

On October 21, 2026, New York will host the official presentation of *The Benefit* (Spanish title *La Pensión*), the new novel by Granada-born Spanish author Antonio Valverde: a work that combines mystery, an international conspiracy, and a deep reflection on human vulnerability.

The event will take place at La Nacional — Spanish Benevolent Society, a cultural institution with more than 150 years of history, at 239 West 14th Street, Chelsea (Manhattan), between Seventh and Eighth Avenues. The evening is scheduled from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

A novel that rises out of darkness to question reality

The Benefit will be available on Amazon and is also published in Spanish as *La Pensión*. It is a suffocating literary thriller, built with an enveloping narrative that leads the reader through a story mixing the most human instincts with the most implacable greed, in a world where nothing is what it seems.

Antonio Valverde constructs a tale that questions memory, identity, and the very notion of reality. Through characters who reflect both the warmest instincts and the most inhuman ones, the author shows how society can be shaped from glass offices, while ordinary people fight to keep hold of their truth amid forces that operate without a face and without scruples.

A presentation with a Spanish accent in the heart of Manhattan

The choice of La Nacional — Spanish Benevolent Society as the venue underscores the cultural bond between Spain and New York. Founded in 1868, La Nacional is a meeting place for the Hispanic community and a space devoted to literature, art, and Spanish identity in the United States. The presentation of *La Pensión* (the Spanish version of *The Benefit*) belongs to its literary program, which brings contemporary works by Spanish-language authors to New York audiences.

During the event, Antonio Valverde will speak with attendees about the novel's creative process, the construction of its characters, and the inspiration behind its narrative universe. The conversation will also take up the English edition, *The Benefit*, which opens the work to a wider international readership.

Antonio Valverde: an author between business and literature

Born in Montefrío, a historic enclave in the province of Granada, Antonio Valverde Hidalgo has followed a singular path that joins literary sensibility with an entrepreneur's vision. At 27 he founded his first company and, over time, built a business group that today employs more than 80 people.

His books include *20 Años Para Abrazarte*, *Miguel el Pescadero*, *La Gaviota Sin Ala*, *Pollito Arcoíris*, and *Escondido en mi libro* — titles that have reached readers of many ages through a warm, close, deeply human style. His recurring themes — childhood, identity, loss, memory, and hope — reveal an intimate gaze on the human condition.

Valverde has also kept a constant social commitment. He served as secretary (2017–2018) and president (2018–2019) of the Rotary Club of Marbella, where he drove solidarity projects locally and internationally.

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