Competition, and the abuses to its limits, reflecting the takes a real-life situation and cruelty because Galceran is tinged with tension, intrigue and a woman, show up for experimentation, creation Beckett in Barcelona, a space and where the for lunch, and enter into an argument. In the course of their conversation, the spectator discovers the complex situation of this bourgeois family living in Catalonia in the mid-1970s. None of the mother’s children had the kind of life she considers proper and has wanted for them, especially her youngest. Also present is the memory of her husband who died twenty years earlier. The son resembles him, which disturbs the mother because when she had been confronted with the father’s scandalous conduct, she never forgave him and ended up destroying him. Comadira speaks of intolerance, lack of understanding, absence of respect for differences, lying and hiding the truth. Besides being a playwright, he is a poet and painter.

This year Peter Brook, one of the regular attendants, will join Dario Fo to offer an artistic review of the twentieth century through three of its most prominent personalities – themselves, with Samuel Beckett as the third member of the trio. The version of “Krapp’s Last Tape” that Beckett directed will also be performed. The Temporada Alta Festival is a showcase for the very best of international theatre. For example, this year offers another exceptional threesome, Christoph Marthaler, Jan Lauwers and the Polish artist Krystian Lupa, as well as a magnificent overview of Argentine theatre. Again, the Temporada Alta Festival is noteworthy as a platform for performance, offering incentives for the creation of contemporary works and promoting the most promising performances in the national theatre scene. Finally, the Festival takes place in a part of Catalonia that stand to grow artistically in 2007 with the inauguration of the Salt-Girona Canal Centre of Scenic Arts, to be held in the final week.

The Teatro Nacional de Catalunya (National Theatre of Catalonia) http://www.tnc.cat/ (website in Catalan and Spanish) It is now ten years since Tony Kushner’s Angels in America (Angels in America) inaugurated the National Theatre of Catalonia, then under the directorship of Josep Maria Platats. Over time it has developed a reputation of combining quality, a willingness to take aesthetic risks and the desire to provide first-rate service for the theatre-going public. The present director is the playwright Sergi Belbel.

Teatre Lliure http://www.teatrelliure.com/ (website in Catalan, Spanish and English) Created in 1976 by a group of professionals engaged in independent theatre, the Teatre Lliure was distinguished from the outset by its commitment to text-based theatre. With directors like Fabià Puigserver, Lluís Pasqual and Lluís Homar, key names in Catalan theatre circles, the Lliure was one of the founding members of the Union of Theatres of Europe. Since 2003, Àlex Rigola has headed the artistic project, from the security of his nationality and the identity he has forged. Clinging to this perspective as for its elegaic simplicity of the Bible.

A successful Californian film director is tackling his next project, from the security of his home. The work concerns his mother, her never-questioned nationality and the identity he has forged. Clinging to this certainty, he resists taking on another reality, one raised by people close to him, and in particular by a letter he does not dare to open because it is from his biological father whom he has never met. The play presents today’s great ideological debates, identity, cultural traditions, memory, and the destruction and preservation of nature. In this work, Benet i Jornet clearly sets out the consequences of oblivion.

Montserrat Serra