





Read all

about it,

TOP CHEESE SELLERS, UNMISSABLE STREET MUSICIANS, LOCAL CRAFT BEERS...

Through the centuries, Barcelona has inspired countless authors – discover our selection of the books that capture the spirit of the city





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The Best of BCN

Features

16. A good read

Barcelona has inspired writers for centuries. To mark Sant Jordi this month, when tradition dictates women give men a book (and in turn get a rose), author David Castillo picks some of his favourite books based in the city.

22. Just next door

L'Hospitalet is the second biggest city in Catalonia, and it blends imperceptibly with Barcelona. Albert Balanzà takes you on a tour.

26. All about cheese

If cheese is your thing, and let's be honest, why wouldn't it be, Laura Conde has the shops for you.

28. Hear them play

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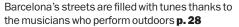
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With craft beer currently booming, discover some of the top local varieties **p. 58**



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Printer Litografia Rosés Distribution S.A.D.E.U. Legal deposit B-26040-2014 ISSN 2385-5142 The hot list

BCN APR 2016

FC Barcelona vs. Real Madrid

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Carmen

Dance A flamenco take on a

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DON'T MISS!

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SATURDAY

THURSDAY

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Sant Jordi

Traditions A day full of roses and books. See p. 16

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History

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I love BCN

Parc de Cervantes Av. Diagonal, 706

This rose garden has 10,000



WTF IS...

Learn to speak Barcelona with our vocab guide | By Jan Fleischer

Capgròs

In festivals with parades in Barcelona and across Catalonia, you'll likely see the capgròs (cap-GROS), or big-head, marching and dancing along. They are the same size and shape as humans but with a giant head of carton-pierre, and often represent archetypes of the town.



Reading **Barcelona**

A couple of us on the Time Out Barcelona English Edition team were discussing this month's cover story on top books that take place in our fair adopted city (see page 16) when we were shocked to realise how few we'd read between us. It would seem we've got some catching up to do. There's something about reading a story set in a city you're in that not only makes you say 'I know that place!' or 'I'm sitting in the very square I'm reading about!' but also makes you feel more a part of the city itself. Travelling through Spain years ago I was reading Hemingway's The Sun Also Rises (aka Fiesta), and when I passed through Pamplona, it was like I was in the story, surrounded by it. In the case of Barcelona, so many visitors have tried to find the spots described in two bestsellers set here (see page 18 to find out which) that you can now find guided tours based on them. Cities play an important role in stories, whether they're in the pages of a book or on the big screen: could we have Woody Allen without New York? And don't forget he's also filmed in Barcelona. It's a city that speaks to people, that awakens and inspires creativity. Looking over the list of books in this issue, editor Hannah Pennell and I did happen to notice the lack of women's names among the writers, and decided that since we have Barcelona as a main character in the story of our own lives, all we have to do is write those stories to join the list! But first we've got 11 or 12 books to read...



Jan has yet to read a book in Catalan.

Art Nouveau that remains to be discovered





People of Barcelona

Martina Kunst

Singer and guitarist, 35 years old

Kunst means 'art' in German.

That's right. I did wonder about not keeping it as my artistic name, but in the end decided I would.

After all, it's my real surname.

You've been making music since arriving in Barcelona. Did the city awaken your vocation?

Yes, you could say that. When I was little, I had a guitar, but my own music was dormant – it ended up expressing itself here. I think there's more inspiration.

In what way?

The atmosphere, architecture and nightlife, and things are more spontaneous here than in Germany. In 2002, I started visiting each year, until I decided to stay. Whenever I went back to Germany, I noticed something was missing and needed to return.

Whereabouts do you live?

I think I've moved eight times, to areas including la Teixonera, close to Camp Nou, the Born, Sagrada Família and the Raval. And now, Barceloneta.

Barceloneta has lots of tourists. Do you understand why some locals are worried?

Absolutely, even though I'm lucky enough to live in a house where there aren't any problems. I've lived in Regensburg, where there's also a lot of tourism. The town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and for me that's enriching.

What are you trying to explain with your songs?

Reflections on life and emotional moments. 'Find you', the first one that I uploaded onto the internet, talks about the death of a loved one – a fact that makes you confront your own mortality. In the middle of last month, I put up another one, 'Get on', an internal conversation after a break-up.





AN OBJECT: A SODA SIPHON

Kunst associates them with Barcelona's many vermouth bars – they're a rarity in Germany.



PLACE OF ORIGIN: POPPENRICHT

It's in Bavaria, about an hour from Nuremberg. Later, she moved to the town of Regensburg.

Do you see yourself more as a singer-songwriter or a rocker?

A mix of the two. I think of myself as a singer-songwriter because I started playing alone, but I'd like to move more towards rock. I'm used to listening to '90s bands like Nirvana and Pearl Jam, as well as Johnny Cash and the blues — the music that my dad played.

You're putting together an EP produced by Steven Munar.

I met him when I played at Apolo with The Tea Servants, a crazy group – I loved their attitude. Later on, I worked with him on a folk-rock sound with depth and lots of texture. He's given my songs intensity.

Do you feel you're at the start of a career?

I haven't thought about it like that, but something is definitely happening. I've found music late, but I think it'll always be with me.

-Jordi Bianciotto



B. García & M. Sales

_The Convent dels Caputxins in Sarrià (Cardenal Vives i Tutó, 2) has an ethnographic museum with objects brought by missionaries from the Andean-Amazonian part of Colombia.

_The small Plaça Victor Balaguer (Born) is named after the man who, in the 19th century, chose the designations for some of the city's biggest roads.

_In 1971, flamenco star Lola Flores filmed a version of 'America' from West Side Story in Barcelona (see it on YouTube).

_Check out the grasshopper, poised to jump, on top of the Col·legi d'Aparelladors (Bon Pastor, 5, Sarrià).































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timeout.com









14:00-16:30

Down in the Born

Start at the Gothic cathedral just off Via Laietana. It's at least 1,500 years old and has recently undergone extensive renovation works. Next, head to Born Centre Cultural (Pl. Comercial, 12), an iron and glass structure built in 1876 as a market. From there you can stop in at the spectacular Santa Maria del Mar church (Pl. de Santa Maria, 1). Just next to it is Fossar de les Moreres, a square with great significance to the people of Barcelona; it was built over a cemetery where those who died fighting to defend the city in the 1714 Siege of Barcelona were buried. An eternal flame honours the memory of the fallen.

17:00-19:30

Sustenance and shopping

Stop for a break in one of the Born's lesser-known squares, such as

Sant Pere de les Puel·les or Sant Agusti Vell. The Born is an area that's packed with boutiques where you can pick up some designer shoes or one-of-a-kind gifts to bring home. As you're strolling around, keep your eye out for Ivori (Mirallers, 7), an exquisite shop with local designs; On Land (Princesa, 25), where both men and women can find new threads; and Studiostore (Comerç, 17), with everything from clothes and eyewear to original cushions.

20:00-23:30

It's time to eat

For dinner, try the Asian tapas at Mosquito (Carders, 46) – they'll melt in your mouth. Always a sure thing is a meal in one of the city's fresh markets, such as Santa Caterina (Av. Francesc Cambó, 16) with its attention-drawing rooftop, or try Mercat Princesa (Flassaders, 21), where you don't have to limit your choice to just one restaurant

COOL HUNTING

Once called the 'Barrio Chino', the Raval has inspired many a writer. Nowadays, it's a place where local businesses thrive in the form of unique shops and restaurants, while still maintaining some of its seedy underworld glamour. Urban culture is booming here, alongside gems such as the CCCB and Filmoteca.

but can graze from 17 different food 'stalls'. To top off the night, head in the direction of the sea and have a drink in Absenta (Sant Carles, 36) to be sure to get a good night's sleep, or try the more upscale Zahara Cocktail Club (Pg. Joan de Borbó, 69) or Café de los Angelitos (Almirall Cervera, 26).

09:00-11:30

Trees and parks

Start your day with a big breakfast among the tree-lined streets of the Eixample Esquerre. Velodromo (Muntaner, 213) opens at 6am, for those of you really keen to get going, while Travel & Cake (Rosselló, 189) opens every day from 9am and has an eclectic menu of sweet and savoury options. Once you've got your energy levels up, jump on public transport and head up to Gaudí's natural wonder, Park Güell - book on www.parkguell.cat/en to ensure you get in to the 'monumental' zone and save a euro. Bonus!

12:00-14:00

Gracious living

Grab a bite down the hill in Gràcia, at the woodsy and spacious Café Salambó (Torrijos, 51) or at La Pubilla



(Pl. de la Llibertat, 23), specialising in old-school local food or, if the weather's nice, in a square such as Plaça del Diamant or Plaça de la Vila de Gràcia. While you're in the area, have a look around for some unusual souvenirs in the shoplined streets – suggestions include Boo for clothes (Bonavista, 2), and Magnesia (Torrent de l'Olla, 192) or Mueblé (Martínez de la Rosa, 34) for homewares.

14:30-18:00

Explore modernisme

Next stop: the Sagrada Família. Gaudí's masterpiece gets very crowded, but it's worth taking your time to appreciate his vision. Once done, walk over to Av. Diagonal to keep the modernisme theme going by stopping at Casa de les Punxes (Rosselló, 260), Palau del Baró de Quadras (Diagonal, 373) and

Casa Planells (Diagonal, 332). Alternatively, take L5 of the metro from the Sagrada Família station to the Diagonal stop and stroll down Passeig de Gràcia to hit the modernisme biggies: La Pedrera (Provença, 261), Casa Amatller (Pg. de Gràcia, 41) and Casa Batlló (Pg. de Gràcia, 43).

WANDER OFF

Many visitors stick to the centre, but the city is so much more. Gràcia is full of life at all hours, Sarrià retains much of its historical small-town feel, while Poble-sec and Sant Antoni are currently the in places, thanks to their top cuisine and quality nightlife. And head up to the Vall d'Hebrón Olympic site to check out the huge matches.

19:30-02:00

Big night out

Try the out-of-this-world double terrace of Invisible—Pizza Ravalo (PI. Emili Vendrell, 1), Teresa Carles for a healthy vegetarian option (Jovellanos, 2) or the Mediterranean banquet that is Lo de Flor (Carretes, 18). After lining your stomach, get a couple of drinks in Negroni or Tahiti, both in the bar-laden street of Joaquín Costa (46 and 39, respectively), and then ease on down to the dance floors at Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113) and/or Marula (Escudillers, 39).

10:00-12:00

Mountain climbing

Head to the 'mountain' of Montjuïc. Depending on what you're in the mood for, you can visit the Joan Miró Foundation (Parc de Montjuïc, s/n), the Olympic Stadium and other nearby constructions from the 1992 Games, or walk around the

plentiful gardens, such as the Jardins Laribal (Pg. Santa Madrona, 2). Another highlight is the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC), with its ample collections and varied temporary exhibitions.

13:00-15:00

End on a beach spot

Take the cable car from Montjuïc to Barceloneta, with its beaches and boats, where you can relax with a vermouth and a paella. Most restaurants in Barceloneta specialise in seafood, taking advantage of the nearby Med. The prime real estate means some of the better spots aren't cheap, but if you're feeling flush, they're worth it. Try Can Solé (Sant Carles, 4), La Mar Salada (Pg. Joan de Borbó, 58) or El Suguet de l'Almirall (Pg. Joan de Borbó, 65). A great place for the more budget-conscious, with a huge terrace and fresh, scrummy dishes to go with their relaxed vibe. is Santa Marta (Grau i Torras, 59).

▶ The most popular are the classic red roses, but you can also buy white, yellow and blue-and-red (the Barça colours) varieties, among others.

Tourism Desk



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Barcelona is a vibrant, cosmopolitan city that offers visitors a wealth of different products and services. You will be surprised at what you can find when you visit the tickets. visitbarcelona.com website and the Turisme de Barcelona Tourist Information Points around the city.

There are many ways to visit Barcelona – in the company of friends, or with your family or partner – and a multitude of reasons to come here: the culture, cuisine, music, art... Whether you're planning to see the best-known attractions or you're looking for a truly special experience, at tickets. visitbarcelona.com you will find more than 200 suggestions to suit a wide range of tastes.

You're here to see Barcelona, but how will you get around? Here are just a few ideas. There are guided tours on foot, by bicycle or with special vehicles like the Segway, which cover both the city centre and the lesserknown neighbourhoods; gastronomic excursions; panoramic hop-on hop-off bus tours or themed routes through specific districts; cooking workshops, wine and chocolate tasting, or craft workshops for the little ones; visits to historic buildings like the Palau de la Música, or to museums, taking advantage of the ArTicket or Barcelona multi-tickets, with free transport and discounts; and babysitting services, wheelchair, pram and pushchair hire, in addition to the standard leftluggage services and airport transfers.

There are many Barcelonas to explore. Which one is yours? Discover the full range of possibilities on offer by visiting tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

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Spring means culture, nature and shopping

Come and discover the many charms of Sant Cugat – a town located just 20 minutes away from Barcelona. Take an e-bike trail through the hilltop park of Collserola that will take you to Sant Cugat's ninth-century Benedictine monastery, which has one of the most beautiful

cloisters in Europe. You can also enjoy shopping for vintage items at Mercantic, the town's famous second-hand market, and visit the only museum in Europe dedicated to Marilyn Monroe.

Buy your tickets at: tickets.visitbarcelona.com

SANT JORDI: BOOKS, STORIES AND LEGENDS



BCN, a city of books

Visit the settings for two novels that have captivated thousands. Literary trails take you through the magical Barcelona of *The Shadow of the Wind* and the fantastical city of *The Cathedral of the Sea*.



Legends of the Gothic

Discover how people lived in medieval Barcelona with a walking tour of the hidden corners and narrow streets of the Barri Gòtic. And after the tour, enjoy tapas in a traditional bar.

Buy your tickets at tickets.visitbarcelona.com



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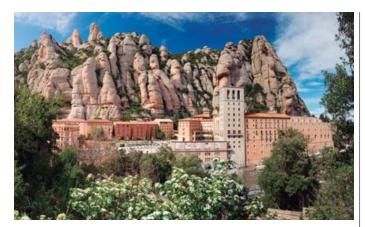




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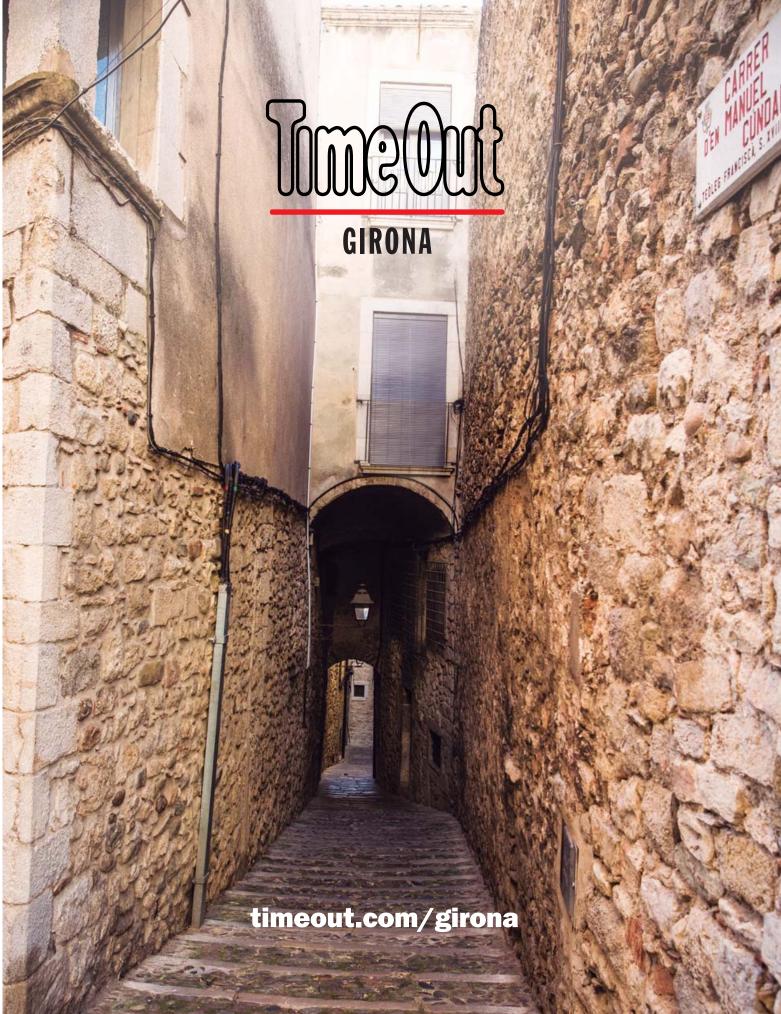
Basílica de la Sagrada Família

Discover Barcelona's iconic temple and enjoy its unique architecture

Visit the Sagrada Família on a 90-minute skip-the-line tour. Learn all about the UNESCO-listed cathedral and its creator, Antoni Gaudí. After exploring the monument, visit the on-site Sagrada Família Museum.

Buy your tickets for this half-day trip, and discover other top ideas for exploring Barcelona at **www.timeout.com/barcelona**.

Book your tickets online for Barcelona events and attractions at **www.timeout.com/barcelona** and you won't miss anything.



CITY IN WORDS

SANT JORDI: A BOOK AND A ROSE

Barcelona is a city of many layers, communities and styles. Novels have emerged out of its streets, bars and people that capture the spirit of not only the place but also a generation, an era, a historic moment in time. To coincide with this month's Sant Jordi Day, when the streets fill with books and roses to be exchanged between friends and lovers (traditionally women give a book to men and in turn receive a rose), we present a tiny selection of our favourite books where Barcelona features as one of the key characters. By **David Castillo**

★01

THE MARGIN

André Pieyre de Mandiargues. Translated by R. Howard

Like the main character of The Margin, André Pieyre de Mandiargues arrived in Barcelona intending to kill himself. He didn't do it, but instead wrote a novel that won the 1967 Prix Goncourt prize and sold 150,000 copies in a matter of days. The book chronicles three frenetic days on the city's sleazy underside, a descent into a nightmarish Barrio Chino (today the Raval), with extraordinary descriptions of C/Escudellers, Plaça del Duc de Medinaceli and the bar Los Cuernos, a gem of home-grown Catalan kitsch. The novel wasn't translated into Spanish at the time because of the author's habit of referring to Franco as the 'Fuhrúnculo', a made-up combination of Führer and furúnculo, Spanish for 'a boil', and of describing the red and yellow of the Spanish flag as the colours of blood and excrement. These touches made the book a sought-after prize for Spaniards who crossed the border to Perpignan in search of uncensored culture. When Joan Oliver's Catalan translation appeared, Mandiargues sent him a letter assuring him that he 'felt at home among the Catalan people'. Eminent critics Joan de Sagarra and Lluís Permanyer both considered it the best novel ever written about the city.



'PRIVATE LIFE'

Josep Maria de Sagarra. Translated by Mary Ann Newman

In 1932, Josep Maria de Sagarra shut himself up in Barcelona's most celebrated literary club, the Ateneu, to deliver himself of *Private Life*, a wild





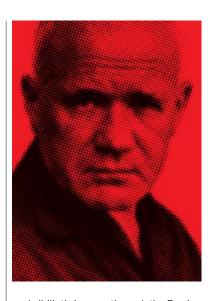
The Gray Notebook Josep Pla NYRB Classics



Confessions Jaume CabréArcadia Books
€15



Uncertain Glory Joan SalesMacLehose Press
€14

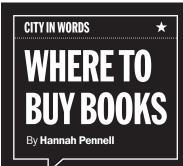


and nihilistic journey through the Barrio Chino. The Catalan poet and playwright was the first to pen the great Barcelona novel with this tale of the vicissitudes of a young bourgeois cynic, decadent and penniless, who lives on the edge, using all the tricks at his disposal. These days he'd join a political party. Frederic de Lloberola, who rises at half past four in the afternoon and often doesn't remember where he went to bed, is one of the fictional characters that best illustrates the disasters surrounding Barcelona's Universal Exposition of 1929. Modern, effective and readable. Private Life has withstood the passage of time better than the city it describes, battered first by the bombs of the Civil War and then by rampant property speculation. Josep Pla advised the younger novelist Terenci Moix that if he wanted to write well in Catalan, he should immerse himself in Sagarra's work. A treasure.

***03**

'THE THIEF'S JOURNAL' Jean Genet. Translated by Bernard Frechtman

It's unlikely that anyone will ever write a novel about abjection as devastating as Jean Genet's The Thief's Journal. French literature had already gone beyond the picaresque with portraits of desperate youth by the likes of Albertine Sarrazine, or the epic adventures in French Guiana of the convict Papillon. Genet, however, outdid them - not in terms of his exploits, but in the angle and the perspective on perversion that his autobiographical narrator provides. Genet's idealisation of evil and the life of the drifter brought him to Barcelona's Barrio Chino in around 1933, and he writes about it from within. Pursuing a pimp, whom he



La Central

One of a small chain of three Barcelona bookshops (and with three more in Madrid), this branch is an aesthetically pleasing venue with a wide range of books, including a small but eclectic selection of English tomes. It also has a lovely café on the first floor. Mallorca, 237.

M: Diagonal (L3, L5).

www.lacentral.com

Laic

Laie is one of the top bookshops in town among the literati and those looking for the latest in literary publications from Catalonia, Spain and abroad. They have an immense collection of fiction (including local and foreign literary magazines) and works on philosophy, history and social sciences, art and architecture. Cinephiles and music aficionados can also satisfy their cravings. Pau Claris, 85.

M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

www.laie.es

Hibernian Books

Originally opened as a secondhand bookshop in English in 2004 (the owners shipped over some 30,000 books from Dublin), they soon moved to bigger premises and have started selling a small selection of new books alongside their main stock. Montseny, 17. M: Fontana (L3). www.hibernian-books.com

La Casa del Llibre

The branch in Rambla de Catalunya is one of the largest bookshops (including a good English-language section) in the city, with an open, airy ambience and spaces for presentations and activities. Rambla de Catalunya, 37.

M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). www.casadellibro.com

adored right down to his expectorations, begging in the port and passing through the worst dives in the city. Published in 1949, this is one of those books that leaves an indelible impression because of the way it blurs the lines between beauty and pain.



Carmen Laforet. Translated by Edith Grossman

If only for the opening description of arriving at Barcelona's Estació de França at midnight, Nada is a novel that sticks in the memory, as indissolubly linked to Barcelona as its main character, the alter ego of the author, Carmen Laforet. Perhaps her traumatic relationship with the city was what inspired a story so tender, and at the same time so tense. Laforet was born in Barcelona in 1921, but when she was two she and her family moved to the Canary Islands. She returned at the age of 18 to study philosophy and literature, before moving again to Madrid, where she wrote Nada. The novel won her the first ever Nadal prize, in 1944, and made her a celebrity, even when she retired from public life to spend time with her family. Her protagonist is as a perplexed as the city itself in the aftermath of the Civil War, and her descriptions of Plaça Universitat, C/Aribau and the basilica of Santa Maria del Mar, still blackened by the fire of 1936, are legendary. A masterpiece.

