The set was simple: a rocky mountain made of papier-mch in the center of the Centro Internacional de Ferias y Congressos de Tenerife.1998 The Middle Ages: The set of that year was a medieval castle with flags, coats of arms and colored conical roofs.1999 Comic World: This marked a return to the Plaza de Espaa, with a hall filled with superheroes. Highlights were Captain America (known as "Super Chicha") and a giant bust of Lara Croft.Carnival Poster (1992) on a tile located on Constitution Avenue (Santa Cruz de Tenerife).2000 Pirate: A pirate galleon was the centerpiece, surrounded by palm trees, islands, beaches and waves.2001 Space Odyssey: A spaceship was the main feature at the Plaza de Espaa.2002 The Roaring 20s: The scene of the Plaza de Espaa was decorated with motifs reminiscent of the first two decades of the 20th century. The Eiffel Tower was featured on stage, with the Statue of Liberty and the Golden Gate Bridge behind the Eiffel Tower.2003 The Far East (China): The center of the Plaza de Espaa was occupied by a Chinese temple in red. A papier-mch sculpture of the Buddha was withdrawn after protests by the Buddhist community of Tenerife, who objected to a religious figure being used frivolously. The main streets of Santa Cruz de Tenerife were decorated red and gold, with Chinese lanterns.2004 Celia Cruz: The stage at the Plaza de Espaa was decorated as a Cuban neighborhood, with a neon sign reading "Celia Cruz" in blue.2005 Hollywood Musicals: The stage of the Spanish Steps was inspired by Hollywood black-and-white musicals.2006 Tribes: The stage was again moved to the Centro Internacional de Ferias y Congressos de Tenerife. Two sets (one primary and one secondary) were planned, joined by a footbridge. The decoration of both was based on graffiti and Web icons. It was originally intended to target "urban tribes" (punks and hippies) but was given a general theme of "tribes", which proved confusing.2007 Fashion: Known as the "Bitter Carnival" due to the negative role acquired by the director of that year's Gala Election of the Queen, Rafael Amargo (amargo in Spanish means "bitter") and the show itself.2008 Magic: The stage was moved to the parking lot of the Parque Martimo Csar Manrique. The decor was inspired by the struggle between good and evil (white magic and black magic), incorporating motifs from The Never-Ending Story, The Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter.2009 Horror Films: This was known as "the anti-crisis Carnival". The main stage at the Centro Internacional de Ferias y Congressos de Tenerife was flat, without any carvings or models. The decoration was large-format canvases printed with motifs from an early influence of Ed Wood, Nosferatu. The satanic hymn "Ave Satani" (of the horror movie The Omen) was heard several times at the introduction to the gala.2010 Tenerife, Carnival History: At first the theme was "History of Mankind"; after a policy change in the city, it was changed to "Tenerife, story of a carnival".2011 Enrique Gonzlez and Canary murgas: This year honored Don Enrique Gonzlez, the "father of street musicians", founder of several acts of the carnival. The Murgas final was held for the first time in Heliodoro Rodriguez Lpez Stadium, with an attendance of 20,000.2112 Flower Power: The stage was filled with hippies symbols and legends as "do not worry be hippy", volume figures, and drawings of characters with clothing hippies. He also decorated the stage a number of city buildings painted with psychedelic styl. At the gala queen issues highlighted as the man on the Moon, the Vietnam War, student protests, the struggle for the protection of nature and the rise of New Age. There was a great tribute to bands and singers of the 60 among which were The Beatles and The Rolling Stones among others.2013 Bollywood: The India: First time for the theme of Carnival to be chosen by internet voters. The stage was based on those used in the Eurovision Song Contest, with a large LED screen, the largest in Europe. The Carnival Queen was chosen by choreographer and Bollywood actor Sunny Singh (born in Bombay), and the president of the jury was the consul of India in Canary Islands, Boagwandas Gope Mahtani.2014 The Cartoons: This was the first year that the placard of the carnival was chosen by the citizens. However, there was controversy about various problems with the voting process. The voting results were cancelled and the organizers of the contest decided who the winner would