



Pintacuda on rebel Rosalia, fleeing a Norman wedding

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PALERMO, Sicily — Four monumental stages, one procession, and a route that crosses the whole historic city from the mountain to the sea. We spoke to Luca Pintacuda, creative director of the 402nd *Festino di Santa Rosalia* (the Feast of Saint Rosalia), which peaks every July 14. This year he has yoked Rosalia to the Normans, and his reason is that both stories start in blood. Conquest for one, the plague of 1624 for the other. Palermo's two greatest inheritances, he argues, were born from catastrophe. The city has chosen a word for her this year. Rebel. Rosalia, the story goes, was promised to a man at the Norman court and ran rather than marry him.

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