'A BROKEN MIRROR' Mercè Rodoreda. Translated by Josep Miguel Sobrer

Rodoreda's A Broken Mirror lends itself to multiple readings, with family dynasties, a chronicle of the decline of Barcelona's middle classes, a bitter depiction of the Civil War, and even an undercurrent of mystery and Gothic romance, in a novel still underappreciated in Catalonia. Its dual nature, combining intimate interiority, the multifaceted vision of different characters from different perspectives, and abrupt shifts in its conception of itself as a novel, make this one of the great works of Catalan literature, an almost unsurpassable achievement. Her account of the Valldaura Farriols family and their mansion at the top of C/Balmes, in Sant Gervasi, exercises a hypnotic power, ranging from the most melodramatic realism to fantasy, which Gabriel García Márquez himself acknowledged as an influence. When Rodoreda, a talented poet and short-



The Savage Detectives Roberto Bolaño

Picador €8



Lost Luggage Jordi Puntí Short Books Ltd



Bartleby & Co. **Enrique Vila-**Matas Vintage €9



SANT JORDI FUN



Get into the spirit of Sant Jordi with a literary tour to some of the spots mentioned in two of the most popular recent books set in Barcelona, The Shadow of the Wind and The Cathedral of the Sea have been read by millions, and Barcelona Turisme offers tours to visit the places that inspired their respective authors. Check out visitbarcelona.com for details. On the day of Sant Jordi itself, Sat 23, Casa Batlló will be decorated with a fabulous vertical rose garden head to Pg. de Gràcia, 43, to see it. For more details of what's happening that day, visit www.barcelona.cat/santjordi.

story writer, published A Broken Mirror in 1974, it crowned a career that includes classics such as In Diamond Square (1962) and Camellia Street (1966).

'HOMAGE TO CATALONIA'

George Orwell

Nobody has described the events of the Spanish Civil War better than George Orwell, who fought in it, was shot through the neck on the Aragon front, and, on his return to Barcelona, witnessed the clashes between the anarchists of the CNT and the Stalinist communists of the PSUC, the Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia. Orwell's book received a mixed reception (and sold badly) in pre-war Britain because it was boycotted by the orthodox left, but it has become a classic thanks to

its condemnation of the Soviets. Translated into Catalan in 1969 by Ramon Folch i Camarasa, it was republished in 1996 with a prologue by Teresa Pàmies, a former leader in the PSUC who ends up agreeing with her one-time adversary's account. Some will recall the photo of the gangling Orwell towering over the other recruits at the Lenin barracks near Plaça Espanya, but it's his descriptions of La Rambla during the tragic events of May 1937 that are truly unforgettable. The book was a key source for Ken Loach's film Land and Freedom (1995).

★ 07 'SI TE DICEN QUE CAÍ' Juan Marsé. ('If They Tell You I Fell', not available in translation)

Si te dicen que caí could be the most extraordinary novel ever written about Barcelona. Juan Marsé offers us an expressionist memoir of childhood, in which Hollywood stars and extreme poverty coexist in the lives of a troupe of deprived local children not even Isidre Nonell, the great fin de siècle painter of Barcelona's marginalised classes, could have done justice to. From the tunnels under the Hospital de Sant Pau, where the novel begins, to the post-Civil War landscapes of Guinardó, El Carmel and Gràcia, Marsé creates a fresco of the period, populated by veteran anarchists and prostitutes, which works both as an evocation of the past and a compelling narrative in its own right. Published in Mexico during the Franco dictatorship, it was immediately banned in Spain. The censor's report was damning: after pointing out a number of attacks on the Spanish regime, it says, 'This is the story of a group of children who eke out an existence in the post-war period, ending up as Red gunmen, and dying one by one... all this mixed with whores, homosexuals, immoral persons. If we had struck out only the parts that describe the prostitutes who pleasure their clients in cinemas, not half the novel would remain.'



Manuel Vázquez Montalbán. Translated by Nick Caistor

How would Pepe Carvalho, Barcelona's most famous literary detective, have reacted to the news that Barcelona would one day be awash with tattoo parlours and their enthusiastically inked clients? When a corpse appears in the sea off Barceloneta beach, a tattoo on the body – 'Born to Raise Hell in Hell' – provides the only clue. The



The Eternal
Philistine
Ödon von Horváth
Melville House
€14.45

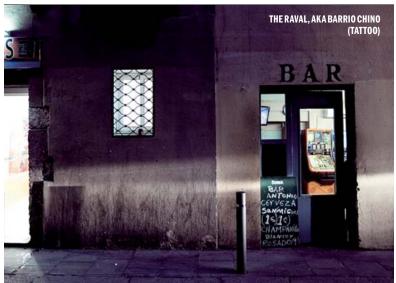


No Word from Gurb Eduardo Mendoza Telegram Books €8.13



Marks of Identity
Juan Goytisolo
Serpent's Tail
€11.40





first step is clear: find the tattoo artist. And in Carvalho's Barcelona there are only two, one of them retired. As in all the novels of the series, Vázquez Montalbán uses his own district as a setting. The streets of the Barrio Chino, christened the fifth district, become a perfect labyrinth, with the Placa Reial at its heart. The detective also makes his way uptown as far as La Bonanova and even, in Tattoo, to the airy ridge of Vallvidrera, where the author himself eventually took up residence. Carvalho has an international following, and it's not unusual to find bars bearing his name all around the world. Genius!

★09 'THE SMILE AT THE FOOT OF THE LADDER'

Henry Miller

The legendary author of the 1930s Tropics trilogy, Henry Miller had a prolific and brilliant career, making his mark from his very first works, in which he left behind the office routines of New York for bohemian existence in Paris. There he surrounded himself with the vivid, decadent, characters that he wove into the plots of his novels, Miller loved Barcelona, Take his letters to his close friend Alfred Perlè, in which he writes, 'Barcelona impressed me as a hodgepodge of Brooklyn and Brussels... That evening, back on the Rambla again, we sat down to have our last few drinks together. Our laughter, though still boisterous, was verging on tears. Everything was still droll, hallucinatingly droll.' The same can be said of The Smile at the Foot of the Ladder, in which Miller was inspired by one of Miró's paintings, 'Dog barking at the moon', even though the book is ostensibly about the circus. with illustrations by Fernand Léger. A fascinating story.

★10

'THE ENORMITY OF THE TRAGEDY' Quim Monzó. Translated by Peter Bush

While the author doesn't like to offer up obvious clues to his readers, and he prefers neutral settings, The Enormity of the Tragedy has an unmistakable aftertaste of Barcelona. And it's even got a soundtrack too, featuring rock and soul hits of the 1960s and 1970s. Every character has a composite name, from the central character Ramon-Maria to a string of Gil-Eudalds, Lluís-Alberts, Maria-Eugènies, Ignasi-Xaviers and other unlikely combinations that intensify the hilarity of the story. The protagonist suffers from priapism and walks round with a permanent erection, in a plot that mixes caricature with other characteristic elements of Monzó's oeuvre including pain, fear, unrequited love and a certain existential emptiness, which he evokes magnificently in his descriptions of places, creating an echo in the reader's own mood. I don't know if this effect is deliberate, but he certainly achieves it. Those who accuse Monzó of being able to write nothing more than short stories should take another look at this novel. The only part that has not withstood the test of time are some of the drinks the characters knock back. Nobody's perfect.



'THE SHADOW OF THE WIND' Carlos Ruiz Zafón. Translated by Lucia Graves

A monumental novel about Barcelona that was unlucky enough to become a runaway success - otherwise it would have been a cult book - The Shadow of the Wind is a daring, free and thoughtprovoking book about post-Civil War Barcelona. From the beginning, set in 1945 in the Cemetery of Forgotten Books, the author embarks on a voyage into the imagination, set in a Barcelona to which the book is our guide. The central character, Daniel Sempere, the son of a bookseller who initiates him in the magic of knowledge, finds the book of the same title, systematically destroyed by one of the characters. Though it might appear to be a simple read, the book is addictive because of the suspense it generates and the investigation itself, a hymn of praise to reading and the love of books. From the Rambla de Santa Mònica, it visits Santa Anna, Santa Maria del Mar, El Call (the Jewish guarter), Can Jorba, Quatre Gats restaurant and the now-defunct Canuda



Rue des Voleurs (in French) Mathias Énard Babel

€8.70



Últimas tardes con Teresa (in Spanish) Juan Marsé Debolsillo € 9.50



No digas que me conoces (in Spanish) Sergi Dòria Plaza y Janés €17



bookshop. Despite the Cemetery, this is a book no reader ever forgets.

***12**

'CEUX DE BARCELONE' Hanns-Erich Kaminski. ('The People of Barcelona', not available in translation)

Comparable only to Orwell's masterpiece as a record of the revolution during the Civil War, Hanns-Erich Kaminski evokes the fervour of the anarchist uprising and those prepared to fight to the death for their ideals. From the border crossing at Portbou onwards, Kaminski notices the 'magical initials' of the CNT and the FAI everywhere, and describes La Rambla to the strains of 'The Internationale' and 'A las barricadas'. He sees the poverty of the slums that surround La Rambla, compared to middle-class areas, and is not enthused, because 'the life of the rich is growing less pleasant by the day'. The funeral of Durruti, the bull-running, the descriptions of women 'emancipated and almost completely shameless', the opinions of anarchist intellectual and Health Minister Frederica Montseny, and the counterrevolutionary atmosphere under the auspices of the Stalinists are described with fury. It's hard not to be moved by the passion, albeit often naive, of this German observer, who had the opportunity to live through an extraordinary period in history, and to reflect that time so well in one of his best novels.

***13**

'THE INGENIOUS GENTLEMAN DON QUIXOTE OF LA MANCHA'

Miguel de Cervantes. Translated by Edith Grossman (2003)

I've been helped in the writing of this final item by Martí de Riquer's illuminating guide, Cervantes en Barcelona. There's no need to dwell on the praise that Cervantes heaped on the city, but it's worth bearing in mind. It was once common in Catalan dining rooms to see framed quotes from Don Quixote, which contrasted with the animosity of other Castilian writers of the Spanish Golden Age such as Quevedo or Lope de Vega. In the chapters of *Don Quixote* that are set in Barcelona, we find everything from a comprehensive study of the region's famous bandits, in the episode with Roque Guinart (based on the real-life bandoler Perot Rocaguinarda), to his descriptions of the gibbets in Creu Coberta, or the robbers hanged in the forest - which is now the site of the shopping centre in the old Arenas bullring. The action, set in the summer of 1614, includes combat in galleys, almost certainly based on the author's own bitter experience of naval warfare, and the portraits of shadowy characters of the Ribera district. Martí de Riquer locates what was supposedly Cervantes's house on Passeig Colon. Don Quixote is considered the first and possibly the most important novel in the world, and even here, Barcelona makes an appearance.

Line



Just good neighbours

It's Catalonia's second-largest city, stretching south of Barcelona towards the airport, but most visitors will pass through without even registering the name. L'Hospitalet was little more than a village until the 19th century, when waves of industrialisation transformed it, culminating in the post-war boom of the 1960s that saw vast tracts of high-rise housing flung up to accommodate workers from the rest of Spain. City planning lagged behind the population explosion, and residents had to fight for such basic amenities as health centres and schools. Since the 1990s, large-scale infrastructure projects have turned a suburban hinterland into a city in its own right, with a personality in constant evolution emerging from immigrant communities from all over world. As young artists are attracted by cheap, post-industrial property, some have called it Barcelona's Brooklyn – a place with an energy and life many Barcelona residents would envy, if only they knew what they were missing.

By Albert Balanzà Photographs Maria Dias

Pilgrim's progress

The oldest building in L'Hospitalet is Santa Eulàlia de Provençana, a Romanesque chapel which was consecrated in 1101. It's also the source of the city's name, which refers to the pilgrim's hostel, or 'hospital' that once stood next to the chapel (the town was originally known as Provençana). During the Civil War, the chapel hosted meetings of the communist youth party. Ancient history meets 21st-century street art in the 1950s church next door, which features a giant commission inspired by the Romanesque style, painted in aerosols by graffiti artists House and Rudi.

Winds of change

On its way south out of Barcelona and through L'Hospitalet, Gran Via used to be a wasteland of junkyards and high walls, behind which you could pick out the ramshackle huts of scrap merchants, abandoned factories and isolated blocks of Gran Via Sur. Local residents had to campaign for a health clinic. Since 2002, a new city has begun to emerge here, with Toyo Ito's swirling skyscraper, a kind of red-hued tornado.

as its icon, surrounded by towering hotels, big box retail outlets and new businesses (the latest signing is Nissan).

Healthy rambles

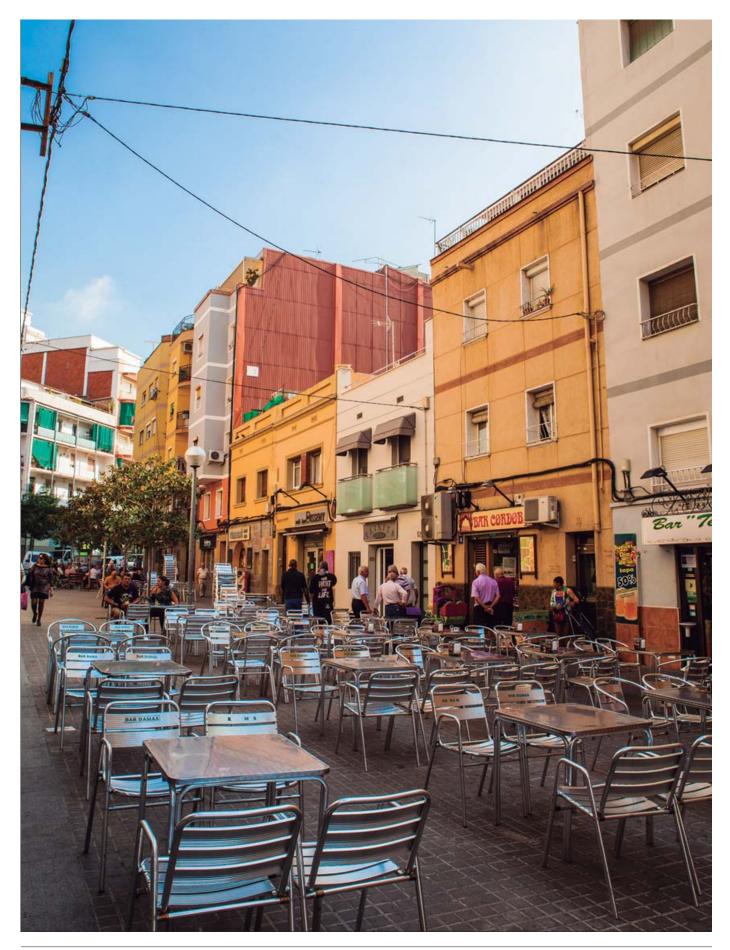
No Catalan town would be complete without its own *rambla*, and L'Hospitalet is no exception. Strolling down its Rambla Catalana from La Marina to Just Oliveras, you'll see the housing blocks of the Bellvitge neighbourhood, built 50 years ago, like the SEAT factory, where many of the residents worked. You'll pass the warehouses of the Carretera del Mig, where the Latin American community dances at l'Agapito, and the Av. del Carrilet, where the trendy crowd go to gigs at Salamandra. As you reach the city centre, you're greeted by Arranz-Bravo's statue of 'L'Acollidora' ('The Welcoming One'), with her strange ponytail-trumpet headpiece, symbolising the open-hearted spirit of L'Hospitalet.

Modernisme for the people

L'Hospitalet's architectural heritage is split between neoclassicism and Catalan modernisme. Under the first heading there's the City Hall, the country house at Can Buxeres (now the centrepiece of a municipal park), and mansions in the neighbourhoods of Pubilla Cases and Can Rigalt. The second was the style of choice for middle-class dwellings along C/Major and La Rambla, employing cheaper materials and less-imposing dimensions or simply using isolated elements of Catalan Art Nouveau. Botiga Nova, Estanc de Cal Testos and Cases Barates are prime examples.

Post-industrial landscapes

Until 1982 La Farga was a gigantic iron foundry. However, in that year it was converted into one of the city's first conference centres, hosting meetings and trade fairs (most notoriously the Salón Erótico, until 2008). Other post-industrial transformations include La Bòbila cultural centre in the neighbourhood of Pubilla Cases, once a brick factory; Tecla Sala, in La Torrassa, which used to be a textile mill, is now home to a library and fine-art school (see box on page 24); the Freixas building in Santa Eulàlia, which swapped Phillips TVs for young artists, and the nearby Vanguard building, which exchanged looms for the 25TV station.







Miniature revolutions

How do you bring together a population of 250,000? This is the task of L'Hospitalet's Federation of Neighbourhood Associations, led by the tireless Manuel Piñar, who runs food banks and helps families facing eviction. Among the other members of the association are the Centre d'Estudis de L'Hospitalet, an archive of the city's history; the Akwaba Foundation, fighting for a fairer, more participative society; and the 15+1 association that brings together Andalucian organisations.

Los Pajaritos with no birds

The alternative to Barcelona's Sant Antoni market has always been Los Pajaritos ('the little birds'), a weekly Sunday flea market that takes place outside the municipal market in Torrent Gornal. People once came to buy, sell and swap all kinds of things — including budgerigars and caged songbirds. In recent years, after protests from animal campaigners, the council has prohibited unlicensed bird sellers. But the market is as busy as ever.

Local fare

On a Saturday morning, if the sun is shining, there's no better way to start the day than with a strolling breakfast, starting at the terrace of the Casino (Prat de la Riba, 337). It's not a casino with gambling, but instead it's a social club — take a look at the photos inside. Next stop, La Flama (Rbla, de Marina, 250), with traditional Spanish fare, and then it's back up to Deportivo to sample their croquettes and patatas bravas (Rambla, 63). Make sure you leave space for lunch at La Bodegueta (Lleida, 32), although decent eateries have opened recently in the centre of L'Hospitalet: Mug (Roselles, 14) is off to a good start. In the afternoon, a visit to Córdoba (Luarca, 10) is obligatory. For Galician specialities there's O Vall d'Ouro 6 (Av. de Catalunya, 1). Meanwhile, Serra (Santa Eulàlia, 100) does burgers that offer stiff competition to the city's fast-food joints. For latenight dining head to Collblanc, where you have two options: one more traditional, Cal Siscu (Martí Julià, 82), where you'll often find hotelier Jordi Clos, or dapper local favourite Cóm (Progrés, 9).

ART IN L'H



GALLERIES AND MORE

NOGUERAS BLANCHARD

In the recent diaspora of galleries fleeing from the centre of Barcelona, Alex Nogueras was among the first to move to L'Hospitalet to gain space, light and visibility. Since last October this gallery has been located in a 1970s industrial building, where it has hosted works by standout contemporary artists such as Mladen Stilinovic and Wilfredo Prieto.

Isaac Peral, 7

0934636313

www.noguerasblanchard.com

ANA MAS PROJECTS

Ana Mas also made her move in 2015, and in fact she shares the building with Nogueras Blanchard; she also has a small space in Puerto Rico. New generations of artists from different disciplines – such as artistic photographer lan Waelder, who recently showed there – find their place with Mas.

Isaac Peral, 7 0 93 633 74 75

www.anamasprojects.com

ESPAI SALAMINA

The creative vitality of L'Hospitalet, which is working to transform itself into a cultural city, can also be measured by the presence of artists: since 2014 Lua Coderch, Rasmus Nilausen and Pere Llobera, among others, have a workshop at the Espai Salamina.

Salamina, **37-41**

FUNDACIÓ ARRANZ-BRAVO

Provisionally located in the former Tecla Sala factory, the foundation was launched in 2009 with the aim of promoting the work of painter Eduard Arranz-Bravo; since then, it's also started to nurture and develop young contemporary artists.

Av. Josep Tarradellas, 44

0932600268

www.fundacioarranzbravo.cat

TECLA SALA

The leading art centre in L'Hospitalet opened its doors in the 1990s in the eponymous former factory. The dissemination of contemporary Catalan art, presentation of national and international artists, and support of young creatives and local artists make up its raison d'être.

Av. Josep Tarradellas, 44

0933385771

www.teclasala.net







Moll d'Espanya, s/n (access by Reial Club Marítim)

T. 93 221 17 75

www.maritimrestaurant.cat







FLASSADERS, 21
(behind the Picasso Museum)

T. 93 268 15 18

www.mercatprincesa.com

Calling all cheese lovers!

We know you're special, highly sensitive individuals who'll stop at nothing to track down that flavour, that texture, that aroma – the perfect cheese... This one's for you!

By Laura Conde Photo Maria Dias

LLET CRUA

This shop, with its unmistakable smell, is the first port of call for the cheese-loving community of the Sants district. Opened only a few months ago, they specialise in raw milk (*llet crua*) cheeses – handmade with unpasteurised milk by small producers – and many of their products are impossible to find elsewhere. One example is the Espadán, a cheese from Castelló – but l'Il leave the explanations to Xevi, the owner, who's always ready to share his knowledge.

Càceres, 14 (Sants)

0 93 503 15 43 www.lletcrua.cat

FROMAGERIE CAN LUC

'Fro-ma-ge-rie.' Luc, owner of this shop in Gràcia, spells it out: 'We're a fromagerie, which means we only stock cheese and things related to it: jams, pickles and wines.' Another plus is that more than half the 150 types of cheese on offer are from France, and that Luc not only stocks the cheese for fondues and raclettes, he'll lend you the equipment too (without a deposit).

Berga, 4 (Gràcia)

0930074783

LA SEU

To step into La Seu is to travel back in time to the days when its interior was one of the first butter-making factories in Barcelona.

Katherine, the owner, is originally from Scotland, and has an unmatched knowledge of traditional Spanish farm cheeses. She picks each of the 25 Spanish and Catalan cheeses on sale personally, and offers tastings in situ. For €3 you can try a glass of wine and three of her perfectly stored cheeses, or, if you book in advance, you can enjoy a range of tasting options in her cosy back room.

with prices from €8.75 to €32 per head.

