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The Best of BCN

Time Out Barcelona English Edition January 2016

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Thanks to a once-in-a-blue-moon coincidence, Barcelona is currently full of masterpieces, brought for various temporary exhibitions. Eugènia Sendra and Andreu Gomila reveal which you should see.

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				BCN_JAN 20
Th hot	IIST 🔬	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	_
		01	02	
		Classical music	Contemporary circus	
		Gran Concert d'Any Nou Start 2016 with Strauss and ballet. See p. 44	Varekai Cirque du Soleil touring show arrives. See <i>p.</i> 43	
		SUNDAY	TUESDAY	THURSDAY
		03	05	07
		Football	Traditions	Classical music
		Barea va Fananval	Cavalcada de Reis	Gustavo Dudamel
		Barça vs. Espanyol Local derby at Camp	The Three Kings come	The star conductor is a

DON'T MISS!Torneig Internacional d'Hoquei de Reis. World-class
hockey players compete. SUN 03-WED 06 (see p. 36)Sant Pau
Barcelona

Sant Pau Recinte Modernista. Take a tour of one of Barcelona's many architectural gems. FRI 08 (see p. 38)

SUNDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY		MONDAY
10	14	15		18
Musical theatre	Cinema	Catalan music	da ne	Flamenco
Mamma Mía Enjoy Abba's hit show in Spanish. See p. 53	Xcentric A new film series on at the CCCB. See p. 39	Lluís Llach Popular local musician performs. See p. 47		Niña Pastori Show by Spanish singer- songwriter. See <i>p.</i> 48
	TUESDAY	SUNDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	19	24	30	31
	Theatre	Classical music	Pop music	Football
	BITS Enjoy mime from Catalan trio Tricicle. See p. 43	Sir John Eliot Gardiner British conductor leads Mozart concert. See p. 43	Bryan Adams The Canadian star visits Barcelona. See p. 49	Barça vs. Atlético The local side take on the Madrid team. See p. 40

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People of Barcelona

Ravid Goldschmidt Handpan musician, 35 years old

You're the first person interviewed for this page who wasn't born in a city or village.

Wasn't born in a city of village. Barcelona is the first city I've lived in. I grew up on a kibbutz, a place where you live in a community and everybody has a job. For example, buying food, cooking, cleaning – all these tasks are done by people with that particular role, which means free time can be dedicated to culture, art and sport.

You're known for playing the Hang – what is that?

A melodic percussion instrument, like the marimba, which was invented in Switzerland around 2001. In fact, Hang is a brand, the instrument is the handpan. I went to Bern to learn how to play it, and when I finished, as I'd been thinking about doing the Camino de Santiago and a friend was living in Barcelona, I came here. When I returned from the Camino, I decided to stay.

And you got to know the local music scene.

Yes, playing with street musicians in the Barri Gòtic. Later I met Carles Benavent, Toni Xuclà and Sílvia Pérez Cruz, who was singing in a squat. I said to myself, 'That girl's good', and we ended up doing a record together, *Llama*. I was lucky.

Playing an unusual instrument makes you stand out.

Not being a guitarist or saxophonist has helped me. People have no way of judging whether I'm playing well or not!

On the other hand, you don't have any inspirations or guidelines.

No, I've had to invent them. For instance, one cold day I tried playing with gloves on, and I thought it sounded better. Ever since, I've played wearing gloves. And other musicians do it as well.





AN OBJECT – MARBLE TABLE With iron legs, such as you'll find in many local bars. Typical to Barcelona, he says.



PLACE OF ORIGIN – NETZER SIRENI In central Israel, this is a community where the notion of family takes a back seat.

Can you play any style of music with the handpan?

Yes, even if each instrument is in a different tone so one might fit, for example, with Arabic music but not Hindi. That's why you need to have a few.

You created a digital handpan.

It's complicated to travel with three or four Hang, and the solution was to create one that could be adapted to each tone, and produces various sounds – guitar, water, etc. It's called the Oval and I made it with a friend.

Now that you're a businessman, do you still feel like a musician? Yes, I play in TaHaDi, a trio of tabla, didgeridoo and handpan. I've also worked on the new Chambao album and I'm going to do some live shows with them next year. I have another project with a singer in the works, although I don't know yet if it'll be with Sîlvia or somebody else. We'll see. -Jordi Bianciotto



By Begoña García

In Sant Andreu, the church of Sant Pacià (C/ de les Monges, 27) has a mosaic floor designed by a young Gaudí.

_The fountain in Pl. Sant Jordi (Montjuïc) of Ceres, Roman goddess of agriculture, was first erected in Pg. de Gràcia. It was later moved to Poble-sec but was deemed too big for the space.

_Take a walk in the foothills of Collserola park (Camì de Sant Cebrià, Montbau neighbourhood) to visit the 13thcentury hermitage of Sant Cebrià.

_Pass by Rosselló, 425, round the corner from the Sagrada Família, to find a nameless street lined with one-storey houses.

Parc del Laberint

Pg. dels Castanyers,11

Challenge yourself to complete this maze, which is set in Barcelona's oldest gardens, high above the city.

WTF IS...

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

Bikini

Not only a two-piece bathing suit, in this city a **bikini** (or **biquini**) is also a toasted ham and cheese sandwich. Said to get its name from the Bikini nightclub when this was its signature dish, it's called a *mixto* out of town.