be. The stage was once again a LED screen, imported this time from Belgium and featuring a surround effect. A second screen was also incorporated. During the gala it showed various cartoon characters including: Cinderella, The Little Mermaid, the Pink Panther, Inspector Gadget, Barbie, Tadeo Jones, The Lion King and Monster High. They also showed characters from Warner Bros and Hanna Barbera, as Sylvester, Tweety and Scooby-Doo. The singer Celia Cruz was always a great promoter of the Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife. In 2004 was declared by the city as "Queen of Honor of Carnival of Santa Cruz de Tenerife".2015 The Future: Nearly 7,000 attendees enjoyed an overture that recreated the planet Earth in the future, featuring robots, dancers, stilt walkers and galactic beings from other planets. Several trapeze flying over the fairgrounds in Tenerife and a giant human figure moved among the spectators up to the stage, the style of La Fura dels Baus. All wrapped by light and images projected the large LED screen more than 50 meters wide that surrounded the stage. The collaborative program, Antena 3 "El Hormiguero" Anna Simn, was a presenter at the event. She was accompanied by two canaries communicators, Ivan Bonales and Manuel Artilles. One of the most exciting moments of the Gala was when revived on stage the Guinness record who fought in the Plaza de Espaa in 1987. That year more than 200,000 people danced to salsa queen Celia Cruz. The tables were filled with dancers from different Carnival parades and voices six singers did a review of the great successes of the Cuban artist.2016 The Roaming 80s: This time the LED screen is removed and the traditional Carnival decorated recovers, with ocheneros recover reasons: a pseudo reproduction of a "Game Boy", giant tape "cassette", Play a stuffed Mobile honoring Freddie Mercury...2017 Caribbean: The Gala of Election of the Queen was directed (for second consecutive year), by Enrique Camacho, and also repeated like master of ceremonies the singer Jadel, this time accompanied by the artist Roko. More than 5,000 spectators head to the gala at the Recinto Ferial de Tenerife, an event for which just a week before the tickets sold out. The Gala was broadcast live by the Televisin Canaria and Televisin Espaa, through La 2 of TVE and TVE International, being the year (until then) in which this party has had more international media repercussions. The Gala staged a "trip" in a cruise through the Caribbean, where there was a tribute to the carnival of different Caribbean countries such as Puerto Rico, Cuba, Jamaica, Bahamas, etc. Also during the Gala was the homage to Antonio Messegueur, Que He said goodbye to the character he gave life to during the carnival of the last decades, Fidel Castro, with a great ovation of all the spectators. In addition to the year 2017, it was recorded as the year of the inauguration of the Carnival House of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, a museum dedicated to the history of this emblematic festival.2018 The Fantasy: For the first time in the history of Carnival, three women acted as masters of ceremony at the Queen's gala: Laura Alfonso, from Canarias Radio; Eloisa Gonzlez, of Televisin Canaria, and Berta Collado, which has been linked to Antena 3, Cuatro and La Sexta. He also had the stellar performance of Olga Tan. The stage is the largest of those built in the Tenerife Fairground with its more than 2,100 square meters. The gala began with the projection on the screens of a child who had found a book in an enchanted forest and raised it from among the chairs of the Fairgrounds to the Carnival stage. It was a story with fairies, enchanted trees and unicorns... The overture, due to the quality of the projections, enhanced the stage, with a cascade that set itself on fire, a great virtual dragon and others were projected on the stage. One of the most emotional moments of the night came from when the young Saida Prieto could fulfill her dream of returning to parade as a candidate at the gala of the election of the queen, something that in 2013 could not perform, because minutes before climbing to the scenario a fateful accident caused the girl and her suit to end in flames. The humorous note of the gala was given by the Abubukaka group. During this year a record was registered, with a participation of more than one million people, 12 million citizens who visited the official profiles of the party on social