Dagueria, 16 (Barri Gòtic)

0934126548

www.formatgerialaseu.com

FORMATGERIA BOU I MONT

As well as Spanish, Catalan, British, Italian and French cheeses, Rosa Maria has a selection of high-end Spanish cured meats, imported Italian products and an inexhaustible sense of humour. Although her most popular cheeses are Comtés and Bries (in particular the Brie with truffles) as well as low-fat cheeses in general, Rosa Maria stocks a few surprises, including a blue goat's cheese that's created using flowers.

Comte Borrell, 63 (Sant Antoni)

0934247166

TUTUSAUS

This shop is a foodie's paradise: they stock all



Brie de Meaux
A luxury take on
the great French
cheese, made from
different Bries and
truffle cream
€75.50/kg

Shropshire
A British blue
made with cow's
milk and curdled
with vegetable
rennet
€32.50/kg

Rodonet
Soft goat's cheese from Vilassar de
Dalt (just north of Barcelona) that is creamy and elegant
€29.90/kg

Pecorino sardo
Made only in
December, with
fresh truffles, it's
ripened 60m
underground
€59.50/kg

Epoisses
Napoleon's
favourite is made
with cow's milk and
ripened in marc de
Bourgogne brandy
€13/kg

SIT-DOWN CHEESE!



FONDUE LA PAGESA DE CHEESE'S ART

After you've tasted the La Pagesa fondue at Cheese's Art, a specialist cheese restaurant, you won't want it any other way. They start with a traditional round Catalan loaf (pa de pagès), hollow it out to make a container, then fill it with a fondue made of Swiss cheese (Emmental, Gruyère and Appenzeller), which soaks into the bread. When you finish the fondue, the bread is sliced up and served with Iberian ham.

Enric Granados, 13 93 532 11 25 www.cheesesart.es kinds of gourmet products, but the star of the show is their range of cheeses, handmade by small-scale enterprises. They also have a tasting room that can accommodate up to 30 people, where they serve dishes made exclusively from products available at the shop – they may be slices of lberian ham, oxtail or a salad. With cheese, obviously.

Francesc Pérez-Cabrero, 5 (Sant Gervasi)

• 93 209 83 73

www.tutusaus.com

VILA VINITECA

If you want a cheese that will surprise you, let yourself be guided by Eva Vila, an expert on rare cheeses, who has a well-defined philosophy: to not stock the typical varieties you can find everywhere. Eva and her team act as educators, with plenty of in-depth knowledge and a love for their subject, and they're proud to display cheeses that fully

comply with their approach of stocking unusual types, such as the Roque River from the USA; a blue goat's cheese made with vine leaves and pear brandy.

Agullers, 7 (Born)

• 902 327 777 www.vilaviniteca.es

MÚRRIA

Run by the Múrria family since it first opened way back in 1898, this shop that began life as a grocer's has for several decades been a highly specialised delicatessen, stocking 220 cheeses – this is due in no small part to owner Joan and his travels around the world. They also have wines, champagnes, cured meats, preserves and other exclusive products.

Roger de Llúria, 85 (Eixample Dret)

0 93 215 57 89 www.murria.cat

AL FRESCO



► Trumpet

Pepe Robles has been playing his trumpet on the street for 30 years and is part of the everyday soundscape of the Barri Gòtic, the city district he performs to from the steps of the Cathedral, often accompanied by piano and banjo. He has loved music as far back as he can remember, and when other children asked for toys, he wanted instruments. Some musicians busk out of necessity while others, like Robles, do it because they need a connection with people that can only be found in this way. Busking makes him happy and earns him a living, but what brings home the true meaning of what he does is seeing how his music brings a smile to so many faces. Where to hear him: Portal de l'Àngel and Plaça de la Catedral

► Piano

Lleonart is 27, has been playing the piano for 20 years, and graduated with honours in musical interpretation from the Liceu's Higher Conservatory in 2012. A year ago, his friend told him about the Street Music programme run by the Convent de Sant Agustí Civic Centre, and that they were organising a draw for licences to play in various locations in the Old City: Lleonart was lucky enough to obtain a permit. Since then he's played a classical repertoire in different parts of the district – on Portal de l'Àngel, Av. de la Catedral and C/ de Cucurulla – usually along with violin and cello. Soon he'll be joining forces with other former students of the Liceu to start a new project with a jazz influence.

Where to hear him: All over Ciutat Vella

MUSIC

They roam Barcelona with their instruments, providing the soundtrack to squares, streets and metro tunnels, with everything from classical to rock. Seek them out! By **Maria Junyent** Photographs **Iván Moreno**



► Traditional jazz

They're not from New Orleans and none of them were around during the golden age of jazz. In fact, the MasNou Orleans Jazz Band was formed only two years ago, but they have the chops to turn C/d'Astúries, a busy pedestrian street in the neighbourhood of Gràcia, into a packed music venue many would happily pay to get into. With trumpets, saxophone, banjo, double bass and washboard, they belt out jazz standards made famous by the likes of Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong, with an infectious, easy-going good humour. Are you up to the challenge of trying to stop your toes tapping along in time to their tunes?

Where to hear them: Gràcia, often on C/d'Astúries

► Rock

When you first lay eyes on Leo Caballo Muerto (guitar and vocals) and his rhythm section Eskull (cajón) taking up their combative stance in the Barri Gòtic and the Born, you could be forgiven for thinking they're about to summon demons and perhaps even bite the heads off of passing pigeons. But no, the duo, whose name means 'Satan's Meat', strum acoustic punk metal ditties like 'Plátano por el potasio', a hymn to the high potassium content of bananas, and lament the traumatic demise of their beloved yellow canary. Yes, Satan's emissaries cry too, and write love songs. Papitu bar in the Boqueria has produced their first CD, available for €6.66 (the number of the beast!) from their Facebook page.

Where to hear them: Squares in the Barri Gòtic and the Born

Edited by

esendra@timeout.cat



Playing with patterns

Txell Miras, Miriam Ponsa and Josep Abril have opened NU#02, an Eixample space that brings together three labels infused with the same philosophy. By **Laia Beltran**

The figures speak for themselves: e-commerce just keeps on growing. And in this online market, fashion plays a huge part. Lots of people increasingly find it more appealing to update their wardrobes from the comfort of their sofa then to head to the shops. But there's no physical emotion achieved through those clicks. You don't enjoy the pleasure of visiting an elegant space or trying on a dress. And that means there's still a place for brave gambles such as the one recently taken by Txell Miras, Miriam Ponsa and Josep Abril, three Catalan designers who have just opened a shared shop in the Eixample.

REC#0

The roots of the project can be found in the Rec neighbourhood of the central Catalan town of

Igualada. 'That's where we got to know each other well, and realised that we shared a philosophy and could do things together,' explains Ponsa. Out of this chemistry came REC#00, an ephemeral endeavour that takes place twice a year in Igualada's RecStores, and which the trio use to sell off stock and have direct contact with their customers. 'It's a very valuable source of information. It's where we discovered that we could do even more,' says Miras.

PROJECTE#01

And so, from Igualada to Paris. About 18 months ago, in the district of Le Marais, they opened Projecte#01, a shop where the main protagonist is Catalan design with lines for women by Ponsa and Miras (as well as Andrea Ayala) and for men by Abril. In addition, they also sell leather bags by Cristina Corres and original decorative objects from Aparentment. The warm welcome they received in Paris was decisive in their asking themselves, Should we try the same formula at home?

NU#02

NU#02 answered this question. 'We have different styles, but together the three of us bring more,' says Miras. 'Our day-to-day reality is similar – we make signature collections, use local production, share a colour palette, and we also like to play around with patterns.' NU#02 is the name of this collective idea that now has its own space, which is authentic, without ornamentation and with its

own personality. 'It was the effect we were looking for in an area full of luxury store franchises that are the same wherever you go,' says Ponsa. At NU#02 the luxury is austere, and you have to look for it in the details such as the hangers and the spectacular iron furniture from Jonathan Singleton. Each designer has their own space, which means they can show full collections. 'We want everyone to speak for themselves, and then it's up to the client to decide if they buy trousers by Miriam or one of my shirts,' says Miras. 'At the end of the day, we all dress in different labels.' Miras is happy with this new step forward. She won't be the last one.

NU#02

València, 229 (Eixample Dret).

You inspire us

When she takes off her guise as a journalist, Laura Sangrà turns into a doodle-bomb artist. By **Eugènia Sendra**

Laura Sangrà, a journalist on Catalan TV, became a fan of doodle bombing during the month she was convalescing after an operation, and she fell asleep thinking about how, the following day, she would decorate the faces appearing on the pages of magazines with her automatic drawings. The practice that's been popularised by the likes of Hattie Stewart and Ana Strumpf appealed to her for being fun, relaxing, realistic and hypnotic, says Sangrà. It doesn't work with all paper (it has to have a certain weight) nor with all images – she chooses boring photos, languid portraits, and run-of-the-mill faces and gestures. 'Labels neutralise people so that you see the scenery, the clothes.' she says. But if she masks adverts it's because she enjoys it rather than to criticise a system that homogenises and imposes an aesthetic. She knows what she's talking about - she likes fashion (but not fashions), how it's created and how an individual can be projected through clothing. Above all, however, she believes in the message of the iconic Iris Apfel: 'It's better to be happy than welldressed.'

instagram.com/laurasangra

GET THE LOOK!

LOVE OF THE '50S

Sangrà collects vintage dresses, the majority of which come from thrift stores in NYC. Itrainvintage.com

THAT HAIRCUT...

She put herself into the hands of Nenuca and dared to try the short cut she has now. Ribera, 6.



Going local in the Gòtic



Gòtic you'll find small hidden spaces, welcome and promising surprises in a neighbourhood that has so many commercial fixtures. Röa is one of these tiny treats. It's the shop of Carolina Salazar, a Chilean designer who is often to be found at the Lost&Found second-hand market, and has also established herself as a regular at the Palo Alto design market. After years dedicated to vintage clothing, she decided to specialise in contemporary local creatives, which is why in her selection you'll find exceptional names such as Juanma by el Cuco, the dark, industrial pieces of ZAGV, and the boho chic articles of It Rocks. Among her most recent discoveries is NOTE. a label created in Tel Aviv that's moved its production to Barcelona. In Röa there's also space for the bags of Malagan brand Su-shi, and a small selection of vintage clothing from top labels (the leather coats are the most sought after). Salazar is sure she'll soon be able to feature her own designs - in the meantime, she likes having fun with Röa's neighbours, the shop of swimsuit designers, Plhi Studio. -E.S.

RÖA CLOTHES & DESIGN

Comtessa de Sobradiel, 9 (Barri Gòtic).

Your style

Halston did it first, but being inspired by Pollock is still cool.
Let's splash about. By **Laia Beltran**

A LITTLE BIT ROCK 'N' ROLL

It's not just a black dress with long sleeves and asymmetric hem. Nerea Lurgain's piece is also the perfect canvas for exploring the fury of a paintbrush (195). OnLand, Princesa, 25



LEAVE A FOOTPRINT

The Oxford is surely the most reinvented shoe. Kupuri have splashed theirs with paint (169). Portal de l'Àngel, 14



SPIRIT OF AN ARTIST

Get your brushes out and convert this Equipaje BCN thick cotton bag with wooden handle into your own personal work of art (95). Santa Tecla, 11



Object of desire

RENEWING A CLASSIC

With a resolution of 20 megapixels, 14 artistic filters and M. Zuiko lens, this camera pays homage to the 1963 Olympus Pen-F with its design – beautiful but also light (1,200 for the body). Casanova Foto (Ronda Universitat, 35).



Blahnik in words

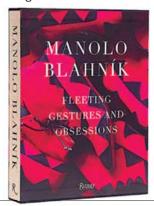
Passage is always one step ahead. Before anybody had even heard of Fleeting Gestures and Obsessions (Rizzoli), it was already on sale in the Sarrià concept store. Manolo Blahnik himself came to Barcelona to present the book, as a special guest at the recent 080 Barcelona Fashion event in February. While here, the veteran shoe designer achieved a fully fledged veni, vidi, vici in his role of absent-minded, cultured and entertaining dandy.

To be honest, the book is no more than an extension of his actual personality. A chaotic ode to beauty summarised in texts from various authors and fabulous photographs, such as the one by Manuel Outumuro of the Spanish singer Rosario, taken from behind with her long hair hanging loose and dressed only in an Azzedine Alaïa belt. Probably more than one

of you would prefer an actual pair of Manolos, but having this coffee table book (€140) in your hands could be an even more sensual adventure. –L.B.

FLEETING GESTURES AND OBSESSIONS

Abat Samsó, 7 (Sarrià). passagebcn.com



Shopping list

New collections, new owners, new collaborations and new products that are a breath of fresh air. By Eugènia Sendra



SUSTAINABLE

G-STAR

Message and manufacturing count on this collection that's made using recycled plastic. It's the handiwork of new co-owner, Pharrell Williams (€99.95). Pg. de Gràcia, 44



ANNIVERSARY

PALOMA WOOL

Paloma Lanna's book 14-14 relates the artistic experiences and evocative pieces from the first year of her brand. It's published by Terranova (€30). Wer-Haus, Aragó, 287



has created jackets and parkas in pastel shades for a touch of colour to protect you during the unpredictable spring weather. They say that after a morning of sun, and when you least expect it, the rain arrives. Be ready for it. Wan Blue (€93.68). 248, Rosselló, 248



WISH LIST

See off April showers in style with this umbrella designed by illustrator Ana de Lima for Catalan firm Clima (€17.95). Temprado, Mansó, 49



ACCESSORY

JULIETA ÁLVAREZ

The Anchor necklaces are already a classic from this ceramics designer - they've just been reissued in new colours (€234). Le Fortune, Avinyó, 42

SALE SAMPLES

FOLLOWING THE THREAD

Apr 23.

The discovery of a suitcase belonging to couturier Pilar Ayarza, who worked in the Balenciaga atelier, was the seed that produced the exhibition Entredós 2.0. Painter Rosa Solano and designer Rosa Capdevila have continued to follow the thread of Ayarza's life for this new show that re-creates her apartment. Fundació Setba, Plaça Reial, 2. Until

ORGANIC MAKE-UP

The brand Couleur Caramel tempts everybody, including professional make-up artists. Its strong point is the use of certified organic ingredients, such as jojoba oil, aloe juice, shea butter and rose water, which they use to make exquisite eyeshadows, correctors,

foundation and more. Buy at Purple,

València, 273.

ON A SMALL SCALE

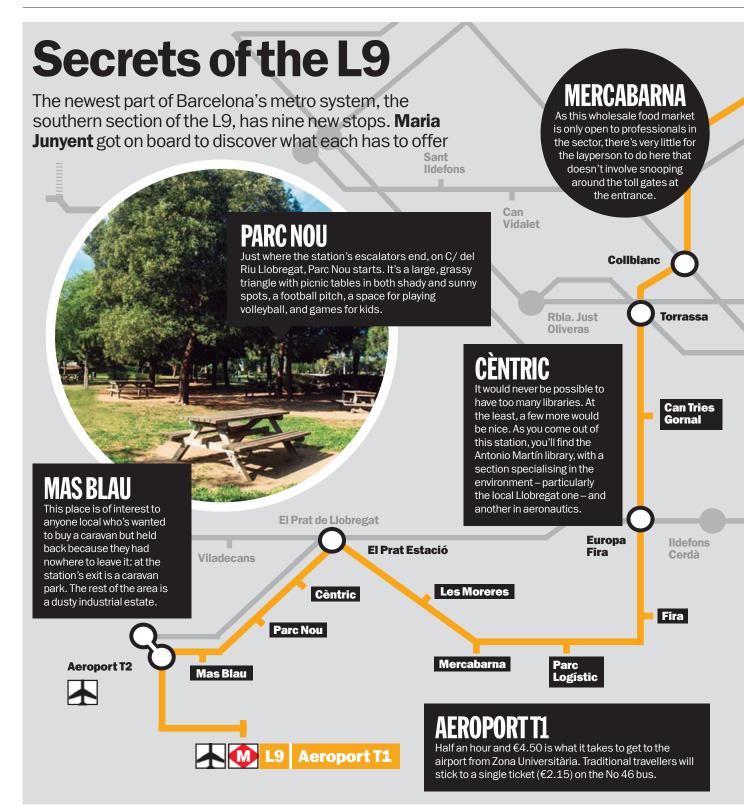
Addicted to Life, the former dry cleaner's in Poblenou that was transformed into a gallery and performance venue, continues to expand its concept store dedicated to artisans, small-scale creatives and vintage style. The latest to arrive is L'Nena, a women's clothing brand made in Barcelona. Puiades, 156, bis.

AS THE CROW DRESSES

If you want your children to get their own taste of Scandi style, try out the creations of Mói (which

was the name that the family gave to a crow they adopted). With pieces for newborns to eight-year-olds, their latest collection is called Urban Atmosphere. Go Kids, Elisabets, 16, -L.B./E.S.

Things to Do



Edited by Maria Junyent

mjunyent@timeout.cat @junyjuliol



Sarrià

8

CAN TRIES GORNAL

The Gornal Municipal Sports Centre, covering 14,000 square metres and located just at the metro exit, is a pleasing alternative to the crowded gyms in the centre.

Maria Cristina

Les Corts

Plaça del Centre

Plaça de Sants

FIRA

Hurrah for more options for getting to Sónar by Night, and for trying This&That Co., the latest gastro hit in L'Hospitalet (Amadeu Torner, 41).

Entença

PARC LOGÍSTIC

Elderly locals will take their grandkids to this stop to tell them, 'I remember when all this was farmland.' Desperate drivers will use it as a 'park and ride'.

Hospital Clínic

Espanya

Magòria La Campana



LES MORERES

The best thing that the new section of the L9 can offer Barcelona residents, apart from the possibility of getting to the airport by metro of course, is the chance of a trouble-free journey to the cultural centre La Capsa del Prat. It's an excellent place to enjoy concerts by some of Catalonia's most popular musicians.

Paral-lel

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Things to Do

Day by day

► Information and sales: Tourist Information Points and www.visitbarcelona.com

FREE This activity is free

* The dates of league matches may be moved forward or back one day, depending on TV broadcast schedules

Friday 1

Family

► Scòpic Miniatur Barcelona

Large space with interactive model city, and ride-on train. (*Tarragona*, 177). M: Sants Estació (L3, L5), *Tarragona* (L3). T. 93 423 78 55. 10am-8pm. €11.20. Reduced: €7.84.

Tours

► Secret Basilica del Pi

Evening visits to the 14th-century Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Wed-Fri 9pm. Sat 9.30pm. €19 (general). €16 (in advance). Info and tickets: www.adsentiabarcelona.com or tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

► Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins

Spectacular night-time event with rooftop video mapping, screenings and a glass of cava. (Provença, 261, entrance on Pg. de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença. Mon-Fri 9pm-10pm (ticket office opens at 8pm). €34. Reduced: €17.

Saturday 2

Open air

► Tibidabo theme park

Enjoy fun activities for all ages at Barcelona's historic theme park. (Pl. Tibidabo, 3-4). Funicular del TIbidabo (Pl. Doctor Andreu). FGC: Av. Tibidabo + Tramvia Blau or bus 196. Sat, Sun noon-7pm. €28.50 (under-120cm, €10.50).

Family

A tea with mint

Musicians from the Maghreb reflect on the influence that Arab music has had on the Iberian peninsula. CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1,L3; FGC). Sat 5.30pm, Sun noon. €6. For over-fives.

Gastronomy

Speaking with chocolate

Led by English teacher Edwina, participants will learn how to make different types of chocolate treats. The class ends with a small snack. Museu de la Xocolata (Comerç, 36–Antic Convent de Sant Agustí).

M:Arc de Triomf (L1). 4pm-7pm. €25. Prior booking necessary.

museuxocolata.cat

Traditions

FREE Sardanes

Catalonia's national dance performed in front of the cathedral. (Pla de la Seu). M: Jaume I (L4). Sat 6pm; Sun 11.15am

Tours

► Torre Bellesguard Gaudí

Tours of Gaudí's modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC). Visit with audio guide: Tue-Sun 10am-3pm. €9. Reduced: €7.20. Guided tour: Sat noon (Spanish); Sat, Sun 11am (English). €16. €12.80 (reduced).

► Santa Maria del Mar rooftop

Guided tours to the top of this historic church for great city views. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1).

M: Jaume I (L4). Mon-Fri noon to 5.15pm. Sat, Sun, public hols 11am to 7pm. Tours various times and languages. €10. Reduced: €8.

Booking: www.riostabarcelona.com and tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Sunday 3

Open air

Barcelona Urban Forest

Zip wires, trampolines and bungees for high-adrenaline fun. (Pl. del Fòrum, s/n). M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4). Weekends and public hols 10am-8pm. €11-€27 (depends on circuit and age).

Family

► A tea with mint

See Sat 2. CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya(L1,L3, FGC).

Sports

Catalonia Championship – Spanish Resistance Cup

Motor-racing contest held out at Barcelona's Formula 1 track. Circuit Barcelona-Catalunya (Ctra. de Granollers-Parets, 2km). Montmeló. For times and details of programme: www.circuitcat.com.

Football

►* League fixture. FC Barcelona - Real Madrid

Arguably the biggest match of the season for Camp Nou and all Barça supporters. Date and time TBC. For more info: fcbarcelona.cat. Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Tours

FREE Guided tour of Poblenou Cemetery

Brief but fascinating reconstruction of 100 years of history from the 18th century. (Av. Icària, s/n). M: Llacuna (L4). 1st Sun 10.30am (Catalan) & 12.30pm (Spanish). 3rd Sun 10.30am (Spanish) & 12.30pm (Catalan).

Sant Pau, Art Nouveau site

Once a working hospital, this network of pavilions was designed by Lluís Domenech i Montaner. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5). Tours in various languages; consult for

schedule. Mon-Sat 10am-4.30pm. Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm. €14. €9.80 (reduced).

Monday 4

Open air

Visit PortAventura theme park

An hour south of Barcelona, this theme park has six zones of attractions, plus parades, eateries and shops. (Av. Alcalde Pere Molas. Km. 2. Vila Seca, Tarragona). Train (Renfe): Port Aventura. T. 902 20 22 20. Tickets: tickets. visitbarcelona.com or www.portaventura.es

Spa

► Aire de Barcelona, Arab Baths

Experience the old-age tradition of bathing to care for body and mind. (Pg. de Picasso, 22). M: Barceloneta (L4), Jaume I (L4). T.93 295 57 43. Mon-Fri: first entry 10am, last entry between 10pm and midnight; Sat, Sun and days before public hols: last entry between midnight and 2am.

Tours

► Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi

Visit the 14th-century Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi and its belltower. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 4pm-7pm. €4. Reduced: €3.

▶ Palau de la Música

Tour this emblematic building of Catalan modernisme. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Daily tours 10am-3.30pm. €18. Reduced: €11.

