

PRESS

The Empty Suitcase · Press highlights

What the Brazilian press wrote, December 2023 – October 2025

The Empty Suitcase
Culturas em Movimento · culturasemmovimento.com

October 2026

The play in the press

The Empty Suitcase premiered on 21 March 2024 at Teatro do SESI-SP, São Paulo. The Brazilian press covered the play at three stages. First, the premiere season in São Paulo, from March to June 2024. Then, the 2025 tour of SESI theatres across São Paulo state. Finally, the October 2025 season at Teatro Moise Safra, São Paulo, which celebrated the 100th performance.

National newspapers and magazines, television and radio, theatre websites and independent critics wrote about it. The press clippings run to more than 150 items. The play has now reached 102 performances in 7 cities, more than 40,000 spectators and six awards. Here are eleven excerpts and the main outlets.

The play and the true story

> *The 'suitcase' is a concrete object, tied to journeys, departures and arrivals. In the play, it becomes the symbolic container of the 'emptiness' left by the loss of a loved one.*

Andre Marcondes · Folha de S.Paulo (blog Mise-en-scène), 10/2025 · press clippings p. 4

> *Inspired by the testimony of the actress's cousin and by a wartime suitcase now kept at the Jewish Museum [of São Paulo], the play blends memory and fiction as it explores the silences and traumas handed down from one generation to the next.*

Fabio Codeço · Veja São Paulo, 10/2025 · press clippings p. 2

> *On stage, the object that gives the play its name is what connects fiction and reality.*

Natalia Nora · Guia da Folha (Folha de S.Paulo), 03/2024 · press clippings p. 77

The cast

> *The story revolves around Esther, played by Noemi Marinho, a matriarch whose memory moves between the horrors of Nazi Germany and the family she rebuilt in Brazil. Cared for by Ruth, played by Dinah Feldman, Esther is the epicentre of a story that reaches the generations that follow.*

Celso Faria · e-Urbanidade, 29/03/2024 · press clippings p. 96

> *Written by Nanna de Castro and directed by Kiko Marques, the play features Noemi Marinho in a far from obvious portrayal of a 92-year-old Jewish woman.*

Dirceu Alves Jr. · InfoTeatro, 11/04/2024 · press clippings p. 96

> *Unmissable. Painful and delicate. A showcase of acting. How good it is to see good theatre.*

Dib Carneiro Neto · Instagram, 29/03/2024 · press clippings p. 98

Writing, direction and design

> *[...] Nanna's writing and Marques's direction offer a delicate portrait of a family destroyed by a system, in this case Nazism.*

Dirceu Alves Jr. · InfoTeatro, 11/04/2024 · press clippings p. 96

> *The text, the performances, the set, the lighting, the soundtrack, the projected images: all this excellence harmonised by the masterly touch of director Kiko Marques.*

José Cetra · Palco Paulistano, 01/04/2024 · press clippings p. 112

> *With sets by Márcio Medina, costumes by João Pimenta and music by Gregory Slivar, the production turns its symbolic object — the suitcase — into a metaphor for pain and endurance. Winner of the Bibi Ferreira, APCA and CENYM awards, the play reaffirms the power of theatre to give new meaning to collective memory.*

Fabio Codeço · Veja São Paulo, 10/2025 · press clippings p. 2

Beyond the story of one family

> *Returning once again to the Holocaust (in a highly original way, it should be said), the play goes beyond its Jewish subject and insists that remembering is necessary [...]*

José Cetra · Palco Paulistano, 01/04/2024 · press clippings p. 112

> *Silence, memories and affection meet in The Empty Suitcase: a story of survival that spans generations and moves the audience in every scene.*
>
> Esther Zolfan Vizzone · Catraca Livre, 24/09/2025 · press clippings p. 8

Main outlets

The main reports, in the order of the press clippings. The page number refers to the clippings file on culturasemmovimento.com.

OUTLET	TYPE	DATE	AUTHOR	CLIPPINGS PAGE
Veja São Paulo	weekly magazine, print and online	9 Oct 2025	Fabio Codeço	pp. 2–3
Folha de S.Paulo · Mise-en-scène	daily newspaper, online column	Oct 2025	Andre Marcondes	p. 4
Catraca Livre	culture website	24 Sep 2025	Esther Zolfan Vizzone	p. 8
Rádio Cultura · Rádio USP · Rádio Eldorado	radio interviews with Noemi Marinho	Oct 2025	—	p. 8
EPTV (TV Globo), Campinas and Ribeirão Preto	television	Jan–Feb 2025	—	pp. 19, 46
Correio Popular (Campinas)	daily newspaper, print (front page and culture section)	Jan 2025	—	pp. 22–23
g1 Ribeirão Preto and Franca	news website	7 Feb 2025	—	p. 47
A Cidade ON (Ribeirão Preto)	news website	30 Jan 2025	Lauriany Braquino	p. 48
Jornal da USP	university newspaper, online	5 Feb 2025	Amanda Haikal	p. 57
TV Globo · Bom Dia SP and SP1	television	2024	—	pp. 66–67