networks. Also, 50 million viewers saw at some point the retransmits of the main events of the Santa Cruz de Tenerife Carnival through the different televisions.2019 The marine depths: The main stage of the carnival this time is chaired by a six meter tall bust of Poseidon, the Greek god of the sea. This sculpture is made by Valencian Falles masters and was transferred to the island of Tenerife from Valencia by sea along with other sets that make up the stage as a great ship wrecked ten meters long and six meters high. In addition, 140 corals were molded with striking colors, orange, green and pink. Several films were also inspired in the sets, among which are Finding Nemo. In total, the stage measures 15 meters and with giant screens that simulate the bottom of the sea with fish. The Queen's Election Gala was directed one more year by Enrique Camacho. The introduction of the same allowed the public to delve into the deep sea, where they waited, a host of aquatic animals. One of the most emotional moments of the night took place when the audience also stood up to cheer and support a candidate who, while marching, fell to the ground and, before the weight of her suit, could not get up by herself. The presenter of the gala was the journalist Lara Alfonso, who throughout the event was accompanied by other presenters, such as the last three queens of the carnival, Maria Rozman, Elvis Sanfeli or K-Narias. Guest artists were Carlos Baute and Marta Sanchez. The gala was broadcast live on Televisin Espaa and on the International Channel, as well as on Televisin Canaria. During the celebration of the Carnival by the day the record reached in 1987 with Celia Cruz was surpassed, because in 2019 and according to data of the local Police more than 400,000 people danced to the rhythm of Juan Luis Guerra and with Celia Cruz they had been 250,000. Given this unexpected fact and lack of a notary, the record could not be included in the Guinness Book of Records.2020 The 1950s: Known as "El Carnaval de La Calima", due to the dust in suspension from the Sahara desert that covered the entire Canary archipelago during the first days of the carnival celebration in the street. The queen's gala featured performances by Paulina Rubio and Soraya Arnelas. As a novelty, the queen candidates were able to access the stage twice at the end of each first round of the participants. The gala was directed by designers Marcos Marrero and Mara Daz. In the final moment, only eight queen candidates took the stage, because despite the large dimensions of the stage, it fell short to accommodate all the candidates at the same time. During the gala, which started with an overture based on the popular song "Santa Cruz en carnaval", 16 candidates paraded through a stage that, like every year, also received the Queen of the Venezuelanian Canarian Home. The gala featured singer Soraya Arnelas, who in addition to singing acted as master of ceremonies with Alexis Hernandez and Pas Rodriguez.2021 Carnivals of the World: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Santa Cruz de Tenerife Carnival is not celebrated in this year in person. Some acts and documentaries related to the carnival are broadcast virtually. There was also no new Carnival Queen but there was a guardian of the scepter who will be in charge of guarding it until the election of the Carnival Queen can be celebrated again. The applicants will be young people, girls and adults who have already been proclaimed queens in years past. This gala had the stellar participation of the Mexican singer Carlos Rivera. The Carnival House hosted an exhibition entitled "Traditional Carnivals in the Canary Islands" with representations of Los Toros de Tao and Tiagua, Los Diabletes de Tequisue, Los Buches of Arecife (all of them from Lanzarote), Los Carneros de Tigaday in El Hierro, Achipencos in Fuerteventura or Los Empolvados, like Los Indianos de La Palma, among others.2022 Science fiction: For the first time in history, the Santa Cruz de Tenerife Carnival was held in summer, in the month of June. This was due to a decision by the City Council to be able to celebrate it as in pre-covid times, since in the month of February of that year the health indicators discouraged a street carnival. The Queen's Gala featured the stellar performance of the singer Chanel Terroero, this being her first performance after her participation in May of that year in the Eurovision Song Contest representing Spain. Artists such as An