Tuesday 5

Human towers

► Castellers practice session

See local group of castellers rehearse, from districts of Sants or Gràcia, or the Barcelona city one. *Tue, Thu, Fri.* €24.20; reduced

€20.50. For info about availability and times: www.castellscat.cat.

Tours

► Liceu opera house

Discover Barcelona's glorious opera house, carefully restored after a devastating fire in 1994. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). Mon-Fri 9.30am & 10.30am. €16.

► Santa Maria del Mar rooftop

See Sat 2. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

► Gaudí's Pedrera. **The Origins**

See Fri 1. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Wednesday 6

Tours

► Secret Basilica del Pi

See Fri 1. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

► Torre Bellesguard Gaudí

See Sat 2. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).

Food and drink

Hotel Tapa Tour

Signature tapas are on offer in various 4- and 5-star hotels around (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

the city, as they compete to see which one the public prefers. Which will be your fave?

Apr 6-17. €4.50-€8 (includes 2 tapas + 1 drink). More info: hoteltapatour.com.

Thursday 7

Cinema

Festival Xcèntric: The enigma of photography

Three films look at how photography has also managed to make the invisible visible.

CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1, L2), Catalunya (L1, L3). 8pm.

Food and drink

Hotel Tapa Tour

See Wed 6. Apr 6-17. €4.50-€8 (includes 2 tapas + 1 drink). More info: hoteltapatour.com.

Human towers

▶ Castellers practice s

See Tue 5. For info about availability and times: www.castellscat.cat.

Tours

▶ Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi

See Mon 4.

Friday 8

Family

► Scòpic Miniatur Barcelona

See Fri 1. (Tarragona, 177). M: Sants Estació (L3, L5), Tarragona (L3).

Tours

► Palau de la Música

See Mon 4. (Palau de la Música. 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Saturday 9

Open air

Barcelona Urban Forest

See Sun 3. (Pl. del Fòrum, s/n). M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4).

Family

Little cinephiles: Let's laugh!

Selection of shorts and shows from the British Aardman studios, the people behind Shaun the Sheep. CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1,L3; FGC). Noon. €4. For over-fives.

Dramatised visit to Casa Batlló

A new way to discover the famous Gaudí building, with this new initiative aimed at families. (Pg. de Gràcia, 43). M: Pg de Gràcia (L2,L3,L4).Apr 9, 16.4pm (English), 6pm (Spanish). €35. Free for undersevens. Info and tickets: www. casabatllo.cat.

Family workshop: Chindogus

Fun for all ages with this 30-minute guided tour of the museum and a 50-minute creative workshop. MIBA-Museu d'Idees i Invents de Barcelona (Ciutat, 7). M: Jaume I (L4). 11.30am-1pm. €10. More info and tickets: tickets@mibamuseum.com orT.933327930.

Traditions

FREE Sardanes

See Sat 2. (Pla de la Seu). M: Jaume I (L4).6pm.

Sunday 10

Family

► A tea with mint

See Sat 2. CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya(L1,L3,FGC).

What music!

Learn about the gamelan, a traditional percussion group from south-east Asia.

Museu de la Música (L'Auditori, Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 5.30pm. €3.50. For ages six and over.

Football

▶ * League fixture. RCD

FUN FOR THE KIDS They'll never be bored at these family-friendly spots



SCÒPIC MINIATUR

Kids love all things small, and the Scòpic world, a miniature city based on Barcelona, will captivate them. And there's a to-scale train to ride on. Tarragona, 177. www.scopic.es



CASA BATLLÓ

The Gaudí landmark now offers hourlong dramatised visits of the iconic building, specially aimed at families, Apr 9, 16. 4pm (English), 6pm (Spanish). Pg. de Gràcia, 43. www.casabatllo.es



TIBIDABO

Generations of Barcelona children have discovered the joy of roller coasters, dodgem cars and Ferris wheels at this hilltop theme park. Plaça del Tibidabo, 3-4. www.tibidabo.cat



PORTAVENTURA

About an hour down the coast, this is Catalonia's answer to Disneyland. Discover their six zones, including one based on Sesame Street for the very voung, www.portaventuraworld.com

Espanyol - Club Atlético de Madrid

Espanyol face the Madrid team. Date & time TBC. Estadi Cornellà–El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100. Cornellà de Llobregat). FGC: Cornellà. www.rcdespanyol.com

Sport

38th El Corte Inglés Road Race

One of the most popular road races in Spain, the 11km route tends to attract over 50,000 participants. Start: Plaça de Catalunya. M: Catalunya (L1,L3). 9.30am. More info: www.cursaelcorteingles.cat.

Traditions

FREE Sardanes

See Sat 2. (Pla de la Seu). M: Jaume I (L4). 6pm.

Tours

FREE Guided tour of Montjuïc Cemetery

Visit Barcelona's hillside graveyard, which is as much an art museum as a final resting-place. Cementiri de Montjuïc (Mare de Déu del Port, 56-58). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 2nd & 4th Sun 11am (Catalan) and 11.15am (Spanish).

Monday 11

Food and drink

Hotel Tapa Tour

See Wed 6. Apr 6-17. €4.50-€8 (includes 2 tapas + 1 drink). More info: hoteltapatour.com.

Tours

► Liceu opera house

See Tue 5. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Tuesday 12

Open air

Visit PortAventura theme park

See Mon 4. (Av. Alcalde Pere Molas. Km. 2. Vila Seca, Tarragona). Train (Renfe): Port Aventura.

Human towers

▶ Castellers practice session

See Tue 5. For info about availability and times: www.castellscat.cat.

Tours

► Torre Bellesguard Gaudí

See Sat 2. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC)

Food and drink

Hotel Tapa Tour

See Wed 6. Apr 6-17. €4.50-€8 (includes 2 tapas + 1 drink). More info: hoteltapatour.com

Wednesday 13

Spa

► Aire de Barcelona, Arab Baths

See Mon 4. (Pg. de Picasso, 22). M: Barceloneta (L4), Jaume I (L4).

Tours

► Palau de la Música

See Mon 4. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Thursday 14

Cinema

Festival Xcèntric: Music with new images

Forgotten works from the French avant-garde era in the '20s. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1, L2), Catalunya (L1, L3). 8pm

Food and drink

Hotel Tapa Tour

See Wed 6. Apr 6-17. \leq 4.50- \leq 8 (includes 2 tapas + 1 drink). More info: hoteltapatour.com

Human towers

► Castellers practice session

See Tue 5. For info about availability and times: www.castellscat.cat.

Friday 15

Tours

Santa Maria del Mar rooftop

See Sat 2. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (I 4).

Family

► Scòpic Miniatur Barcelona See Fri 1.

(Tarragona, 177). M: Sants Estació (L3, L5), Tarragona (L3)

Saturday 16

Open air

► Tibidabo theme park

See Sat 2. (Pl. Tibidabo, 3-4). Funicular del Tlbidabo (Pl. Doctor Andreu). FGC: Av. Tibidabo + Tramvia Blau or bus 196.

Family

Family workshop

See Sat 9. MIBA-Museu d'Idees i Invents de Barcelona (Ciutat, 7). M: Jaume I (L4).

Food and drink

FREE Earth Fair & Market

Annual event dedicated to local food products that are respectful to both the planet and people. Parc de la Ciutadella–Passeig de Lluís Companys. M: Ciutadella–Vila Olímpica, Jaume I (L4). Apr 16-17. www.diadelaterra.org

Tennis

Barcelona Open Banc Sabadell-64th Conde de Godó Trophy Some of the tour's best players take to the clay courts of Barcelona.

Reial Club de Tennis Barcelona 1899
(Bosch i Gimpera, 5-13). M: Maria
Cristina (L3). Apr 16-24. www.
barcelonaopenbancsabadell.com

Traditions

Book your

favourite

restaurants at

timeout.com/

barcelona

FREE Sardanes

See Sat 2. (Pla de la Seu). M: Jaume I (L4). 6pm

Sunday 17

Family

Món Llibre 2016

Week of activities focused on books for children, tying in with this year's Sant Jordi on Sat 23. CCCB, Pl. de Joan Coromines and MACBA (Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1,L3). Apr 17-24. 11am-7.30pm.

Food and drink

Hotel Tapa Tour

See Wed 6. Apr 6-17. €4.50-€8 (includes 2 tapas + 1 drink). More info: hoteltapatour.com

FREE Earth Fair & Market

See Sat 16. Parc de la Ciutadella-Passeig de Lluís Companys. M: Ciutadella-Vila Olímpica, Jaume I (L4).

Sport

Salomon Run Barcelona

Run covering 10km around the mountain of Montjuïc. Start and finish: Magic Fountains in Montjuïc (Pl. Puig i Cadafalch). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 9.30am. More info: www.salomonrunbarcelona.com

Football

▶* League fixture. FC Barcelona – Valencia CF

Another match for Messi and friends to display their skills. Date and time TBC For more info: fcbarcelona.cat. Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Tours

FREE Guided tour of Poblenou Cemetery

See Sun 3. (Av. Icària, s/n). M: Llacuna (L4).

Monday 18

Open air

PortAventura theme park

See Mon 4. (Av. Alcalde Pere Molas. Km. 2. Vila Seca, Tarragona). Train (Renfe): Port Aventura.

Family

► Scòpic Miniatur Barcelona

See Fri 1. (Tarragona, 177). M: Sants Estació (L3, L5), Tarragona (L3)

Tennis

Barcelona Open Banc Sabadell-

64th Conde de Godó Trophy

See Sat 16. Reial Club de Tennis Barcelona 1899 (Bosch i Gimpera, 5-13). M: Maria Cristina (L3).

Tours

► Palau de la Música

See Mon 4.

(Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Tuesday 19

Tours

► Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi

See Mon 4. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Human towers

► Castellers practice session See Tue 5. For info about availability and times: www.castellscat.cat.

Wednesday 20

Football

► * League fixture. RCD Espanyol - Athletic Club

Another Spanish league match for Barcelona's other team. Date and time TBC. www.rcdespanyol.com. Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100. Cornellà de Llobregat). FGC: Cornellà.

Tours

► Torre Bellesguard Gaudí

See Sat 2. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).

Thursday 21

Cinema

Festival D'A

Sixth edition of international festival of Auteur cinema, featuring more than 70 films of contemporary cinema and the best local productions.

Various venues. For details of venues and programme: www. cinemadautor.cat. Cinemes Aribau Club & CCCB: €7.50 (single entry); €30 (five tickets).

Tennis

Barcelona Open Banc Sabadell-64th Conde de Godó Trophy

See Sat 16. Reial Club de Tennis Barcelona 1899 (Bosch i Gimpera, 5-13). M: Maria Cristina (L3).

Friday 22



Festival

Beergarten Poble Espanyol

Experience a typical German Biergarten with authentic beer and typical food, as well as workshops for all ages, live music and fun contests.

(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). Apr 22-30, May 1. pobleespanyol.com

Sport

48th Barcelona International Polo Tournament

Experience a typical German Biergarten with authentic beer and typical food, you can also enjoy workshops for all ages, live music and fun contests.

Reial Club de Polo de Barcelona (Av. Dr. Gregorio Marañón, 19-31). Apr 22-24, Apr 29-May 1. rcpolo.com

Saturday 23

Family

Little cinephiles: Shaun the Sheep

An ideal activity for families who love going to the cinema.

CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1,L3; FGC). Noon. €4. For over-fives.

Món Llibre 2016

See Sun 17. CCCB, Pl. de Joan Coromines and MACBA (Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1,L3).

Traditions

FREE Day of Sant Jordi

The streets of towns and cities around Catalonia fill with roses and books as lovers exchange gifts. Around the city, especially Rambla de Catalunya, Pg. de Gràcia and La Rambla. 9am-9pm. www.barcelona. cat/santjordi

FREE Experience Sant Jordi at Casa Batlló

Antoni Gaudí's most poetic building in Barcelona celebrates his feast day with a vertical rose garden covering part of its façade. You can also buy roses with the money going

to a local homeless charity. (Pg. de Gràcia, 43). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2,L3,L4). 9am-9pm. More info: www.casabatllo.cat.

Sports

Targa Iberia Trophy

Escuderia Targa Iberia is a decadeold Spanish company that organises motor-racing events. Circuit Barcelona-Catalunya (Ctra. de Granollers-Parets, 2km). Montmeló. For times and details of programme: www.circuitcat.com.

Tours

FREE Sant Pau, Art Nouveau

Experience Sant Jordi at this modernista gem: live music from the Balkan Paradise Orchestra and the Barcelona Coral Àsia, and the sale of books and roses. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau (L5). Visit and sale: 10am-6.30pm; live music: noon-2pm. www.santpaubarcelona.org

Sunday 24

Family

MIMoMUSICA

Dramatised visit to the Music Museum.

Museu de la Música (L'Auditori, Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 5.30pm. €2.50. For ages six and over.

Sports

Sagrada Família 1km Road Run

Annual fun run around the famous temple. Starts: Provença and Marina. M: Sagrada Família (L2,L5). More info: claror.cat/lamilla.

Football

►* League fixture. FC Barcelona - Real Sporting de Gijón

As the league draws to an end, will Barça finish first?
Date and time TBC. For more info: fcbarcelona.cat. Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Tours

FREE Guided tour of Montjuïc Cemetery

See Sun 10. Cementiri de Montjuïc (Mare de Déu del Port, 56-58). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

Monday 25

Open air

► Portavenura theme park

See Mon 4. (Av. Alcalde Pere Molas. Km. 2. Vila Seca, Tarragona). Train (Renfe): Port Aventura.

Spa

► Aire de Barcelona, Arab Baths

See Mon 4. (Pg. de Picasso, 22). M: Barceloneta (L4), Jaume I (L4).

Tuesday 26

Festival

Beergarten Poble Espanyol

See Fri 22. (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

Tours

► Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins

See Fri 1. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Wednesday 27

Tours

► Secret Basilica del Pi

See Fri 1. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Festival

Beergarten Poble Espanyol

See Fri 22. (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

Thursday 28

Open air

Roman Festival

of Badalona

The 12th edition of the 'Magno Celebration', which sees Barcelona's neighbouring city mark its classical origins. Discover trades, customs and rituals. Museu de Badalona and surrounds (Pl. Assemblea de Catalunya, 1, Badalona). M: Badalona Pompeu Fabra (L2). 10am-2pm, 5pm-8pm. Apr 27-30, May 1. www. magnacelebratio.cat.

Cinema

Festival Xcèntric: Exquisite, recent and essential

A series of films that have recently passed through international experiemental film festivals. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1, L2), Catalunya (L1, L3). 8pm.

Friday 29

Human towers

► Castellers practice session See Tue 5. For info about availability and times: www.castellscat.cat.

Tours

► Palau de la Música

See Mon 4. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4)..

Saturday 30

Open air

Roman Festival of Badalona

See Thu 28. Museu de Badalona and surrounds (Pl. Assemblea de Catalunya, 1, Badalona). M: Badalona Pompeu Fabra (L2).

Sports

Bicircuit Festival

Weekend dedicated to different bike competitions, including the Brompton World Championships. Circuit Barcelona-Catalunya (Ctra. de Granollers-Parets, 2km). Montmeló. Apr 30-May 1. For times and details of programme: www. circuitcat.com

Sights

Architecture

Basílica de la Sagrada Família

(Mallorca, 401). M: Sagrada
Família (L2, L5). T. 93 513 20 60.
9am-8pm. Guided tour: €24. Tour
with audio guide: €22. Panoramic
visit (audio guide and towers):
€29. Barcelona's most famous
landmark, begun by Antoni
Gaudí in 1891 and unfinished to
this day.

► Basílica de Santa Maria del Mar

(Plaça de Santa Maria, 1).

M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 310 23 90.

Mon-Sat 9am-1pm, 5pm-8.30pm;
Sun and public holidays 10am-2pm, 5pm-8pm. Wheelchair
access. Known as the 'cathedral of the Ribera', this church is one of the most perfect examples of Gothic architecture.

► Basílica de Santa Maria del Pi

(Plaça del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3), Jaume I (L4). T. 93 318 47 43. 10am-6pm. €4. €3 (reduced). Guided tour (including up to bell tower): Sat noon, 1.30pm, 5pm, 6.30pm; Sun noon, 1.30pm, 5pm (book in advance). €10. €8 (reduced). La Basílica del Pi Secreta (night-time tour): Thu, Fri 9pm (9.20pm English); Sat 9.30pm (9.50pm English). €19. One of Barcelona's grandest Gothic churches, with great views from its bell tower.

► Casa Batlló

(Pg. de Gràcia, 43). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 216 03 06. 9am-9pm. Last entry: 8pm. Tour and video guide: €22.50. €19.50 (reduced). The sensuality and harmony of its interior, combined with Gaudí's use of colours, shapes and light make this a must-see for admirers of the architect's work.

► Gaudí Crypt at Colònia

(Claudi Güell, 6 – Santa Coloma de Cervelló). M: Espanya (L1, L3), FGC (S4, S8, S33): Colònia Güell station. T. 93 630 58 07. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm. Sat, Sun, public hols 10am-3pm. €9 (incl. audio guide). €7.50 (reduced). This UNESCO World Heritage Site is inside Colònia Güell, a planned textile factory and residential area 20 minutes from Barcelona.

► Gran Teatre del Liceu

(La Rambla, 51–59). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 485 99 14. Guided tour: Mon-Fri 9.30am, 10.30am. €16. 25-minute tour: Daily (various times and languages). €6. Visit one of the world's great opera houses, with its impressive concert hall and exclusive private rooms.

▶ La Pedrera

(Provença, 261–265).
M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 902
202 138. La Pedrera by Day
(includes audio guide): 9am8pm. Last entry: 7.30pm.
€20.50. €16.50 (reduced).
Gaudi's Pedrera. The Origins
(evening tour): 9pm-10pm. €34.
€17 (reduced). Many Barcelona
residents consider this building
to be Gaudi's true masterpiece.
In fact, some of its apartments
are still private homes. The roof
terrace represents modernista
architecture at its finest.

Palau Güell

(Nou de la Rambla, 3-5).
M: Drassanes (L3), Barceloneta (L4). T. 93 472 57 75. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Last entry: 7pm.
Closed Mon except public hols.
€12. €9 (reduced).
Built by Antoni Gaudí in the late 19th century, this palace belonged to his principal patron.

► Palau de la Música Catalana

(Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 295 72 00. 10am-3.30pm. €18. €11 (reduced). Under 10s free. Step inside one of the most beautiful Art Nouveau buildings in the world, today a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Sant Pau, Art Nouveau site

(Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau (L5). T. 93 553 78 01. Mon-Sat 10am-6.30pm; Sun, public hols 10am-2.30pm. Selfguided tour: €10. €7 (reduced). Guided tour (various times): €16. €11.20 (reduced). Under-16s free. First Sunday of the month there are no tours, but free entry to enjoy cultural activities. Tour the buildings and grounds of one of the world's largest Art Nouveau monuments, restored and opened to the public in 2014.

▶Torre Bellesguard

(Bellesguard, 6-9). FGC: Av. Tibidabo. T. 93 250 40 93. Tue-Sun 10am-3pm. Last entry: 2.30pm. Closed Mon. Panoramic tour (audio guide to exterior, remains of Martin the Humane's palace, audiovisual centre): €9. €7 (reduced). Full guided tour in English (tower exterior and interior, roof terrace): €16. €12.80 (reduced). Discover the modernista castle that Antoni Gaudí built at the foot of Tibidado mountain.

Leisure

► Aire de Barcelona, Arab Baths

(Pg. de Picasso, 22). M:
Barceloneta (L4), Jaume I (L4). T.
93 295 57 43. Mon-Fri: first entry
10am, last entry between 10pm
and midnight; Sat, Sun and days
before public holidays: last entry
between midnight and 2am.
These Arab baths revive the
ancient tradition of bathing as a
form of relaxation.

▶ Barcelona Urban Forest

(Plaça del Fòrum, s/n). M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4). T. 93 117 34 26. Sat, Sun, public holidays 10am-8pm. €11-€27 (depending on age and circuit). Zip lines, trampolines and bungee jumping for highadrenaline fun.

▶ Poble Espanyol

(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3). T. 93 508 63 00. Mon 9am-8pm; Tue-Thu 9am-midnight; Fri 9am-3am; Sat 9am-4am; Sun 9am-midnight. €12. €7 (reduced). Built for the Barcelona Exposition of 1929 by modernista architect Puig i Cadalfach, this open-air museum on Montjuïc features replicas of traditional streets, squares and buildings from all

over Spain. Regularly hosts live music events.

► Gaudí Experience

(Larrard, 41). M: Lesseps (L3). T. 93 285 44 40. 10am-7pm. Last entry: 6.30pm. €9. €7.50 (reduced). A fascinating interactive journey that uses 4-D technology to take you inside Gaudí's creative universe. A new way to discover the architect and his world.

► Tibidabo Amusement Park

(Plaça del Tibidabo, 3-4). Bus Tibibus (T2A) from Plaça Catalunya. M: Av. Tibidabo (L7, FGC) + Tramvia Blau or Bus 196 + Funicular del Tibidabo. T. 93 211 79 42. Weekends noon-7pm. Sky Walk: €12.70; children measuring less than 120cm, €7.80. Amusement park: €28.50; children under 120cm, €10.30. With over 100 years of history, Tibidabo features classic rides, old favourites and new attractions, plus spectacular city views.

▶ PortAventura

(Av. Alcalde Pere Molas, km 2. Vila Seca, Tarragona). Train: Port Aventura. T. 902 20 22 20. Tickets: tickets.visitbarcelona. com or www.portaventura.es. An hour south of Barcelona, this theme park has six zones of attractions plus parades, eateries and shops.

► Scòpic Miniatur Barcelona

(Tarragona, 177). M: Sants Estacío (L3, L5), Tarragona (L3). T. 93 423 78 55. 10am-8pm. €11.20. €7.84 (reduced). Entry includes ride on an authentic to-scale train.

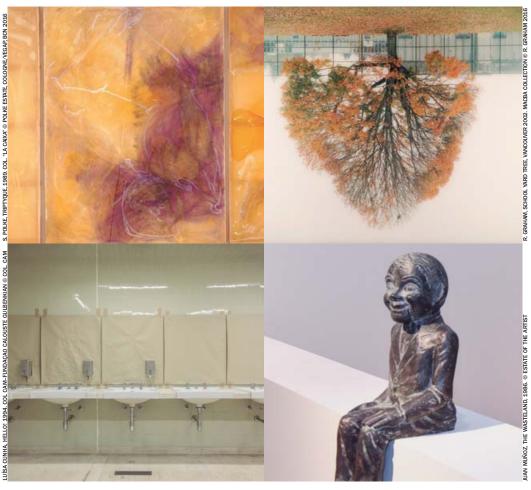
A miniature universe awaits at this 5,000m2 space, which includes a large interactive model city inspired by Barcelona.

