

EL ICONO DE "LA OTRA MALLORCA"

CON USTEDES... LA BURRA PEPPER

TEXTO V. AMENGUAL FOTOGRAFÍA Marta Bonet

Peper es una burra de raza mallorquina, una especie protegida y autóctona de las Islas Baleares, tiene 8 años y vive en Sant Blai, a las afueras de Campos, junto a su pareja Blas y la hija de ambos, Sugar. A primera vista parece una burra normal y corriente además de muy simpática, si bien nada hace sospechar que esta burrita ha sido capaz de desencadenar un fenómeno publicitario a nivel mundial.

Pepper saltó a la fama internacional el día que el periódico británico *Daily Telegraph* la incluyó en un reportaje titulado "Los diez personajes más recomendados a seguir en Twitter". Una simpática foto de la burrita mallorquina ocupaba su lugar junto a los retratos de los actores Ashton Kutcher y Stephen Fry o la Reina de Jordania, entre otras personalidades. El reconocimiento internacional que le dio el reportaje arrastró hacia Sant Blai a decenas de periodistas de medios locales y nacionales que querían retratar y contar la historia de Pepper.

La burrita de Campos es la estrella de la original campaña publicitaria en las redes sociales que puso en marcha, hace año y medio, la propietaria del agroturismo de Sant Blai, Marta Bonet, con el fin de promocionar su establecimiento. Marta decidió utilizar la imagen y la arrulladora personalidad de Pepper como Relaciones Públicas. Sus rebuznos detallaban a sus seguidores día a día todo lo que ofrecía el agroturismo, compartía fotos y hacía amigos en el ciber-espacio. La original manera de expresarse (siempre era Pepper la que hablaba) y compartir experiencias de su vida como burra mallorquina, obviamente "guiada" por Marta) tuvo tal aceptación que muy pronto la propia Pepper empezó a gestionar reservas de habitaciones a través de Facebook y Twitter.

Desde que inició su campaña publicitaria Pepper ha llegado a tener entre 5.000 y 10.000 seguidores en Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Foursquare, etc. Sólo en Twitter 4.000 personas siguen a diario sus "recomendaciones", y unas 1.500 en Facebook. Precisamente en Facebook han surgido dos plataformas de seguidores de la burra más famosa de España: uno llamado "Únete a Pepper" como imagen de la otra Mallorca", y otro "Una burra en Buenafuente. Pepper a Buenafuente ya", reivindicando la aparición de Pepper en el programa del showman televisivo Andreu Buenafuente.

comunicación en línea. Rebuzzna se dedica a la promoción 2.0 a través de redes sociales usando personajes o presencias web como Pepper, a la formación de personas y empresas que quieren aprender más sobre cómo utilizar internet y a dar publicidad en tiempo real a eventos y acontecimientos.

THE ICON OF "THE OTHER MALLORCA" AND NOW LET'S HEAR IT FOR... PEPPER THE DONKEY

Pepper is a donkey of the Mallorcan breed, a protected indigenous species of the Balearic Islands; she is 8 years old and lives in Sant Blai, on the outskirts of Campos, along with her mate Blas and their daughter, Sugar. At first glance she appears to be a normal, common-looking donkey, and a very friendly one at that, but nothing would make one suspect that this little donkey has managed to trigger an international advertising phenomenon.

Pepper leapt to international fame on the day the British newspaper, the *Daily Telegraph*, included her in an article entitled "Top 10 tweeters from around the world you should be following". A nice photo of the Mallorcan donkey occupies its place alongside those of actors Ashton Kutcher and Stephen Fry or the Queen of Jordan, amongst other figures. The international recognition the article gave her drew dozens of journalists from the local and national media to Sant Blai, all hoping to take Pepper's picture and tell her story.

The donkey from Campos is the star of the original advertising campaign set in motion on the social networks a year and a half ago by the owner of the Sant Blai agro-tourism establishment, **Marta Bonet**, in order to promote her business. Marta decided to use Pepper's image and overwhelming personality as a public relations tool. Every day she brayed out details of what the agro-tourism establishment offered to followers, shared photos and made friends in cyber-space. Her original way of expressing herself (it was always Pepper's voice that spoke and shared experiences of her life as a Mallorcan donkey, "guided" by Marta, of course) met with such a good reception that very soon Pepper herself began to process reservations for rooms through Facebook and Twitter.

Since the beginning of the advertising campaign Pepper has built up between 5,000 and 10,000 followers on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Foursquare, etc. On Twitter alone 4,000 people follow her "recommendations" on a daily basis, and there are around 1,500 on Facebook. And precisely in Facebook, two platforms of followers of Spain's most famous donkey have emerged, one called "Join Pepper as the image of the other Mallorca" and the other "A donkey on Buenafuente". Take Pepper to Buenafuente now", demanding that Pepper appear on TV showman Andreu Buenafuente's programme.



"PEPPER HA LLEGADO A TENER 10.000 SEGUIDORES EN TWITTER, FACEBOOK, LINKEDIN Y FOURSQUARE. PEPPER HAS BUILT UP 10,000 FOLLOWERS ON TWITTER, FACEBOOK, LINKEDIN AND FOURSQUARE"

The thing that has struck Marta most is the fact that Pepper's success has drawn crowds of people who came to Campos just to see her. She has become a celebrity in her own right, and lots of tourists come to have their photo taken with her and bring her carrots. Somebody even knitted her a scarf", says Marta, who is delighted with the connection Pepper has made with all these people.

IMAGE OF "THE OTHER MALLORCA".
After a year of success, Marta realised that Pepper's followers were not only looking for information on her establishment; they also wanted general information on Mallorca. In particular they asked about activities one could take part in on the island other than going to the beach and the discoteques - people who wanted to engage in cultural activities, or experience nature. So Pepper began to change her tone and diffuse information on Mallorca, on the fiestas in the villages, hiking routes, the incredible landscapes and the island's traditional culture. This change in focus multiplied her followers astronomically, becoming so successful that the newspaper *El Mundo* entitled a report "The donkey that is challenging Raúl Nadal" (as the image of Mallorca). "In my opinion the authorities don't promote the islands properly", says Marta. "They focus far too much on the beach and the discoteques, and hardly anything else".

THE FUTURE. Thanks to her advertising initiative, Marta has been invited to speak on how to use social networks in institutions like the School of Tourism of the Balearic Islands (ETB), the Balearic Chamber of Commerce and on a national level, in conferences and meetings

on innovation and new technologies. Pepper and Marta were one of the examples of success to be followed in the Social Media Symposium in Jerez de la Frontera last May, the mission of which was to broaden knowledge of the use of the Social Media in business, institutional and professional strategies.

Pepper and Marta have enjoyed their promotional experience so much that from now on, they will devote themselves not only to promoting Mallorca, but also to advising small and medium-sized enterprises that need to publicise themselves. "I want to help companies to develop their own Pepper", says Marta. With Pepper as the "main business partner", and along with other "collaborators" in stables all across Spain, Marta has launched Rebuzzna.com, her own online communication firm. Rebuzzna is dedicated to promotion 2.0 through social networks using personalities or web presences like Pepper, training people and companies that want to learn more about how to use the internet and publicising events in real time.

Si quieras puedes seguir los retuites de Pepper
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