OUTLET	TYPE	DATE	AUTHOR	CLIPPINGS PAGE
Veja São Paulo	weekly magazine, print and online	Feb–Mar 2024	Humberto Abdo (online)	pp. 68–71
O Estado de S. Paulo · Direto da Fonte	daily newspaper, column, print and online	Dec 2023 – Jan 2024	Gilberto Amêndola	pp. 72–74
Guia da Folha (Folha de S.Paulo)	culture guide, print and online	Dec 2023 – Mar 2024	Natalia Nora	pp. 76–78
IstoÉ	weekly magazine, online	6 Mar 2024	—	pp. 80–81
CBN	radio	2024	—	p. 82
Band · Record TV/R7 · RedeTV	television	Mar–Jun 2024	—	pp. 83–87
Canal Teatro MF	theatre website	2024	Dirceu Alves Jr. · Fabiana Seragusa	pp. 92–94
e-Urbanidade	review, website	29 Mar 2024	Celso Faria	p. 96
InfoTeatro	review, website	11 Apr 2024	Dirceu Alves Jr.	p. 96
Blog do Arcanjo	column, website	15 Apr 2024	Miguel Arcanjo	p. 97
Instagram	social media	29 Mar 2024	Dib Carneiro Neto	p. 98
Palco Paulistano	review, blog	1 Apr 2024	José Cetra	p. 112
Facebook	social media	22 Mar 2024	Fernando Dourado Filho	p. 117
O Teatro Me Representa	review, blog	Jun 2024	—	p. 119

OUTLET	TYPE	DATE	AUTHOR	CLIPPINGS PAGE
Deus Ateu	review, blog	9 May 2024	Marcio Tito	p. 120
Revista Oeste	magazine, online	7 Jun 2024	Eugenio Goussinsky	p. 123

Also in the press clippings

- **Teatro Moise Safra, São Paulo, September–October 2025 (pp. 2–17):** Veja São Paulo, Folha de S.Paulo, O Estado de S. Paulo, Catraca Livre, MSN, InfoTeatro, Rádio Cultura, Rádio USP, Rádio Eldorado, Mosaico na TV, Preta Joia, Novidades Online, Afina Menina, Canal Tadeu Ramos, Agito SP, and posts on Instagram and Facebook (Guia Off, Sonia Cooper / ArteFeed, ArteOito, Glorinha Cohen, Toracomfritas, Ovadia Saadia).
- **Campinas, January 2025 (pp. 18–45):** EPTV, Portal CBN Campinas, Correio Popular, Rádio Brasil Campinas, Rádio Educativa, Portal Band.UOL, Campinas.com.br, Jornal Local, Alerta Campinas, Jornal de Campinas, Gazeta de Pinheiros, Jornal Alto Taquaral, Revista São Roque, O Regional, Carta Campinas, Gazeta da Metrópole, Hora Campinas, Jornal do Belém, Kleber Patricio Online, Gazeta da Semana, Jornal do Brás, Ambrosia, Itaquera em Notícias, SINTPq.
- **Ribeirão Preto, January–February 2025 (pp. 46–64):** EPTV, g1, A Cidade ON, Tribuna de Ribeirão, EmRibeirão, Gazeta da Semana, InterTV Web, Kleber Fernandes, Revista São Roque, Roda Ribeirão, Jornal da USP, Portal Zumm, Itaquera em Notícias, Ambrosia, Grupo Portal de Notícias, Jornal do Belém, Conib, Sociedade Israelita de Ribeirão Preto, Jornal do Brás.
- **Teatro do SESI-SP, São Paulo, December 2023 – June 2024 (pp. 65–126):** TV Globo, Veja São Paulo, O Estado de S. Paulo, Guia da Folha, Folha de S.Paulo, IstoÉ, CBN, Nova FM Brasil, Rádio Cultura FM, Band, Record TV/R7, Observatório da TV, RedeTV, Jovem Pan, Catraca Livre, Guia Off, O Fuxico, Canal Teatro MF, InfoTeatro, e-Urbanidade, Blog do Arcanjo, Baruk News, Revista Magazine, Diário de Notícias, Diário da Zona Norte, ABC do ABC, Revista HG, Conib, Revista A Hebraica, Mosaico na TV, Canal Sala de Espetáculo, Coluna Ovadia Saadia, Economia em Pauta, Canal Tadeu Ramos, Blog Novidades Online, Dica de Teatro, São Paulo Secreto, JW News, Palco Paulistano, Paulista Cultural, O Cabide Fala, Resenhando, Stylo FM, Arte do Entretenimento, Mulher em Questão, Trilhas da Cena, O Teatro Me Representa, Deus Ateu, Ana Bittar, De

Olho na Cena, Blog Kelly Christi, Revista Oeste, Segunda Arte, Portal Jo Ribeiro, Canal Fala Terráqueos, Pamela Duncan, and posts on Instagram and Facebook (Bob Sousa, Miguel Arcanjo, Dib Carneiro Neto, Colunas e Notas, Vivacidade News, Arte Oito, Ruvin Singal, Zé Carlos de Andrade, Fernando Dourado Filho, Carlos Reis, LabôPUC SP, Eu no Teatro).

About the quotations

The excerpts were translated from Portuguese for this document. The Portuguese originals, exactly as published, are in the Portuguese version; cuts are marked [...] and additions are in square brackets. Each quotation gives the page of the press clippings where it can be checked. The complete clippings, in Portuguese, are on culturasemmovimento.com.

The 2024 reviews refer to the premiere cast, in which Samuel was played by Emílio de Mello. Marcelo Várzea played the role in 2025; Marcos Suchara plays it today. Dinah Feldman, Noemi Marinho and Fábio Herford have been in the cast since the premiere.