▶ Barcelona Zoo

(Parc de la Ciutadella, s/n). M: Arc de Triomf (L1), Ciutadella/ Vila Olímpica (L4). T. 902 45 75 45. 10am-7pm. €19.90. Children (3-12): €11.95. One of the city's best-loved attractions is home to more than 2,000 animals, made up of some 315 species.

Edited by Eugènia Sendra

esendra@timeout.cat @eugeniasendra



A collection of my own

Julião Sarmento spins a narrative with artworks from La Caixa, the MACBA and the Gulbenkian Foundation. By **Eugènia Sendra**

'I'm an artist, not a curator, so it's as if this were one of my own works,' says Julião Sarmento, the renowned Portuguese artist who, throughout his 50-year career, has used different media to explore varied concepts such as memory, eroticism and representation.

Sarmento has travelled to Barcelona as the creator of an exhibition called The Weight of a Gesture, which draws on the collections of Barcelona institutions La Caixa and the MACBA, as well as the Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon. The title of the exhibition is also the name of one of Sarmento's own paintings from the 1990s, in which two figures sate their thirst against a grey shape whose edges are the silhouettes of female bodies. The reference is intentional, he admits. 'I've modified and transformed several things, I'm creating a new context for each one of these artworks.' He

found himself dealing with three collections that are different in terms of their 'consistency, content and interest', and even though he was unable to use work by certain artists (the example he gives is Bruce Nauman), the Portuguese artist has put the pieces in order as though they were the 'sentences of a novel'.

From Degas to Abrantes

This is not the first time that Sarmento has played with

unusual dialogues. In 2014 he imagined the relationship between Degas and Duchamp through paintings and sculptures, some of which were created with 3D printers. Here, the works of Ignasi Aballí confront those of Carl André, and Juan Muñoz speaks to Robert Gober: Brassaï's photographs connect with Sigmar Polke's paintings, and Gerhard Richter's white canvases are juxtaposed with a video piece by Gabriel Abrantes. Other striking works in the show include a Degas as well as

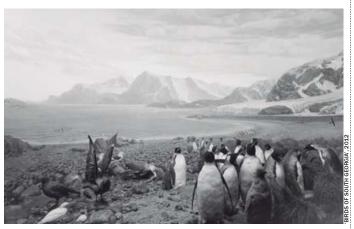
It's not the first time Sarmento has played with unusual dialogues

pieces by Portuguese artists
Joaquim Rodrigo, João Onofre,
Ângelo de Sousa and Fernando
Calhau, the last of whom
Sarmento greatly admires. But
he does not make distinctions
or suggest hierarchies between
one artist and the next; instead
he treats the exhibition as a
breathing whole, in which 'one
work can't live without another'.

What of the voyeuristic gaze, the aura of mystery and the presence of women, recurrent motifs in his own career?
Perhaps they appear unconsciously: the model of the Capitolio building in Lisbon reminds us that Sarmento studied architecture to earn his living in Portugal under the Salazar dictatorship. He insists, however, that he would have made a terrible architect.

El pes d'un gest is at CaixaForum (Avinguda Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8) until May 1.

Black box



Fundació Mapfre. Diputació, 250 (Eixample Dret).

fundacionmapfre.org. Until May 8.

Hiroshi Sugimoto is a conceptual artist who uses photography as a means of expression. A word of warning: these works may be more interesting as ideas than to look at. Sugimoto explores the gulf between representation and reality through metaphors that erase the passage of time, as exemplified by his seascapes: the first human saw the same sea that the last one will. On dry land it's different. His use of flawless black and white is at once physical and supernatural. To make his images of cinemas, he opens the shutter as the film begins and closes it when it's over. The result is a shining screen that contains - and eliminates - the film's temporal sequence. A black hole of meanings surrounded by theatre seats and ornamental proscenium arches.

Not a single living human figure appears in the photographs. The portraits of historical figures – such

as Lenin or Henry VIII – are of waxworks at Madame Tussaud's. Here we encounter the concept of the uncanny, developed by Sigmund Freud at the beginning of the 20th century to describe the unsettling feeling caused by something that is both familiar and strange. The waxwork of Henry VIII was based on a portrait by Hans Holbein that was destroyed in a fire.

Among Sugimoto's earliest subjects were dioramas. In this exhibition he includes a series of pictures taken at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, scenes of animals and prehistoric humans. The uncanny again, or the more technological uncanny valley: art as the suspicion that what we are seeing is not, in fact, what we are seeing.

They say the Japanese prefer to avoid physical contact. Perhaps. But these immense photographs avoid touching our hearts, a strange exercise in aesthetic autism. –*Ricard Mas*

FOOTNOTE The artist describes the camera as a time machine.

AN ARTISAN OF THE IMAGE

CANNED LIGHTNING

Sugimoto emulates the pioneers of photography. The series 'Lightning fields' captures electrical discharges on photographic dry plates, doing away with the camera altogether.

ALMOST ABSTRACT

On the ground floor of the Fundació Mapfre you can view the series 'Seascapes', which suggests a colour-blind version of the Rothko chapel in Houston.

A musical celebration

The latest initiative from Barcelona Obertura - the association of some of the city's key classical music venues that was launched last year - is this month's Festival of the Arts. It's a ten-day celebration that gives audiences the chance to see stars such as singers Plácido Domingo and Matthias Goerne, pianists Maria João Pires and Alexei Volodin, and conductor Daniel Harding. The programme is eclectic and the festival promises to be an exciting event for lovers of opera and classical music: performances will include the songs from Schubert's Winter Journey (Thu 14, Palau de la Música Catalana), Verdi's Simon Boccanegra (take note that Plácido Domingo will be taking the title role in only three of the scheduled performances of this work at the Gran Teatre del Liceu; in the framework of the festival.



it's the one on Sun 23), and the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra will present works by George Gershwin and Leonard Bernstein (Fri 15, L'Auditori). —Hannah Pennell

Festival of the Arts (Barcelona Obertura) takes place from April 14 to 23.

www.barcelonaobertura.com

Exploring the city's galleries



Barcelona is a city of art. There's the amazing architecture plus open-air sculptures, murals and installations. And what about the galleries? It feels as though you could spend a lifetime visiting these specialised showrooms for both established and up-andcoming creatives, and still not see everything. The Gremi de Galeries d'Art de Catalunya (Association of Art Galleries of Catalonia) aims to promote the hard work of almost 60 local galleries, and on its website you can find details of their artists and exhibitions, past and

present. There are also details of initiatives such as 'Tardor Art', an autumn event that seeks to raise awareness of the galleries among the public. So take your chance to explore this active part of the city's art world. On the website visitbarcelona.com you can download a free map showing the location of all the galleries represented by the Gremi (you'll find it in the Quiosc of the Practical Guide section, under Specialised Publications).—H.P.

www.galeriescatalunya.com

Music

Friday 1

Blues

► Blues at the MEAM

Live music surrounded by modern art and with drinks and snacks. (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Every Friday. 6pm. €14. More info and tickets at tourist offices and tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Classical

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Carmen, Barcelona Duo de Guitar perform a candlelit concert featuring work by Albèniz, Granados and Rodrigo, among others.

Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). Tue, Thu, Sat 9pm. Fri 7pm. €20.

Discount at tourist offices. More info: tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

► Masters of the Spanish Guitar

Pedro J. González performs flamenco guitar tunes.

Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. Discount at tourist offices. €23. Info: tickets. visitbarcelona.com.

The Song of the Sibyl

Evening of poetry and music, including compositions from the likes of Bach, Zimmermann and Krebs.

Basílica de Santa Maria del Mar (Pl. de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4). 9pm. €18-€54. More info: www.concertsabarcelona.com

Anne-Sophie Mutter

German violinist performs works by Bach, Vivaldi and Previn. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €15-€100.

OBC in concert: Pirates of the Caribbean

City orchestra performs popular music from even more popular film. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1),

Monumental (L2). Apr 1 8.30pm; Apr 2 7pm; Apr 3 11am. €25-€32.

Various

Video Games Live

Music from some of the most popular video games of all time, organised by industry superstar Tommy Tallarico.

CCCIB–Auditori del Fòrum (Rambla Prim, 2-4). M: El Maresme-Fòrum (L4). 8.30pm. €25-€60. www. livenation.es

Electronica

DNIT at CaixaForum

Grouper, aka Liz Harris, the venerated experimental artist presents her latest compositions. (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 10pm. €6.

Jazz

Live Jazz at Jamboree

Barcelona's iconic club hosts two sessions. Check website for details. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €12 (box office). €10 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree

Flamenco

► Tablao Cordobes

The best flamenco dancers in the most authentic BCN tablao. (La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3). Daily 6.30pm, 8.15pm, 10pm, 11.30pm. €44-€78.50. tablaocordobes.com

▶ Stories of Love

A full cast performs the traditions of opera, zarzuela and flamenco. Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). Apr 1, 15, 20, 24, 29. 7pm. From €38. More info: tickets. visitbarcelona.com.

Pop - Rock

Guitar BCN 2016: Andrés Suárez

Spanish singer-songwriter visits before heading to tour in South America. BARTS (Av. del Paral·lel, 62). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. From €18.

Rock

Black Mountain

Psychedelic rock group from Canada present their latest work. Sala Bikini (Av. Diagonal, 547). M: Les Corts & Maria Cristina (L3). 8.30pm. €22.

Guitar BCN 2016: Igor Paskual

San Sebastián rocker performs new disc Terra firme. BARTS Club (Av. del Paral·lel, 62). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. €15.

Saturday 2

Jazz

Live Jazz

Live jazz at Milano Cocktail Bar. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 9pm (double session). Cover charge \in 8.

Flamenco

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

Casa Camarón celebrates the legacy of a flamenco legend.
Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5),
Sagrada Família (L2,L5). Mon-Sat
8pm (supper), 9pm-10pm (show).
Closed Sun.

www.casacamaron.com

► Tablao Flamenco Nervión

City centre restaurant hosts flamenco performance. (Princesa, 2). M: Jaume I (L4). Thu, Fri, Sat 8pm-10pm. Show + drink \in 16.90; show + supper \in 27.90.

Classical

St. Matthew's Passion

Symphony orchestra from the nearby Valles area perform. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 6pm. €25-€32.

Classical music at the MEAM

Regular event at historical venue in the city centre with music and afternoon snack.

(Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Every Sat. 6pm. €19. More info and

tickets at tourist offices and tickets. visitbarcelona.com

► Masters of the Spanish Guitar

See Fri 1. Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Fri 1. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Electronica

Lapsus Festival

Festival featuring avant-garde music with a programme that lasts more than 12 hours. Among the confirmed artists are: Jiin, Donnacha Costello and HKE. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1, L2), Catalunya (L1, L3).

Pop

The Next Step

Stars of Canadian TV teen drama are on an international tour.CCCIB-Auditori del Fòrum (Rambla Prim, 2-4). M: El Maresme-Fòrum (L4). 8.30pm. €27-€40. www.livenation.es

Sunday 3

Classical

► A tour of Romeo and Juliet

Exploring different version of Shakespeare's epic romantic drama, including works by Tchaikovsky and Bernstein. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 5pm. €10-€91. liceubarcelona.cat

OBC in concert: *Pirates of the Caribbean*

See Fri 1. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2).

Musical season at CaixaForum

Performance of works by Bach, Purcell and Händel. (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 7pm. €12.

FREE Shh! We're making music

Studio sessions open to the public,

with this month's featured instruments being piano and organ. Museu de la Música (L'Auditori, Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Apr 3, 17. 5.30pm.

Flamenco

► Palacio del Flamenco show

A full cast of guitarists, singers and dancers, and the rhythms of the cajón, heels and palms. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC). Daily 6.25pm, 8.15pm & 10.30pm. Options: show only; show + one drink; show + different menu options (including tapas). \in 45- \in 160. \in 10 discount at tourist offices. palaciodelflamenco.com

► Grand Flamenco Gala

Enjoy a grand performance of the classic Spanish music genre. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9.30pm. €20-€49. More info and tickets at tourist offices and tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Jazz

Live Jazz at Jamboree

See Fri 1. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Monday 4

Classical

Mark Padmore & Paul Lewis

The tenor and pianist perform works by Beethoven and Schubert. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €35.

► Masters of the Spanish Guitar

Dúo del Mar give a recital of flamenco and Spanish guitar. Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. €23. Discount at tourist offices. Info: tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Flamenco

▶ Live Flamenco

The passion of flamenco in an intimate tablao on Plaça Reial. Sala

Tarantos (Plaça Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). Daily 8.30pm, 9.30pm, 10.30pm. €10 (on the door). €8 (web). www.masimas.com/tarantos

Jazz

WTF Jam Session

Anything goes at the long-running jam hosted by Aurelio Santos.

Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €5 (box office). €4 (online in advance). www.masimas. com/jamboree.

Tuesday 5

Flamenco

► Tablao Cordobes

See Fri 1. Tablao Cordobes (La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3).

► Palacio del Flamenco show

See Sun 3. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC).

Classical

Bach Partitas

Violinist Viktoria Mullova performs three works by Bach.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €21-€72. More info and tickets at tourist offices and tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Fri 1. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Jazz

Jazz Night at El Molino

Guillem Arnedo Band and Celeste Alías perform traditional jazz greats by the likes of Sinatra, Holiday and Nat King Cole.

(Vila i Vila, 99). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9.30pm. From €15. elmolinobcn.com

World music

Guitar BCN 2016: Orquesta Buena Vista Social Club

Cuba's most famous group arrives as part of a farewell tour. Auditori del Fòrum (Rambla Prim, 2-4). M: El Maresme-Fòrum (L4). 9pm. From €24.

Wednesday 6

Classical

► Masters of the Spanish Guitar

Xavier Coll gives a show of classic Spanish guitar sounds. Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. €23. Discount at tourist offices. Info: tickets.visitbarcelona.

Flamenco

▶ Stories of Love

A full cast performs the traditions of opera, zarzuela and flamenco. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Apr 6, 10. 9.30pm. €20-€50. More info and tickets at tourist offices and tickets. visitbarcelona.com.

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Sat 2. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Jazz

Live Jazz

See Fri 1. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3).

Thursday 7

Classical

Grigory Sokolov

Russian pianist Sokolov performs a programme featuring two works by Chopin and two by Schumann. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €20-€50.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Fri 1.

Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Pop - Rock

Sergio Dalma

The Catalan musician is one of Spain's best-selling artists. Auditori del Fòrum (Rambla Prim, 2-4). M: El Maresme-Fòrum (L4). Apr 7-8. 9pm. From €24.

Guitar BCN 2016: Sivan Tamor

The young Israeli singer presents her second album, Fire.

BARTS (Av. del Paral·lel, 62).

M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. From €15.

Opera

Opera at Palau Dalmases

La Petita Companyia Lírica de Barcelona perform in a historical venue, with the singers moving among the audience. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4). Every Thu. 11pm. €20. Info: www. palaudalmases.com.

Flamenco

► Tablao Cordobes

See Fri 1. Tablao Cordobes (La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3).

Friday 8

Classical

► Spanish Guitar Maestros

Manuel Barrueco gives virtuoso recital with Spanish guitar featuring works by Bach, Albéniz and others. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €30-€35. More info and tickets: tickets.visitbarcelona. com.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Fri 1. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Flamenco

► Grand Flamenco Gala

Enjoy a grand performance of the classic Spanish music genre.

Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115).

M: Catalunya (L1, L3). Apr 8, 13, 27. 7pm. From €38. More info: tickets. visitbarcelona.com

► Tablao Flamenco Nervión

See Thu 4. (Princesa, 2). M: Jaume I (L4).

Pop

Festival del Mil·lenni: Anastacia

The Chicago singer presents her greatest hits album, *Ultimate* Collection. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9pm. €32-€68.

Guitar BCN 2016: Enric Verdaguer + Cybee

Verdaguer, whose output lies somewhere between folk and pop, shares the stage with young Catalan pop band, Cybee. Luz de Gas (Muntaner, 246). M: Diagonal (L3, L5); FGC: Gràcia. 9pm. €15.

Indie

Festival del Mil·lenni: Supersubmarina

The Spanish group has just embarked on a national tour. Sala Razzmatazz (Almogàvers, 122). M: Marina (L1), Bogatell (L4). 9pm. €17.

Jazz

Live Jazz

See Fri 1. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3).

Live Jazz at Jamboree

See Fri 1. (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Saturday 9

Flamenco

► Tablao Cordobes

See Fri 1. Tablao Cordobes (La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3).

Guitar BCN 2016: Juanito Makandé

Multifaceted musician from the south of Spain, whose tunes incorporate flamenco, reggae, funk, rock and more gets on stage to present his latest album.

BARTS (Av. del Paral·lel, 62). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. From €15.

Classical

Romeo and Juliet

The Orquestra Simfònica del Vallès performs musical love letters. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. €18-€68.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Fri 1. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Cinema Symphony Orchestra

Some of the greatest hits from the music of cinema, such as James Bond, The Lord of the Rings and Out of Africa. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 10.30pm. More info: www.promoconcert.es.

Pop - Rock

Guitar BCN 2016: Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds

The Mancurian musician and his band showcase their second album, Chasing Yesterday.
Sant Jordi Club (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M:

Espanya (L1; L3; FGC). 9pm. €40.

Sunday 10

Flamenco

Festival del Mil·lenni: Siempre Así

The choral flamenco group from Seville arrive in Barcelona on their tour promoting their album, Corazón. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150).M: Giòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 7.30pm. €26-€39.

► Flamenco at Palau Dalmases

A baroque space is the setting for this live flamenco show. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4). Daily 6pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm. €25 (includes one drink). More info: tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

▶ Stories of Love

See Wed 6. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

▶ Palacio del Flamenco show

See Sun 3. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC).

Jazz

Live Jazz

See Fri 1. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3).

Classical

Spanish guitar / Gran Orquestra Simfònica

Classic compositions performed by Rolando Saad, including work by Rodrigo, Bizet and De Falla. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 5.30pm. More info. www. promoconcert.es.

► Masters of the Spanish Guitar

Manuel González performs classic Spanish guitar tunes. Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. €23. Discount at tourist offices. Info: tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Pop

Suite Festival: Julieta Venegas

Mexican singer-songwriter presents her new disc. *Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla,* 51-59). *M: Liceu (L3).* 8pm. €20-€45.

Post-hardcore

At the Drive-In

Legendary US group give their only concert in Spain on current tour where they'll perform songs from past three albums.

Sala Razzmatazz (Almogàvers, 122).

M: Marina (L1), Bogatell (L4). 8pm. €33. More info: www.livenation.es

Monday 11

Classical

Vivaldi's Four Seasons

Russian Musical Chamber Ensemble 'Victoria' and violinst Rodion Zamuruev perform Vivaldi and Tchaikovsky.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €18-€54. More info: www.concertsabarcelona.com

► Masters of the Spanish Guitar

See Wed 6. Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Flamenco

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Sat 2. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Jazz

WTF Jam Session

See Mon 4. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Tuesday 12

Classical

Arnold Schoenberg Choir

Rendition of works by Mendelssohn, Schubert and Brahms, among others. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 8.30pm. €20-€30.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Fri 1. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Flamenco

▶ Live Flamenco

See Mon 4. Sala Tarantos (Plaça Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

► Palacio del Flamenco show

See Sun 3. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC).

Opera

▶ Simon Boccanegra

Plácido Domingo, Leo Nucci and Giovanni Meoni are the three singers who will take the lead role in this dramatic work by Verdi about

14th-century love and Italian politics

Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). Apr 12, 17, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29. 8pm (except Apr 17 5pm). €12-€299.

Jazz

Jazz Night at El Molino

The Biel Ballester Trio are renowned for their European take on jazz. (Vila i Vila, 99). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9.30pm. From €15. elmolinobcn.com

Wednesday 13

Classical

► Masters of the Spanish Guitar

See Fri 1. Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 9.30pm.

Flamenco

► Grand Flamenco Gala

See Fri 8. Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3).

► Tablao Cordobes

See Fri 1. Tablao Cordobes (La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3).

Jazz

Guitar BCN 2016: Marcus Miller

Brooklyn musician presents Afrodeezia (2015), which mixes jazz with African sounds. BARTS (Av. del Paral·lel, 62). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. From €28.

Live Jazz at Jamboree

See Fri 1. (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Pop - 'Canço'

Suite Festival: Manuel Carrasco

Spanish singer-songwriter takes to one of the finest stages in BCN. *Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla,*

51-59). M: Liceu (L3). Apr 13, 27. 9pm. €15-€55.

Thursday 14

Contemporary classical music

Guitar BCN 2016: Ludovico Einaudi

Pianist and composer from Turin presents Elements. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm.

Classical

Vivaldi's Four Seasons

See Mon 11. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

Festival of the Arts: Winterreise

New package of concerts organised by Barcelona Obertura (see page 43) starts with this performance of Schubert's Winter Journey starring baritone Matthias Goerne. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €15-€60.

Electronica

Kygo

The greatest hits of the Norwegian DJ will get Barcelona moving. Sant Jordi Club (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M: Espanya (L1; L3; FGC). 9.30pm. €33.

Flamenco

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Sat 2. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Indie

Guitar BCN 2016: Tindersticks

Nottingham (UK) band are already classic contemporaries, the equivalent of Scott Walker for the indie generation. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Giòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9pm. €20-€38.

APPS

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Opera

Opera at Palau Dalmases

See Thu 7. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4).

Friday 15

Blues

► Blues at the MEAM

See Fri 1. (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4).

Classical

Händel's Serse

Concert version of opera seria from mid-1700s.

Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). Apr 15 8pm;

Apr 16 6pm. €10-€187.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Fri 1. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

OBC Concert: Gershwin Festival

Andrew Grams conducts and Alexei Volodin is on piano.

L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Apr 15 8.30pm; Apr 16; 7pm; Apr 17 11am.€10-€56.

Singer-songwriter

Festival del Mil·lenni: Quique González

Singer-songwriter from Madrid presents new album.
Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113).
M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. From €24.

Flamenco

► Guitar BCN 2016: Tomatito

One of the most important flamenco guitarists of recent times. BARTS (Av. del Paral·lel, 62). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). From €25. More info: www.theproject.es.

Soul

▶ Allen Store

US soul musician presents latest work, Radius. La [2] d'Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 111). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm (doors 7.30pm). From €20. More info: livenation.es.

Rock - Catalan

Guitar BCN 2016: Adrià Punti

Catalan musician and actor is touring his latest album, *La clau de girar el taller* (2015). L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9pm. €24.

Pop

Guitar BCN 2016: Bebe

Spanish singer-songwriter visits Sant Cugat on her latest tour. Teatre-Auditori Sant Cugat (Pl. Victòria dels Àngels, 1. Sant Cugat del Vallès). M: Catalunya to FGC: Sant Cugat. 9pm. €28.

Saturday 16

Classical

Bach stories

Performance featuring Chamber Choir of the Palau. Palau de la Música Catalana (Pala

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. €20.

A coffee with... G.F. Händel

Concert featuring professors and students of ancient music.

Museu de la Música (L'Auditori, Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Noon.

€3.50-€5.

Indie - Rock

Florence and the Machine

British band visit on their 'How Blue Tour'.

BARTS (Av. del Paral·lel, 62). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 8pm. €45. More info: www.livenation.es.

Sunday 17

Classical

FREE Shh! We're making music

See Apr 3. Museu de la Música

(L'Auditori, Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2).

Music of Ferran Sor

Guitar pieces by Catalan composer. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Noon. €2-€7.

Gospel - Soul

Musical season at CaixaForum

Winning combination of gospel and soul.(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 7pm. €12.

Young musicians

Josep-Ramon Olivé

Young baritone performs as part of the Musical Residencies cycle. Fundació Catalunya-La Pedrera (Provença, 261-265). M: Provença (FGC) and Diagonal (L3, L5). 6pm. €10. Info: www.lapedrera.com.

Opera

► Simon Boccanegra

See Tue 12. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Monday 18

Classical

Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra

Conductor Daniel Harding and pianist Maria João Pires perform a mixed bag of classical music. *L'Auditori, (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2).* 8.30pm. €26-€132.

Jazz

WTF Jam Session

See Mon 4. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Tuesday 19

Jazz

Live Jazz at Jamboree

See Fri 1. (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Jazz Night at El Molino: Wax & Boogie

Wax & Boogie play classic blues, swing and boogie. (Vila i Vila, 99). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9.30pm. From €15. elmolinobcn.com

Flamenco

► Flamenco at Palau Dalmases

See Sun 10. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4).

Wednesday 20

Classical

► Spanish Guitar Maestros

Barcelona 4 Guitars: two men, two women and four guitars and pure virtuosity. (*Palau de la Música, 4-6*). *M: Urquinaona* (*L1, L4*). 9pm. €30-€35.

'Canço'

Festival del Mil·lenni: Roger Mas

Born into a family of musicians, Mas launched his career back in 1996; here he performs from 2015 album, Irredempt.
L'Auditori, (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2).
9pm. €22-€28.

Flamenco

▶ Live Flamenco

See Mon 4. Sala Tarantos (Plaça Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Thursday 21

Classical

► Masters of the Spanish Guitar

Manuel González performs classic Spanish guitar tunes. Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. €23. Discount at tourist offices. Info: tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Flamenco

► Palacio del Flamenco show

See Sun 3. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC).

Rock

Suite Festival: Chris Cornell

US singer-songwriter, winner of various Grammys and composer for films such as Casino Royale.
Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €30-€70.

Friday 22

Blues

► Blues at the MEAM

See Fri 1. (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4).

Classical

Miguel de Cervantes: Journeys, dreams and utopias

Music fills the royal shipyards on the eve of Sant Jordi. Les Reials Drassanes (Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3). 8.30pm. $\in 10-640$.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Robert Majure presents 'Flamenco Soul' . Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 7pm. €20. tickets. visitbarcelona.com.

OBC in Concert: My homeland

Performance of Smetana's symphonic poems from the 1870s. L'Auditori, (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Apr 22 8.30pm; Apr 23 7pm; Apr 24 11am. €10-€56.

Pop

Primavera Festival in L'Hospitalet: Hombres G

Popular Spanish band from the 1980s are still going strong. La Farga de l'Hospitalet (Barcelona, 2, L'Hospitalet de Llobregat). M: Av. Carrilet (L1). 9.30pm. €22.

Saturday 23

Classical

Classical music at the MEAM

See Sat 2. (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4).

Jazz

Live Jazz

See Fri 1. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3).

Opera

▶ Simon Boccanegra

See Tue 12. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Sunday 24

Classical

Isabel Faust

Mozart's sole requiem, left unfinished at his death. Palau de la Música (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Dpm. 00.

Pop

Primavera Festival in L'Hospitalet: Antonio Orozco

Local musican, who grew up in the city, returns to perform.

La Farga de l'Hospitalet (Barcelona, 2, L'Hospitalet de Llobregat). M: Av. Carrilet (L1). 7pm. €22.

Marlango

Spanish band heavily influenced by Tom Waits – their sound is pop with jazz and blues influences.

BARTS (Av. del Paral·lel, 62).

M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 8pm. From €28.

Monday 25

Classical

Vladimir Ashkenazy

Works by Ravel, Smetana and Rachmaninoff, among others. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €15-€80.

► Masters of the Spanish Guitar

Luis Robisco plays flamenco guitar.

Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. €23. Discount at tourist offices. Info: tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Flamenco

► Flamenco at Palau Dalmases

See Sun 10. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4).

Tuesday 26

Classical

► Spanish Guitar Maestros

Barcelona Guitar Trio & Dance. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €30-€35. Info: tourist offices and tickets. visitbarcelona.com.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Flamenco and classic sounds. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. €20. tickets.visitbarcelona.com

Jazz

Jazz Night at El Molino

Ignasi Terraza, Pierre Boussaquet and Carles GR present their disc, *Reflejos*.

(Vila i Vila, 99). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9.30pm. From €15. elmolinobcn.com

Wednesday 27

Flamenco

▶ Grand Flamenco Gala

See Fri 8. Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3).

Pop – 'Canço'

Suite Festival: Manuel Carrasco

See Wed 13. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Thursday 28

Classical

Ensemble Intercontemporain

Works by Parra, Harvey and Boulez. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €20-€30.

Jazz

Live Jazz at Jamboree

See Fri 1. (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Friday 29

Hip hop

IAM

French hip-hop band present their most recent album, *Arts Martiens*. *Sala Bikini (Av. Diagonal, 547). M: Les Corts, Maria Cristina (L3).* 9pm. €20.

► Pastora Galván returns

See Tue 1. Tablao Cordobes (La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3).

Classical

OBC in concert: Jordi Savall

Savall conducts the orchestra in a performance of popular classics. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Apr 29 8.30pm: Apr 30 7pm. €10-

Pop

Guitar BCN 2016: Carmen Bouza

Up-and-coming singer-songwriter is currently on a tour of Spain. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9.30pm. €15.

Saturday 30

Flamenco

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Sat 2. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Classical

Classical music at the MEAM

See Sat 2. (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4).

Exhibitions

Arxiu Fotogràfic de Barcelona

(PI. Pons i Clerch, 2). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 34 20. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm. Closed Sun and public holidays.

FREE Pérez de Rosas *Until May* 21. A visual history of Barcelona from 1931 to 1954.

Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona

(Santa Llúcia, 1). M: Jaume I (L4) & Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 256 22 55. Mon-Fri 9am-8.45pm; Sat 9am-1pm. Closed Sun, public holidays.

FREE The Art of Silk in Barcelona Until Apr 30. Exploring 500 years of the city's silk guilds.

CaixaForum

(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 476 86 00. 10am-8pm. €4. Under-16s free.

► Conversations. Masterpieces from Impressionism and Modern Art from the Phillips Collection

Until Jun 19. Major show including work by Picasso, Degas and Rothko.

- ► The Weight of a Gesture Until May 1. See page 42.
- ➤ Windows on the World Until Aug 28. Short films portray the daily lives of communities Africa, Asia and South America.
- ▶ Iconoclastic gestures Until Jun 5. A reflection on the destruction and demystification of the image.

Can Framis, Fundació Vila Casas

(Roc Boronat, 116-126). M: Glòries (L1) & Poblenou, Llacuna (L4). T. 93 320 87 36. Tue-Sat 11am-6pm; Sun 11am-2pm. Closed Mon, public holidays. €5. Reduced: €2.

Collection for a trip Until Apr 3. Art created to fund a students' trip.

The Art of Collecting Until Apr 3.

Works of art that suggest olfactory memories. Ràfols-Casamada Apr 18-Jul 17. Celebration of colour with 40 works by Catalan artist.

Castell de Montjuïc

(Ctra. de Montjuïc, 66). M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC). T. 93 256 44 45.

10am-8pm. €5. Reduced: €3.

Montjuïc, the construction of a castle Permanent exhibition.

Doble Creu Sculpture by Carles Berga. Permanent exhibition.

From mountain to urban park Until Oct. Work of French architect,

Jean-Claude Nicolas Forestier.

CCCB

(Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 306 41 00. Tue-Sun & public holidays 11am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). One exhibition: €6. Two exhibitions: €8. Wed (except public holidays) and for pensioners and students: €4. Under-16s & unemployed: free.

+ Humans Until Apr 10. How the future might be for our species. Making Africa. A continent of contemporary design Until Aug 28. New vision of contemporary African design.

CosmoCaixa

(Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo. T. 93 212 60 50. Tue-Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €4 (permanent and temporary exhibitions). Under-16s free.

- ► The Material Room No end date. Voyage through Universe's history.
- ▶ **3D Planetarium** *No end date.* Installation for exploring space.
- ➤ Flooded forest No end date. Living exhibit with over 100 species from Brazilian jungle.
- ➤ Talking about drugs No end date. Programme that aims to prevent the consumption of drugs.
- ▶ The Birthplace of Humanity No end date. Discover the lives of our ancestors thanks to archaeological finds in Tanzania.

El Born Centre Cultural

(Plaça Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4). T. 93 256 68 51. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €6. Reduced: €4.20. Under-16s free. Sun 3pm-8pm, free. First Sun every month 10am-8pm, free.

FREE Barcelona 1700. From stones to people (Sala Villarroel) 18th-century Barcelona was dynamic and forward-looking, but

marked by war.

FREE Until it is done! (Sala

Casanova) Examining 14-month siege of Barcelona that ended with capitulation to the Bourbons on Sep 11, 1714.

Espai VolART-Fundació Vila Casas

(Ausiàs March, 22). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 481 79 85. Tue-Fri 5pm-8.30pm; Sat 11am-2pm, 5pm-8.30pm; Sun 11am-2pm. Closed Mon and public hols. €1.

Architecture, typography and other volumes *Until Apr 24*. Work by Catalan artist Ramon Enrich, who trained with David Hockney. **Constructed landscapes** *Until Apr 24*. 20th-century paintings by Jaume Mercadé (1889-1967) who used a variety of genres to portray his native Tarragona.

Fundació Antoni Tàpies

(Aragò, 255). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 487 03 15. Tue-Sun 10am-7pm. Closed Mon. €7. Students and pensioners: €5.60.

Documents of action *Until May 22.*Around 60 works from the Anthony Denney Collection and Daniel Cordier Collection. **Antoni Tàpies. Collection, 1955-1965** *Until May 22.* Work that the late Catalan artist created during this time.

Fundació Catalunya-La Pedrera

(Pg. de Gràcia, 92). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 902 202 138. 10am-8pm (last entry 7.30pm). €3. Reduced: €2.

Toni Catany. Come and Go *Until Jul* 17. Contemporary photography that uses classical themes.

Fundació Joan Miró

(Parc de Montjuïc, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 443 94 70. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Thu 10am-9pm; Sun & public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public hols). €11. Temp exhibition: €7. Espai 13: €2.50.

Permanent exhibition Most important public collection of works by the Catalan artist.

Fundación MAPFRE

Casa Garriga i Nogués (Diputació, 250). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 401 26 03. Mon 2pm-8pm; Tue-Sat 10am-8pm. Sun and public holidays 11am-7pm. €3.

Hiroshi Sugimoto *Until May* 8. See page 43.

Fundació Suñol

(Passeig de Gràcia, 98). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 93 496 10 32. Mon-Fri 11am-2pm, 4pm-8pm; Sat 4pm-8pm. Closed Sun and public holidays. €4. Reduced: €3.

Dialogues of the gaze *Until* Sep 10. Collective exhibition exploring the communicative function of art.

Gaudí Exhibition Center

Museu Diocesà (Pla de la Seu, 7). M: Jaume I (L4) and Liceu (L3). T. 93 268 75 82. 10am-8pm. €15. Reduced: €12. More info: www. gaudiexhibitioncenter.com

Walking with Gaudí Interactive exhibition which looks at the life and work of Antoni Gaudí.

Hash Marihuana & Hemp Museum

(Ample, 35). M: Drassanes (L3). T. 93 319 75 39. 10am-10pm. Public holidays 2pm-10pm. €9. Under-13s free.

➤ Permanent exhibition Past, present and future of cannabis. FREE Grow on Until May 1 Three decades of Sensi Seeds, the world's main supplier of cannabis seeds.

Jardí Botànic de Barcelona

(Doctor Font i Quer, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 256 41 60. Permanent display: Daily 10am-7pm. €3.50. Reduced: €1.70. Salvadoriana: Tue-Sun, Mon that are public hols 10.30am-6.30pm. €5. Reduced: €2.50.

Jardí Botànic (MCNB) Plants from global Med climate zones. Salvadoriana. Barcelona's cabinet of curiosities *Until Apr*. Reconstruction of one of BCN's earliest natural history collections.

La Virreina Centre de la Imatge

(La Rambla, 99). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 316 10 00. Tue-Sun and public hols, noon-8pm.

FREE Barcelona, the metropolis in the age of photography, 1860-2004 Until Jun 26. Iconic images

trace the city's urban development.

MACBA. Museu d'Art Contemporani

(Placa dels Àngels, 1). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Sant Antoni (L2). T. 93 412 08 10. Mon-Fri 11am-7.30pm; Sat 10am-9pm; Sun, public hols 10am-3pm. Closed Tues (except public holidays). €10. Reduced: €8.

► Species of space Until Apr 24. Examining the spaces that define us by the way we use them.

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern

(Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 319 56 93. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon. €9. Reduced: €7.

▶ 21st-century art Permanent exhibition of almost 300 paintings and 80 sculptures.

Museu Etnològic

(Pg. de Santa Madrona, 16-22). M: Poble Sec (L3), Espanya (L1,L3:FGC). T. 93 424 68 07. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public hols). Combined ticket for Museu Etnològic + Museu de les Cultures del Món: €5. Reduced: €3.50.

Permanent exhibition Understand society by comparison of places and times. Land of potters Until Jun. Looking at trades associated with water. The sacred, the profane and the festive Until Jun. Origins and prevalence of religious expression in Catalonia.

MIBA. Museu d'Idees i Invents de Barcelona

(Ciutat, 7). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 332 79 30. Tue-Fri 10am-2pm. 4pm-7pm; Sat 10am-8pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2pm. Closed Mon (except public hols). €8. Reduced: €6.

► Permanent exhibition The world of creativity and inventing.

MUHBA EI Call

(Placeta de Manuel Ribé, s/n). M: Liceu (L3), Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 21 22. Mon, Wed, Fri 11am-2pm; Sat-Sun 11am-7pm. Closed Tue. Thu. €2.20. Reduced: €1.54.

The Jews in Medieval Barcelona

Permanent exhibition. Discover how life was for Barcelona's medieval Jewish community.

MUHBA Oliva Artés

(Espronceda, 142-146, Parc Central del Poblenou). M: Poblenou (L4). T. 93 256 21 22. Mon-Fri visits with prior booking only; Wed 10am-2pm; Sat-Sun 11am-3pm, 4pm-6pm.

FREE Interogate Barcelona, from industrialisation to the 21st century Permanent exhibition of recent city history.

MUHBA Park Güell

(Olot, s/n. Casa de la Guarda). M: Vallcarca (L3). T. 93 256 21 22. Tue-Sun 8.30am-9.30pm. The Casa de la Guarda museum is part of park's 'monumental area', and visits are covered by general conditions for admission. Access with ticket only. www.parkguell.cat

Permanent exhibition The Casa de la Guarda, Park Güell and modernista Barcelona.

MUHBA Placa del Rei

(Pl. del Rei). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 21 22. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon. €7. Reduced: €5. Under-16s free. Free Sun from 3pm.

Permanent exhibition Tour of the Roman colony of Barcino. Renaissance Barcelona Until May 16. Journeys made by some of the stones of the museum. Dawn of agricultural development in the Pla de Barcelona From Apr. Looking at a key aspect of the local economy.

MUHBA Refugi 307

(Nou de la Rambla, 169). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 256 21 22. Guided tours with prior booking: Sun 10.30am (Eng), 11.30am (Spanish), 12.30pm (Catalan). Closed public holidays. €3.40.

MUHBA Refugi 307 Underground passageways highlight the city's suffering during the Civil War.

MUHBA Santa Caterina

(Pl. de Joan Capri). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 21 22, Mon. Wed. Sat 7.30am-3.30pm; Tue, Thu-Fri 7.30am-8.30pm. Closed Sun, public hols.

FREE Permanent exhibition

Remains among the foundations of the Santa Caterina market.

MUHBA Temple d'August

(Paradís, 10). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 21 22. Mon 10am-2pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm. Sun 10am-8pm.

Permanent exhibition Remains of site where urbanism and political and religious power combined in Roman Barcelona.

MUHBA Turó de la Rovira

(Marià Labèrnia, s/n). Bus: 119,V17.T.93 256 21 22. General access has no fixed timetable. Museum area: Sat, Sun 10am-3pm.

Permanent exhibition Barcelona to the limit.

MUHBA Via Sepulcral Romana

(Pl. de la Vila de Madrid). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC). T. 93 256 21 22. Tue, Thu 11am-2pm; Sat-Sun 11am-7pm, Closed Mon, Wed, Fri. €2. Reduced: €1.50.

Permanent exhibition This

secondary Roman road was also a burial site for the popular classes in the first and third centuries AD.

Museu Blau

(Pl. de Leonardo da Vinci, 4-5, Parc del Fòrum). M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4). T. 93 256 60 02. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm. Sun & public hols 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public hols). €6. Reduced: €2.70. Museum & Botanical Gardens: €7. Reduced: €3.50. Temp exhibition: €5. Reduced: €3.50.

Nutrition. vital instinct Until Mav 29. Fundamental concepts of food and nutrition.

Museu de Badalona

(Pl. Assemblea de Catalunya, 1. Badalona). M: Badalona-Pompeu Fabra (L2). T. 93 384 17 50. Tue-Sat 10am-2pm, 5pm-8pm; Sun & public hols 10am-2pm. €6. Reduced: €4.80.

Permanent exhibition Remains of the Roman city of Baetulo.

Museu de Montserrat

(Abadia de Montserrat. 08199

Montserrat + zip train. Mon-Sun 10am-5.45pm. €7. Reduced: €6. Temporary exhibition: €3.30.

Rocamora variations Until May 1. The work of Catalan artist Jaume Rocamora uses refined geometry. Emotional geography Until May 22. Selection of work by Josep Guinovart, with landscapes that had a profound impact on his soul.

MEB: Museu de l'Eròtica

Book vour

favourite

restaurants at

timeout.com/

barcelona

in art.

(La Rambla, 96). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 318 98 65. 10am-midnight. €9. Reduced: €8.

▶ Permanent exhibition History of eroticism and its portrayal

The history of vibrators and female hysteria Until May 1.

Museu de la Moto de Barcelona

(C/de la Palla, 10). M: Jaume I (L4).T. 93 318 65 84. Mon-Sat 10.30am-7.30pm; Sun, public hols: check with museum. €7. Reduced: €5. Under-8s free.

► Motorbike. Society, industry, competition Permanent exhibition of the history of the motorbike, from its beginnings as an elite status symbol. > Scooters Until Dec. A look at urban motorcycles such as Vespas and Lambrettas.

Museu de la Música

L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1). T. 93 256 36 50. Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon. €5. Reduced: €3.50. Free entry Sun from 3pm and for under-16s.

Permanent exhibition Take a trip through musical history.

Museu de la Xocolata

(Comerc, 36 - Antic Convent de Sant Agustí). M: Arc de Triomf (L1). T. 93 268 78 78. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-3pm. €5. Group: €4 p/p.

► Permanent exhibition The story of chocolate from its origins.

Museu de les Cultures del Món

(Montcada, 12-14), M: Jaume I (L4), T. 93 256 23 00. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except

Montserrat). FGC: Monistrol de



public hols). €5. Reduced: €3.50.

▶ Permanent exhibition Items gathered in Asia, Africa, Oceania and the Americas.

Museu del Disseny de Barcelona

(Edifici Disseny Hub Barcelona. Pl. de les Glòries Catalanes, 37-38).

M: Glòries (L1).T.93 256 68 00. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public hols). €6. Reduced: €4. Temp exhibition: €4.40. Reduced: €3. Combined: €8. Reduced: €5.50. Free Sun 3pm-8pm and first Sun of the month.

From the world to the museum. Product design, cultural heritage Permanent exhibition. Daily objects from a museum perspective. Dressing the body. Silhouettes and fashion (1550-2014) Permanent exhibition. How women change their shape with clothes. Extraordinary! **Decorative and applied arts** collections (3rd-20th century) Permanent exhibition. Art from across the centuries. Graphic design: from trade to profession Permanent exhibition. Tracing the professionalisation of graphic design. Distinction Until Apr 30. 20th-century fashion photography.

Museu del FC Barcelona

(Aristides Maillol, s/n. Gates 7 and 9). M: Les Corts (L3). T. 902 18 99 00. 9.30am-7.30pm. Some parts closed on match day. €23. Children: €17. Under-6s & FCB members, free.

► Camp Nou Experience Discover 100 years of the club's history and visit the stadium.

Museu del Mamut

(Montcada, 1). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 268 85 20. 10am-8pm. €7.50. Reduced: €5. Children (6-15): €3.50.

► Permanent exhibition Woolly mammoths and other Ice Age animals.

Museu del Modernisme de Barcelona

(Balmes, 48). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 272 28 96. Tue-Sat 10.30am-7pm; Sun, public hols 10.30am-2pm. Closed Mon. €10. Reduced: €7.

▶ Permanent exhibition Works by

key Catalan modernisme artists.

► Ramón Casas and modern life Until May 8 Retrospective of work by Catalan artist Casas with posters, oils and drawings.

Museu Egipci de Barcelona

(València, 284). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 488 01 88. Mon-Fri 10am-2pm, 4pm-8pm; Sat 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. €11. Reduced: €8.

► Permanent exhibition

Hundreds of exhibits give a glimpse of life in Ancient Egypt.

Tutankhamun. Story of a

- discovery No end date. 1922 archaeological expedition that uncovered the pharaoh's tomb.
- ➤ Osiris, Egyptian god Until Jun 30. Find out all about the god of death, resurrection and afterlife.

Museu Frederic Marès

(Pl. de Sant Iu, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 35 00. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun, public hols 11am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €4.20. Reduced: €2.40.

Permanent exhibition Valuable artworks and objects.

Museu Marítim de Barcelona

(Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3). T. 93 342 99 20. 10am-8pm. Temp exhibitions & visit to Santa Eulàlia schooner: €7. Reduced: €3.50. Permanent exhibition closed for remodelling.

Llaverias and the sea Until May 1. Commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Catalan painter (and sailing enthusiast), Joan Llaverias.

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

(Parc de Montjuïc). M: Espanya (L1, L3;FGC). T. 93 622 03 60. Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun, public hols 10am-3pm. Closed Mon (except public hols). €12. Roof terrace €2. Free entry Sat afternoon from 3pm. Temp shows: ask at museum.

➤ Permanent exhibition World's most important collection of Romanesque art and Catalan modernisme. ➤ New masterpieces for the museum Until Jul 3. Show of recently-donated medieval works.

Museu Olímpic i de l'Esport Joan Antoni Samaranch

(Av. de l'Estadi Olímpic, 60). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 292 53 79. Tue-Sat 10am-8pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €5.10. Students: €3.20. Under-7s and over-65s; free.

▶ Permanent exhibition Explore in-depth the worlds of sport and the Olympic Games. ▶ Josep Maria Co i de Triola Until May 1. Sport images from start of 20th century by Catalan photojournalist.

Museu Picasso

(Montcada, 15-23). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 30 00. Tue-Sun 9am-7pm; Thu 9am-9.30pm. Closed Mon. €14 (combined ticket for museum + temporary exhibition). Collection only: €11. Temp exhibition: €4.50.

Permanent exhibition More than 3,800 works from different periods in Picasso's life. Latest donations and acqusitions Until May 15 Works and documents recently added to the museum's archive.

Palau Robert

(Pg. de Gràcia, 107). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 93 238 80 91. Mon-Sat 10am-8pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm.

FREE Rafael Patxot. Patrons. scientist... the man Until May 8. Exploring the work of Patxot in promoting culture and science in Catalonia. FREE We're all Supers! Until Aug 28. Celebrating 25 years of Catalan TV's output for kids. FREE Ripoll Portalada Until Apr 10. In-depth look at this architectural feature from a town in the Pyrenees. FREE Perelada's big moments, 30 years, 30 **images** *Until May 11.* Looking back at 30 years of the Festival Castell de Peralada. FREE Comediants. **Inventors of a new language** Apr 22-Aug 28. Looking back at 44 years of Catalan theatre company.

Pis-museu Casa Bloc

(Pg. Torras i Bages, 91). M: Torras i Bages (L1). Guided tours in Catalan, Spanish and English: reservations must be made in advance before Thu. Guided tours: Sat 11am. Information line: Tue-Fri 10am-1pm;

Thu 3pm-5.30pm. Individual visits: €4. Info: tel. 93 256 68 01 or museudeldisseny.cat.

Casa Bloc A symbol of rational social housing in Barcelona.

Reial Monestir de Santa Maria de Pedralbes

(Baixada del Monestir, 9). FGC: Reina Elisenda. T. 93 256 34 34. Tue-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-7pm. Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public hols). €4.40. Reduced: €3.10.

Plants, remedies & apothecaries
Permanent exhibition. Natural
remedies from medieval garden.

Murals under the magnifying glass
Permanent exhibition. Paintings in
Sant Miquel chapel. Petras Albas
Permanent exhibition. History of the
monastery and the Montcada family.

Theatre

El Molino

(Vilà i Vilà, 99). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 205 51 11. elmolinoben.com. Box offices: Thur-Sat, 5-9pm. Tickets from: Ticketea, Atrapalo, Telentrada, Entradas.com and box offices.

Cabaret Experience Until May 29. Thu 9.30pm; Fri, Sat 6.30pm, 9.30pm. From €24. Cabaret, circus, song and dance. Rumba Experience Apr 1,3,14,23,28. €18.50. There are few things more Barcelona than rumba.

Teatre Gaudí Barcelona

(Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 120). M: Sagrada Família (L2,L5). T. 93 603 51 52. Tlcket office: opens an hour before function starts. www. teatregaudibarcelona.com

T'estimo però no tant *Until Apr* 10. Fri 8.45pm; Sat 6pm, 8.45pm; Sun 6pm. €20. Popular comedy returns for fourth run. In Catalan. **Mozart Mania** *Until Apr* 24. Sun noon. €15. Classical music for all the family.

Teatre Lliure (Sala Fabià Puigserver - Montjuïc)

(Pg. Santa Madrona, 40-46/Pl. Margarida Xirgu, 1). M: Espanya (L1, L3;FGC) & Poble Sec (L3). T. 93 289 27 70. teatrelliure.com A teatro con Eduardo Until May 1. Tue-Fri 8.30pm; Sat 9pm; Sun 6pm. €15-€29. Catalan director Lluís Pasqual takes on this work by Eduardo de Filippo. In Catalan. Surtitles in English on Sat, from Apr 9. Con la bambola in tasca Apr 4-10. Sat-Sun 11.30am, 5pm. €9, €12. Children's theatre. In Spanish. Sota la ciutat Apr 14-May 1. Wed-Fri 9pm; Sat 6pm, 9.30pm. Sun 6.30pm. €12-€23. Play featuring a Barcelona of dreams and defeats. In Catalan.

Teatre Nacional de Catalunya

(Pl. de les Arts, 1). M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2). T. 93 306 57 00. Ticket office: Wed-Fri 3pm-7pm; Sat 3pm-8.30pm; Sun 3pm-5pm. tnc.cat

Nàufrags Apr 9 8pm; Apr 10 6pm. €14-€28. Musical show completes extensive tour. In Catalan. **Tripula/** Farrés Brothers Apr 17-May 1. Wed-Fri 11am; Sun noon; Sat 30 6pm, 7.30pm. €6-€12. Theatre for kids (4 and over). In Catalan.

Teatre Poliorama

(La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3) T. 93 317 75 99. Tlcket office: Tue-Fri from 5pm. Sat, Sun from 4pm until start of show. teatrepoliorama.com

A Midsummer's Night Dream Apr 4 7.30pm. €10. New version of Shakespeare's classic aimed at all the family. In English. Generació de merda Apr 1, 8, 15. 11.30pm. €14. Musical show. In Catalan.

Teatre Tívoli

(Casp, 8-10). M: Catalunya (L1, L3), Passeig de Gràcia (L2,L3,L4). T. 902 888 788.

Sara Baras / 'Voces' Apr 6-May 1. Wed-Thu 8.30pm; Fri 9.30pm; Sat 6.30pm, 9.30pm; Sun 6.30pm. €23-€48. One of the best flamenco bailaoras of recent times presents her latest show. Tickets: www.sarabaras.com

Teatre Victòria

(Av. Paral·lel, 65-67). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 329 91 89. teatrevitoria.com. Ticket office: Wed-Fri, from 5pm. Sat, Sun, from 4pm until performance starts.

Fang i setge Until May 28. Thu

8.30pm; Fri 5.30pm, 9.30pm; Sun 6.30pm. Musical exploring life during 1713 Siege of Barcelona. In Catalan.

Dance

Auditori del Fòrum-CCIB

(Rambla Prim, 2-4). M: El Maresme-Fòrum (L4). More info and tickets: www.livenation.es.

The Next Step Apr 2 8.30pm. €27-€40. Cast of popular TV series show off their skill with a live performance.

Mercat de les Flors

(Lleida, 59). M: Espanya (L1,L3; FGC), Poble Sec (L3).T. 93 426 18 75. Ticket office opens an hour before show starts. mercatflors.cat

+45 Apr 1-3. 8.30pm. €12. Show from Sebastián García Ferro company. Secció irregular: Bad **Translation** *Apr* 8-9. 8.30*pm*. €12. Cris Blanco explores decomposition of meaning through transmission of language. Circ d'ara mateix: La Vide Apr 14-17. 8.30pm. €15. Show from Fragan Gehler, Alexis Auffray and Maroussia Díaz Verbèke kicks off celebration of modern circus. Circ d'ara mateix: InTarsi Apr 22-24. 8.30pm (Sat-Sun 6pm). €15. The Eia company gives another circus perfomance. Circ d'ara mateix: **Sapiens Zoo** *Apr* 23-24. 8.30pm. €15. Piece by Animal Religion. Circ d'ara mateix: La cosa Apr 29-May 1. 8.30pm (Sun 6pm). €15. Italian multidisciplinary artist Claudio Stellato takes to the stage.

Teatre Victòria

(Av. Paral·lel, 65-67). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 329 91 89. teatrevictoria. com. Ticket office: Wed-Fri, from 5pm. Sat, Sun, from 4pm until performance starts.

Carmen Until Apr 10. Wed-Fri 9pm; Sat 6.30pm, 9pm; Sun 6.30pm. €19-€38. The Antonio Gades dance company presents Spanish dance masterpiece. Fuenteovejuna Apr 13-24. Wed-Fri 9pm; Sat 6.30pm, 9pm; Sun 6.30pm. €19-€38. Antonio Gades's company returns with its interpretation of the Lope de Vega theatrical work.



Knockout vegetables

Ricard Martín has been dying to say it: '4 amb 5 Mujades represents a new restaurant concept.' And it's actually true!

It's one of Barcelona's most overused marketing ploys, 'a new restaurant concept', but for once it's 100-percent accurate. I don't know if the idea behind 4 amb 5 Mujades is unique – I suspect there are similar places in Scandinavia, but here it's a radical innovation: 4 amb 5 Mujades is a restaurant where (organic, biodynamically grown) vegetables are the centrepiece of every dish, and where meat and fish are present only in the sauces or broths.



The objective is permaculture; close the circle and become self-sufficient

It's the brainchild of Toni Romero. the chef at Suculent, and his business partner, Javier Cotorruelo. In fact, the name is an homage to Cotorruelo's family allotment in Gavà: a mujada is a unit of land in the Baix Llobregat region, 0.5 hectares. The restaurant's address is Rambla del Raval, 45, just next door to Suculent. And the restaurant has its own vegetable garden! Julien Bruy, the resident gardener, explains that he plants and harvests biodynamically, according to the phases of the moon, and that 'the aim is to achieve permaculture: to close the circle. use food waste as compost and become self-sufficient'. Having just

opened, that's impossible for now, but within a year they'll be growing 80 percent of their own veg, he says. But it's much more than an organic restaurant. Above all, vegetables are king. 'When you roast a suckling pig, you're thinking about the meat and choosing garnishes. We don't work like that here,' says chef Quim Coll, who even rejects the 'vegetarian' label. 'This is for anyone who wants to enjoy vegetables in a different way.'

The menu changes four times a year, obviously, and the seasonal focus means it doesn't adhere to the classic pattern. Instead it's divided into root, leaf, fruit and flower. And moons next to each entry indicate a dish's potency. One moon: Japanese beetroot with sesame, spring onion, soy and trout roe. Two: a delicious salad of fennel with green apple, both diced and in a sorbet, and creamy goat's cheese (the cheese balances the acidity, the sweetish strength of the cheese is defused by the apple - amazing). And three moons: white turnips in a broth of roast quail and grated truffle, or Jerusalem artichokes cooked with cod stock and skins (and all the rich fat released by the cooking process - see photo). These triumphs of haute cuisine will cause rivers of ink (and sauce) to be spilt. I was tempted to conclude it's vegetarian cuisine at its most macho, but I'll put it like this: these vegetables are a knockout.

A logical continuation

Less ambitious but very enjoyable is the new restaurant from Claudio Hoyos, owner of El Filete Ruso. At





El Mercader he's gone 100-percent organic – Hoyos has a 300m2, organic-certified smallholding in Collserola, and all their meat and dairy is organic, too. 'This is the logical continuation of El Filete,' he says, referring to the fact that his first restaurant pioneered organic burgers in BCN. The name of the new spot pays tribute to Josep Mercader (founder of the Hotel Empordà in Figueres and one of the

originators of modern Catalan cooking). You'll notice one of Hoyos's passions, the traceability of the ingredients. 'The menu shows the origin of every foodstuff and every producer, and, if the customer wants, we can show them the invoice,' he laughs. The unusual corner location is as cute as they come. And although they're not the first to do it, their revivals of traditional Catalan recipes for

Edited by Ricard Martín rmartin@timeout.cat @RicardMartn







special occasions are pretty stunning. Ultra-phallic cannelloni have all the sinful goodness of roast meat and a hint of liver that will awaken many a Catalan's childhood memories. And the salt cod, fresh and full of flavour, flakes tenderly on a bed of Santa Pau beans cooked to perfection. All with serving sizes that are just bigger than half portions, making them ideal for sharing.

MORE ORGANIC



NONONO

Local celebrity chef Isma Prados has moved on, but Carles Ros has picked up the baton of organic, biodynamic Catalan cuisine, with hearty recipes and an attractive set lunch menu. (Ptge. de Lluís Pellicer, 12)



ORGANIC'S

Their motto is 'slow fast food'. All the ingredients at Organic's are certified organic: at lunchtime, there's a range of salads, hamburgers, pasta and rice for healthy, high-speed eating.

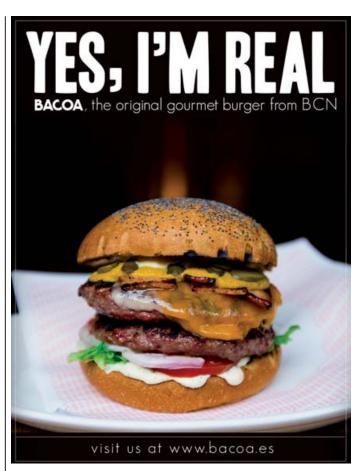
(Pl. Urquinaona, 14)

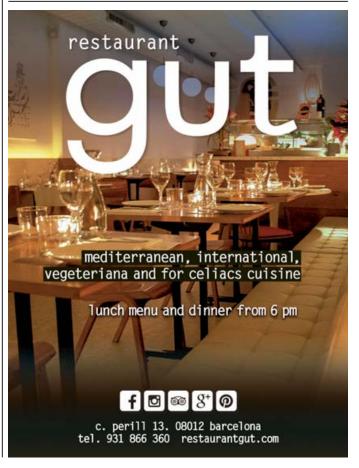


OBBIO

Gobsmacking: a 700m2 organic supermarket (you'll find products there you never dreamt existed) that includes a restaurant-cafeteria, which sells dishes by weight.

(Muntaner, 177)





BARCELONA'S BEST FRIED CALAMARI RINGS

Don't accept the frozen kind!

SARRIÀ

ÀBAC

As part of the tasting menu, Jordi Cruz serves a tartare of fried calamari with citrics. Av. Tibidabo, 1.

LES CORTS

EL BISAURA

More than a market bar, this is a quality seafood restaurant with classic calamari. Mercat de Les Corts. Trav. de Les Corts, 215. WHEN
IT COMES TO
TAPAS BASICS, CAL
PEP (PL. DE LES OLLES,
8) IS A GUARANTEE – AND
THE CALAMARI ARE
NO EXCEPTION

EIXAMPLE DRET

CAN ROS

The fried calamari that this bodega makes are so divine, they only prepare them on Sundays. Roger de Flor, 303.

LA BARCELONETA

LA COVA FUMADA

You might have to eat them quickly, while standing up and being shoved by other diners, but they're worth it. *Baluart*, 56.

Haute cuisine at Barça



The meagre eating options at Camp Nou are no longer limited to botifarra sausage sandwiches – the FC Barcelona stadium has just seen the opening of Roma 2009, a restaurant open to the public that functions as a complement to the Camp Nou Experience tour. It's managed by signature catering company Singularis, with advisory roles taken by the Iglesias brothers, the owners of some of Barcelona's most acclaimed eateries, namely Rías de Galicia, Cañota and Espai Kru.

Located in the upper tiers of the grandstand, Roma 2009 is open from 10am to 6pm on the days

that tours are available – the only exceptions are match days, when it will be used instead for VIP hospitality.

The menu combines innovation and tradition: from Palamós prawns and oysters to tartares and ceviches, all created to order in an open kitchen at the bar. Among the mains, a highlight is the black monkfish stew with prawns and clams from the Galician town of Carril.

ROMA 2009

Camp Nou. Gate 19. Arístides Maillol, 12 (Les Corts). T. 93 290 68 78.

Glups!



1000

Pg. de Sant Joan, 7 (Eixample Dret). Daily 8am-11pm.

We comic collectors know that when we go to buy our favourite vice, the experience doesn't end when we leave the shop. It's obligatory to go a bar and flick through your new acquisition while enjoying a beer and a snack. At Norma Editorial, one of the city's most popular comic shops, they know this all too well and have finally closed the circle with Glups! Head to this multifaceted space located next to the store to enjoy a vermouth, coffee or various nibbles, all accompanied by your latest purchases.

The idea is simple and amazing at the same time. Glups! has a door that connects directly with the shop. And the venue demonstrates its comic book soul thanks to author Daniel Torres's magnificent mural (such wall designs are the identifying hallmark of any modern space), along with neutral furniture, warm pieces of wood and an up-to-date aesthetic for all tastes and ages. I order a gin and tonic with

Seagram's – it comes just as it should, in a wide glass and without vegetable slices– and pair it with some really delicious nachos and a perfect guacamole.

There's not a huge range of alcohol, but that's not really what will bring customers in. At Glups! they prefer to look after clients with a menu that's otaku-friendly and features quality food for everybody: sandwiches, fries, premium burgers, wraps and gyoza. The fact that they haven't set prices high makes going there even more worthwhile. In addition, in the spacious lower floor they celebrate special events related to comic books, and have screens to show football matches. But they still have one more ace up their sleeve, and I'll bet my Muscle Man Kubricks that it will make this the most sought-after spot among the nerd community when the good weather arrives: a majestic terrace on Passeig de Sant Joan where there'll be duels to the death with lightsabers to grab a place. Long live Glups! - Òscar Broc

FOOTNOTE The ideal place for flicking through your comics.

NEED TO KNOW

NEIGHBOURHOOD PEOPLE

At Glups! you'll find more than just comic book fans. The night I went, the tables were full of families devouring hamburgers. So locals have also made the place their own.

SET LUNCH MENU

The menu is full of well-priced treats, but they've also thought about workers. They serve a comprehensive set lunchtime menu for 10.95, which includes various Japanese specialities.

Into the fire





Hake & potatoes

Pau Arenós visits The Fish & Chips Shop, and finds three Pakistani foodies reinterpreting British street food for Barcelona

The beer at The Fish & Chips Shop is served cold in metal cups, which keeps it at an ideal temperature. Mani Alam, born in Islamabad but better adapted to Barcelona than one of the city's bike lanes, tells me that's how they serve beer in Pakistan. Let's hope it catches on with those people who pour beers that have bubbles as warm as a hot tub. Mani, his brother Magid and his brother-in-law Bilal run the The Fish & Chips Shop, a minuscule eatery where people queue to order the quintessential British takeaway food (although it is possible to eat in, if you can bag one of the few bar stools): white fish in a simple, crispy batter.

Mani and his two partners have reinterpreted a streetfood classic in gourmet style. The result is chunks of linecaught hake coated in a smoked tempura batter – which they smoke themselves (see below) – and then deep-fried in vegetable oil. Once cooked it's served with paper cones of chips (made of potatoes with their skins left on) and two dipping sauces, one a tartare, the other a chutney, both home-made. Clever ideas to raise the game of a dish whose main failing is

WHAT ELSE?

Look out for:

Wednesday lunchtimes – it's very quiet.

Recommended if:

You like the idea of a gourmet chippie.

Stay away if:

You'd be perfectly happy with frozen fish fingers.

that it tastes of... of what exactly? Travellers nostalgic for London mainly remember the texture and the smell, neither of them edifying. Mani is a cocktail waiter, and it was from this new branch of the juggler's trade that he got the idea for the smoked batter. 'I used a cocktail-making trick. In Great Britain the fish is usually cod. We prefer hake. And it's a healthier touch.'

The men were recommended to me by Albert Adrià (brother of ultra-chef Ferran) who is boosting the district's economy with his company El Barri, which is behind several restaurants in the area. Adrià approves of their business model (the USP) and the designs skills of Mani, who has decorated this cubbyhole in an attractively urban style: sharp graphics, painted

murals, and airport magazines such as *Monocle*.

The fish and chips are good, crunchy to the bite, as are the fried edamame (Japanese soy beans) with a drop of truffle oil - that I personally would omit, although it isn't overpowering. Crispy batter breaks off their deep-fried asparagus spears like slabs of plaster off a wall, and the romesco dipping sauce (made with red pepper and nuts) adds a jolt of pure joy. The seitons (European anchovies) provide an oily fish option. When I go, they're out of cocotxes en escabetx, pickled cod's cheeks, which they make each evening in a nearby prep room. I finish up with an espresso, from the excellent El Magnífico brand. To sum up, a short, well-thought-out menu in a setting designed down to the last detail. Barcelona is fitting the last pieces into a jigsaw of the planet's gastronomy.

The Alams' relationship with cooking is tangential – their uncle owns a Pakistani restaurant. So why a fish and chips shop? Because one night they emerged from the Apolo club with a craving for fish and chips and didn't know where to get it. So they decided to open a shrine to the British icon. One wonders what would have happened if they'd wanted that other British pub classic, steak and kidney pie.

THE FISH & CHIPS SHOP

Rocafort, 70 (Eixample Esquerre). T. 602 823 272. Price: €10 (without wine).

Craft beer: Liquid gold in a bottle

Buy yours at The Beer Shop (Amigó, 34) or Lambicus (Tamarit, 107)

Capfoguer creation, and it's notably bitter.

Like a lot of other places at the moment, Barcelona is enjoying the craft beer boom. Here are a few of the best local varieties. By Aitor Labrador

FRUITY FLAVOURS	ALL IN THE RECIPE	BEWARE OF THE ALCOHOL
UNISCH) PA	Espiga	
MONTSENY - ANIVERSARI IPA (6.4%) Good body, excellent foam and aromas of tropical fruits from New World hops.	ESPIGA – BLONDE ALE (4.5%) This gluten-free beer won a bronze medal at the 2015 Dublin Craft Beer Cup.	LA PIRATA – TREMENDA (8.5%) The hefty alcohol content is well integrated, with a bitter finish and heavy malt base.
	MAN DRIL	THE STATE OF THE S
ROSITA - NEGRA (6%) Brown ale with hazelnuts from Alcover (Tarragona) - and you can really taste them.	MANDRIL - PALE ALE (5.4%) Hailing from the Costa Brava, this ale includes a complex mix of Slovenian and US hops.	LA CALAVERA - MEDICAL STOUT (8%) Ideal to go with desserts, it's dark like coal, with hints of coffee, liquorice and spirits. A cure-all.
Ka Ka		Capioguer
MOSKA – POMA (5%) In the mix are orange peel and mashed apple. It's	FORT - AMERICAN PALE ALE (5.5%) They use pale malts and a touch of crystal malt	CAPFOGUER - HILILLOS (9.5%) This Russian Imperial Stout is the strongest

They use pale malts and a touch of crystal malt to give the APA its special colour.

tart and opaque due to natural fermentation.

Catalan cuisine

7 Portes

The eponymous seven doors open on to as many dining salons, all kitted out in elegant 19th-century decor. Long-aproned waiters bring regional dishes, including a fishy zarzuela stew with half a lobster, a different paella daily (shellfish, for example, or rabbit and snails), a wide array of fresh seafood, and heavier dishes such as herbed black-bean stew with pork sausage, and orujo sorbet to finish. Reservations are available only for certain tables; otherwise, get Don't go there early. hungry. Book restaurants at Passatge Isabel II, 14. timeout.com/ T. 93 319 30 33.

and wonderfully comfortable. Còrsega, 200. T. 93 453 20 20. M: Hospital Clínic (L5)

Bar El Velódromo

This classic serves quality dishes from early morning until the wee hours. With Jordi Vilà (one of the city's cooking maestros) at the helm, they produce an endless succession of dishes and tapas that will teach you about Catalonia's gastronomic heritage. The full menu is available all day, so if you fancy some lberian ham at 7am or a croissant for a midnight snack, this is the place to go.

Muntaner, 213. T. 93 430 60 22. M: Hospital Clínic (L5)

M: Barceloneta (L4)

Agut

Barcelona has a wealth of eateries that have improved over the years. Many are back on the map after having been forgotten, while some provide the added bonus of having modernised without going mad, allowing them to catch up with the demand for quality products that clients want. One such case is Agut. Gignàs, 16. T. 93 315 17 09.

M: Drassanes (L3), Jaume I (L4)

Freixa Tradició

The return of Josep Maria Freixa to his family home, now that his son Ramón has gone off to enjoy fame in Madrid, has resulted in a real celebration of traditional cuisine – pig's trotters with prunes and pine nuts, cuttlefish with artichokes, and perhaps the finest macaroni in Barcelona.

Sant Elies, 22. T. 93 209 75 59.

M: Sant Gervasi (FGC)

Restaurant Gaig

It's currently all the rage for Barna's top chefs to set up more-affordable offshoots, and this one is under the guiding hand of Carles Gaig. His approach in this restaurant, as in his other ventures, is a return to grandmotherly Catalan basics, and the favourite dish here is the canelons – hearty, steaming tubes of pasta filled with shredded beef and topped with a fragrant béchamel. The various dining rooms manage to be both modern

Can Cisa/Bar Brutal

Wine bars

This restored neighbourhood bar combines a classic bodega at the entrance with a wine bar at the back. They stock 300 wines, all from organic or bio-dynamic producers around the world (so no nasty chemicals or additives), and at accessible prices.

Princesa, 14.T.93 319 98 81.

M: Jaume I (L4)

Casa Mariol

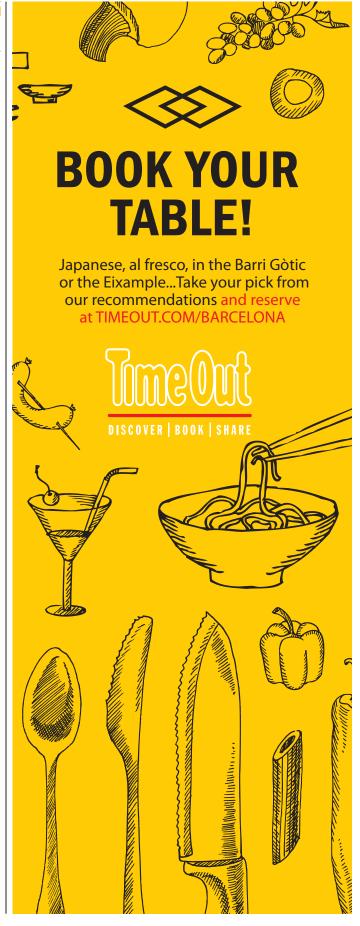
At the Casa Mariol Wine Bar, which is part of the bodega of the same name, you'll have the chance to get to know suau – a version of a drink (a blend of soda and coffee) that was popular in the Ribera de l'Ebre region decades ago. You can also taste cask wines from the Ebre, accompanied by a nice clotxa (bread stuffed with herring, onions, tomatoes and garlic), then top it all off with delicious cakes from Batea (a town in the Ebre area).

Rosselló, 442. T. 93 436 76 28.

M: Sagrada Família (L2,L5)

Bar Nostàlgic

Although it's located in the fashionable Sant Antoni market area, this bar does not mimic the Nordic aesthetic of many local establishments. They serve a good selection of wines, particularly from Catalonia, plus they have cold beer on tap and an impressive list of gins, malt whiskies and special



rums. Gin and tonics, spritz... they make it all, including tapas to please even the most sybaritic palates.

Viladomat, 38. M: Sant Antoni (L2)

Magatzem Escolà

It looks like a hoarder's paradise of wine bottles, but the shop's staff know exactly where everything is. You'll find a great variety of products, which is the result of a company that really knows its business and has spent more than half a century dedicated to wine distribution. Keep a lookout for their wine tasting and cocktail events.

Comercial, 13. T. 93 167 26 55. M: Barceloneta (L4)

Monvínic

This is one of the largest information centres for wine not only in Europe but the world over. It's also a wine bar and restaurant. The latter – which focuses on traditional cuisine with a creative touch – is excellent, by the way. Diputació, 249.
T. 93 272 61 87.
M: Universitat (L1,L2)

Seafood

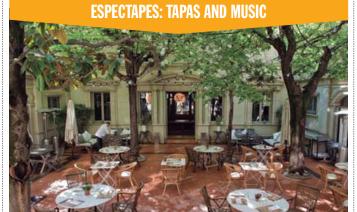
Els Pescadors

Josep Maulini and his wife have turned this into a lovely spot, combining antique furniture with modern decor, and retaining its air of a small-town bar. One delicious recommendation: grilled sardines in sauce, though they don't always have them. Rice dishes are a staple on the menu, and never disappoint. Plaça Prim, 1.

T. 93 225 20 18. M: Poblenou (L4)

Rías de Galicia

This restaurant is the setting for the Iglesias family's wonderful relationship with the finest seafood. The menu includes Cantabrian lobster with garlic, John Dory and txangurro crab cannelloni. And when it's in season, they have the exquisite Bordeaux lamprey. Lleida, 7. T. 93 423 45 70. M: Espanya (L1,L3,FGC)



El Principal de l'Eixample

A pretty courtyard, varied dining options, and tapas nights with live music are all on offer at El Principal. This month's *Espectapes* show (drink + three tapas: €22) sees singer Daniel Anglès perform tunes by Rocío Jurado. *Provença*, 286. *Apr* 5, 12, 26. 8.30pm. www.elprincipaleixample.com

Tabarca Langosta's Club

Tino Martínez, sailor and chef extraordinaire, has an unusual restaurant in Barcelona specialising in lobster. He has recovered the recipes of the lobster fishermen from the island of Tabarca, and uses them to create a menu that includes lobster and rice cooked in the lobster stock.

Comte Borrell, 160. T. 661 074 704.

M: Universitat (L1,L2)

Pizza

La Bella Napoli

There can be few Barcelona residents who haven't tried the wonderful pizzas served in this place with an authentic Italian atmosphere and noisy, cheerful waiters. Book a table if you're going at the weekend.

Margarit, 14. T. 93 442 50 56.

M: Paral·lel (L2,L3)

La Bricciola

A real Italian trattoria with good pizzas and fantastic pasta.
Features a noteworthy wine list and some great Italian grappa.
Olzinelles, 19.T. 93 432 19 33.
M: Mercat Nou (L1)

Murivecchi

This restaurant-trattoria is a direct relative of Un Posto al Sole in C/Urgell (No 188), and they both make really good pizzas.

Princesa, 59. T. 93 315 22 97.

M: Jaume I (L4)

Piazze d'Italia

A temple of southern Italian cuisine with an innovative and provocative twist. The pizza chef makes the dough spin and dance above his fingertips before transforming it into an outstanding crust. Try their sweet Nutella pizza, which is completely over the top but not to be missed.

Casanova, 94. T. 93 323 59 77. M: Rocafort (L1)

Tapas

Bar del Pla

Positioned somewhere between a French bistro and a tapas bar, Bar del Pla serves tapas and small plates (divine pig's trotters with foie, superb *pa amb tomàquet*). Drinks include Mahou on tap (a fine beer that's often ignored here because it's from Madrid), plus some good wines by the glass.

Montcada, 2. T. 93 268 30 03. M: Jaume I (L4)

El Jabalí

This deli bar, which is reminiscent of Av. Paral·lel in its heyday, is a great place to eat wonderful tapas – try the patatas bravas, the chicken salad and the cured sausage – while sipping on good wine. It's also a nice place to sit on the terrace and do some serious people watching.

Ronda Sant Pau, 15.

T. 93 441 10 82.

M: Paral·lel (L2,L3)

Tapas 24

Another nu-trad tapas bar focusing on quality produce. Among the oxtail stews, fried prawns and cod croquettes, however, fans of chef Carles Abellan will also find playful snacks more in keeping with his signature style. The McFoie Burger is an exercise in fast-food heaven, as is the bikini, a small version of his take on the ham-and-cheese toastie.

Diputació, 269. T. 93 488 09 77. M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2,L3,L4)

La Tieta

Chickpeas with prawns, potato omelette, mushrooms with garlic and parsley, amazing olives – the prob lem is knowing where to start. La Tieta offers good wine (no classics, just what takes their fancy that week), bottles of vermouth and an endless flow of draught beer, while the food is good traditional fare made from fresh ingredients, with skill and enthusiasm. Blai, 1. T. 93 186 35 95. M: Paral·lel (L2,L3)

Taverna Mediterrània

This small Eixample restaurant combines traditional intentions with a clear determination to do things differently. Classic tapas are made with a touch of added imagination and effort – recommendations include Andalusian-style fried squid rings, delicious stuffed roast pork and their 'city's second-best' bravas. Enric Granados, 58. T. 626 86 68 21. M: Diagonal (L3,L5); FGC: Provenca

LGBT

Edited by Martí Sales

msales@timeout.cat @itramselas



The great hostesses

The little sister of Melon Party is called Carita Bonita and gets the weekend started every Friday at a spot in the Gaixample. By **Cristina Carbonell**

I arrive at Carita Bonita two days before it's due to open. It's almost 9pm on a weekday and I find myself in front of a place that's called Presing, in Barcelona's gay neighbourhood par excellence, the Eixample. Outside, two women and a man are looking at an illuminated sign they've just put up bearing the name of the new party night. We say hello and introduce ourselves, and the women explain that the sign will go up and down, that the Carita Bonita ('pretty face') will only show itself on Friday nights.

Veterans of the scene

For five years, Ursu and Mireia have been in charge of Melon Party, a popular monthly theme party for lesbians. 'We've organised 46 already,' says Mireia. The pair are happy, radiating enthusiasm for the

new opening, and full of pride, not so much for the fact that they host one of the longest-running parties in the city, but rather because they're 'survivors'. Along the way they've seen other well-known lesbian fiestas fall by the wayside. They insist that they're not at all tired from the past five years of Melon, and the proof is that they have the energy to put themselves into the spotlight not just once a month but now every week.

This duo are always on the front line. They live up to their roles as party hostesses, always looking to spread happiness and good vibes. And they know their stuff. What motivates them, they say, is that women come and have a good time. 'What makes it all worthwhile is when, for instance, one of these women sees you one

day and tells you that you made their week thanks to the great time they had and how comfortable they felt. That's priceless.' Ursu and Mireia complement each other. They share knowing looks. 'After all these years we know each other really well and we're a good team, because whatever I can't get done, she does, and vice versa. We're very balanced,' says Ursu, as Mireia nods in agreement.

A challenge for a laugh

The first Melon Party started as a kind of joke challenge. 'We were at a weekend party in the countryside, and we had a great time. We were talking and talking, and said to each other, "Come on, what would it take for us to do

And here we are.' Here they are indeed. Just four shy of their 50th Melon Party event and about to inaugurate Carita Bonita.

something

like that?"

We end the interview by taking our picture in Presing's photo booth, another survivor in this age of selfies and social networks. Unlike the overpriced machines you find in metro stations, this one is sponsored and free. 'The girls who come to the parties love it,' I'm told. Another fun touch from these women who are more than just pretty faces.

CARITA BONITA

València, 196 (Eixample Esq.). T. 685 99 96 35.

Clubs

Edited by Ricard Martín

rmartin@timeout.cat @RicardMartn



It's no secret that Tiga likes Barcelona, Whenever he can, he makes sure that his visits to the city coincide with a Barça match he's a fanatic for the joc bonic (beautiful game) style of Messi and Injesta; on Twitter he spends more time comenting on the matches than talking about music - and if it's not the football that motivates him to come, then it's the opportunity to play at festivals or clubs that raise his prestige. He normally makes two obligatory stops in the Catalan capital over the course of a season: one at Sónar - always in a position of privilege, generally closing one of the big stages because he's well-practised in that craft and knows how to manage the ecstasy of the party crowd - and the other at one of the big city clubs. This time it's the latter, and at Sala

Razzmatazz, but what won't change is the result: there are few DJs who are more regular, efficient and satisfactory in the work they do.

Truth be told, Tiga has no secret to hide. His formula is as simple



Tiga has added variants to the mix but without losing his essence

as they come: have fun without veering too much into risky territory, taking the audience by the hand and transporting them to a world of fantasies that has a familiar language. When he started to really shine on the

electronic circuit, Tiga was a hero for the electroclash movement; as such, he played electro, synthetic pop, house with an acid touch and elegant techno, all with a certain glam leaning. As the years have passed, and electroclash has faded while he's staved at the top of the game, Tiga's adjusted the recipe without changing it entirely. So you still know more or less what to expect from him: sometimes in his suitcase he carries material that's deeper, or more Detroit, or more vocal, but one thing he'll never do is startle you with something he's not. If it's a question of going out at night and having fun without any kind of higher aspiration, Tiga is a sure thing.

However, you have to take into account that the new album he's currently promoting – his third,

following Sexor (2005) and Ciao! (2009) – is slightly less pop and slightly more techno. He continues to sing, and the tracks still follow the structure of a song, but the finished product is more abstract and closer to the language of Detroit than before. This means that Tiga may have introduced some variants into the mix, that now there'll be elements that are harder, more Detroit, but he won't lose his personal essence. In short, he's like the style of play at FC Barcelona: whether maintaining possession or going on the counter-attack, the objective is to triumph in this most beautiful game.

Tiga performs at The Loft @
Razzmatazz on Friday 29
at 1am. €13 in advance (plus fee).
€17 on door. Price includes drink.
www.salarazzmatazz.com



Eclipse

The W Hotel, at the southerly point of the city beaches, hosts nightly parties in its 26th-floor space, Eclipse. This month check out tech house and treats at Candy Shop (Sat 2), and cocktails and hip hop with the New Geisha Club (Fri 22). Pl. Rosa dels Vents. Free. www.eclipse-barcelona.com

Sessions

Nasty Mondays

Tattoos, sweat and rock 'n' roll: the city's wildest Monday night party. Miss it at your peril. Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Mon midnight. €15 (on the door). €14 (advance).

Raw Rebels

Dance to the best beats of the '40s, '50s and '60s, with local and international DJs, in the heart of the city.

Sidecar Factory Club (Plaça Reial, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Tue

12.30am. €5. Price includes one drink.

Wednesdays at Moog

Hear big names in international techno and enjoy one of Barcelona's most authentic atmospheres.

Moog (Arc del Teatre, 3). Wed midnight. €5 (on the door). €5 (advance).

Canibal Sound System

Live acts, DJs and roots music make for an underground vibe at

this long-running club night.
Sala Apolo (details above). Wed
12.30am. €12 (on the door).
€9 (advance). Price includes
one drink.

Cupcake

Take a trip down memory lane without forgetting to live in the moment, with hits from the '70s right up to the present day. Sala Apolo (details above). Thu 12.30am. €10 (on the door). €8 (advance). Price includes one drink.

The Bus Music Club

Session celebrating noncommercial, non-mainstream and underground music. Razzmatazz (Almogàvers, 122). M: Marina (L1), Bogatell (L4). Thu midnight. €15 (on the door). €13 (advance). Price includes one drink.

Trill

Spain's biggest future beats club night features the up-and-coming stars of the hardcore continuum.

Razzmatazz (details above). Sat 1am. €17 (on the door). €13 (advance). Price includes one drink.



Getaways

From the earth to the stars

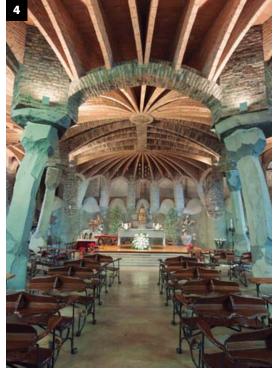
Get out of the city this month for a food festival, a Roman celebration, more Gaudí and a view of the heavens. By **Nick Chapman**







1. Observatory in Castelltallat
2. Alicia Festival of Gastronomy
3. Magna
Celebratio
4. Gaudí crypt at Colònia Güell, Santa Coloma



1. Houses of the stars Take a look up, and discover the wonders of the cosmos at the astronomical observatories all over the Barcelona region. There are observatories in Castelltallat (observatoricastelltallat.com). Pujalt (observatoridepujalt.cat), Sabadell (astrosabadell.org), Tiana (astrotiana.com) and in the Garraf (oagarraf.net). Many make the most of the province's rugged coastal hills and inland mountains, offering excellent conditions and clear skies for stargazing and a regular programme of observations, talks and family workshops.

Barcelona is much more

2. Alicia Festival of Gastronomy The Alicia Foundation brings together food and science to promote technological innovation in cooking, good eating habits and the region's agricultural and gastronomic culture. Its base is at the Món Sant Benet site in Sant Fruitós de Bagès, a cultural heritage centre built around a Benedictine monastery. This year they're celebrating their fourth annual festival with two days of activities, presentations and guided tours, which are all open to the general public and are designed to show that eating healthily and well can be easy and fun. Apr 30 - May 1. www.alicia.cat/ festaalicia; www.monstbenet.com

3. Magna Celebratio Badalona, BCN's neighbour to the north, was once the site of the Roman city of Baetulo. Every year it commemorates its history with the region's largest festival of Roman culture organised by Badalona Museum. You can enjoy guided visits of the city's archaeological sites and monuments, with reconstructions of daily life during the Roman era, demos of typical trades, and workshops where you can try your hand at Roman crafts and cooking. You can even sample Roman recipes at many of the city's restaurants, which offer a special historical menu.

Apr 28 – May 1. www.magnacelebratio.cat 4. Close to Barcelona city Armed with a multizone travel card, you can visit dozens of fascinating sites within BCN's metropolitan area by metro, bus, tram or train. The Güell crypt in Santa Coloma is a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of Gaudí's key works. In Sant Joan Despí, there are more modernista gems from architect Josep Maria Jujol. Esplugues de Llobregat has reminders of the area's ceramics past at the Fàbrica Pujol i Bausis-La Rajoleta, a factoryturned-museum, and in the Catalan tiles at the Museu de Can Tinturé. And Cornellà de Llobregat's Museu Agbar de les Aigües shows how the area got its drinking water. turisme.elbaixllobregat.cat

www.barcelonaismuchmore.com



DO YOU KNOW
OF A JAPANESE
RESTAURANT THAT
DOESN'T COST AN
ARM AND A LEG?

WHERE DO THEY MAKE THE BEST BURGERS IN THE CITY?



ARE THERE ANY OPEN-AIR FAIRS OR FESTIVALS? CAN YOU RECOMMEND THINGS TO DO WITH THE KIDS?

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WHAT ARE The coolest Nightclubs?



WHERE DO THEY MAKE THE BEST COCKTAILS IN BARCELONA?





Rótulos Roura owl

This is one of the most famous signs in the city, sitting atop a building on the busy corner of Pg. de Sant Joan and Av. Diagonal. As it's so emblematic for locals, this mussol was exempted from the application of laws uniforming urban aesthetics, and it's even been restored so that now, from time to time, it winks.

Screen in Universitat

It's obvious that the majority of people who use the Universitat metro station are young, because that's where a giant screen has been installed, in the vestibule of Line 2. It shows nonstop fashion ads featuring very sexy youngsters, which make us mere mortals without make-up feel even more mortal.

Lamp post banners

We're not sure who's in charge of designing them, but if the banners aren't displaying something about politics it's impossible to know what they're promoting. An exhibition? A series of talks? A festival? Often you need eagle eyes to be able to see the email address, so you can ask someone what the banners are going on about.

Buses

Every space used for advertising has its own specialities, and Barcelona buses tend to publicise plays, film openings and theme parks. What's annoying about the ads is that they cover the windows, so for those of us on board who like to amuse ourselves watching the world go by, they're no fun.

Photocopies

These are the most basic kind of city ad. We're talking about those





sheets with little pull-off slips cut along the bottom with the mobile numbers of poor maths graduates desperately looking to give one-to-one classes, or of philosophy or language students seeking babysitting gigs.

'Posa't guapa'

This was one of the slogans from the exciting pre-Olympics era when Barcelona wanted to clean up its façades. 'Make yourself beautiful' was followed by 'It's the best shop in the world'.



Times have changed, and now Barcelona is a city of refugees. Although still as vain as it was at the time of the Olympic Games.

Vintage

At Encants flea market, the Sant Antoni Sunday market, and in old bookshops, you can find lots of interesting historical adverts. You might find proclamations of the 1931 Republic, or images of children holding cava bottles (nowadays this would be seen as an incitement to kids to drink alcohol) and real housewives making choccy drink Cola-Cao.

7

Advertising columns

When there's an election coming, these get inundated overnight, and remain that way until some lose and others win - or everybody wins - and the columns return to their principal function of advertising concerts. Of course, as you don't need any licence to put an ad up on them, it's no wonder they're so popular.



Overloaded postboxes

In lots of apartment buildings, the residents try to protect themselves from endless flyer deliveries with a sign saying 'No commercial post' - but it makes little difference. Their postboxes still fill up with ads for takeaways, dentists, language schools and bills. Whatever happened to love letters?

Ad agencies

If you put 'Barcelona ad agencies' into the local Yellow Pages search engine, you get 1,646 results. Proof, if it were needed, that this is a city of publicists, photographers, models, designers, creatives, salespeople, strategists and communicators... just as we always suspected.

By Ada Castells