Gaudí: great or gaudy?

The first time I visited Barcelona as a tourist, a clerk in a souvenir shop told me, 'Me encanta Gaudí', with a big smile on her face and her hand resting sincerely over her heart. That's how I learned the useful phrase 'me encanta' ('I love it'), and it was the first time I met a local who was such a fan of possibly the most famous Catalan architect ever. You'll still meet them, but you might also hear locals pooh-poohing the works of Antoni Gaudí, or saying nowadays these buildings are just for tourists and you can't even get into Park Güell for free anymore, for crying out loud. I've even heard visitors saying, 'Oh, the Sagrada Família? That old monstrosity?' And I've been asked more than once if the English word gaudy comes from Gaudí's surname. (It doesn't.) Love them, tolerate them or hate them, Gaudí's buildings mark any visit to Barcelona. The biggies draw you in whether you like it or not-the Sagrada Família, La Pedrera and Casa Batlló. These are the obvious places to start on your Gaudí journey; you might also know that Park Güell is a stunner not to be missed, while others in and around town you may not be as familiar with. If you're an aficionado you'll be happy to discover them (see page 22). I'm a big fan of the rooftops of La Pedrera and Palau Güell. But like some of you, I've still got more to explore. So make notes on your map, plan out your route, and enjoy the wonders of Gaudí's creations. Or wear blinders and do your best to avoid them.

Jan loves seeing the Sagrada Família progress

This tribute to Roman Barcelona is by the Gothic Cathedral.





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. From there you can stop in at the spectacular Santa Maria del Mar church (Pl. de Santa Maria, 1). Next, head to El Born Centre Cultural (PI. Comercial, 12), an iron and glass structure built in 1876 as a market. Just a few minutes away, you'll come to Parc de la Ciutadella, the largest park in the city (Pg. Lluís Companys, 2). There's a lot going on there, with a boating lake, children's park and Barcelona Zoo among the attractions. If you're visiting with kids, it's ideal for a run around.

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 Agustí 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 take home. As you're strolling around, keep an eye out for The Box (Brosolí, 8), set up by three clothes designers; On Land (Princesa, 25), where both men and women can find new threads; and Studiostore (Comerc, 17), with everything from clothes and eyewear to original cushions.

48 HRS

IN BARCELONA

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

Casa Batlló's

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. Street 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 of getting 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. El Velódromo (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

DID YOU KNOW? ▶ January 17 is the feast day of Sant Antoni, local patron of animals, and sees some pets taken to church to be blessed.



At the Zoo you'll find this statue of 'Woman with umbrella'.

(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 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. Afterwards, walk over to Av. Diagonal to keep the modernisme theme going by taking a look 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 of the day, Sarrià retains much of its small-town feel, while Poble-sec and Sant Antoni are currently the places to be, thanks to their top cuisine and quality nightlife. And don't forget the modernista beauty that is the former Sant Pau hospital.

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 barladen 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).

> Sant Antoni is also marked by processions (called the Tres Tombs, or 'three turns'), which include elaborately decorated horse-drawn carriages.

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Segway, which cover both the city centre and the lesser-known neighbourhoods; running tours and 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 left-luggage services and airport transfers.

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CULTURE FOR EVERYONE



Museums

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n the book Paraules locales (Local Words), Catalan artist Perejaume says that contemporary artists have produced too many works, that the creation of so many great pieces of art is untenable. There's no doubt that La Gioconda and Las Meninas are

masterpieces. As are Margot and Science and Charity by Pablo Picasso, which can be seen any time in Barcelona's Museu Picasso, and Es compta darrere l'os – Espai de dolor, the Joseph Bueys installation found at CaixaForum, and the Pantocràtor from the town of Taüll in the Catalan Pyrenees, which is now housed in the MNAC. These are pieces that have won the consensus of the critics and academics, and even the public, who will stand in lengthy queues to see them and witness their greatness.

While Barcelona has given great artists to the world, without a central government, without the economic strength of Paris, Madrid, London and New York, the city has not created globally renowned museums such as the Pompidou and the MoMA. It's true that the basement of CaixaForum houses one of the best art collections in the world. It's also true that right now in the city there's a collection of masterpieces on show that makes it feel like a kind of special astral coincidence. From the sketches of Charles Le Brun for the palace of Versailles to colour-filled pieces from the end of the 19th century, from the art of the pharaohs to the Arte Povera of Michelangelo Pistoletto, and from the passion of Picasso for El Greco to the natural sculptures of Louise Bourgeois, this is serious stuff.

We've selected eight works from the temporary exhibitions running now in Barcelona to create a journey through history via the world of art. You just have to open your eyes. We shouldn't forget the words of Walter Benjamin: 'Even the most perfect work of art is missing something – its presence in time and space, its unique existence in the place where something is happening.' That means a museum or a private house. And as we can't go into the homes of collectors, we invite you to forget about time but not space, and enjoy these unmissable works of art. As The Smiths sang, some are bigger than others (although, yes, they were talking about girls), but they're all spectacular. A few on the list are being shown in Barcelona for a few more days or weeks, while others are here all month and beyond. Whatever you do, be sure you don't miss this unique coming together of true masterpieces.

01. GOING BACK (1965) Salvador Dalí

In 1965, Dalí reached an agreement with US clothes manufacturer Jack A. Winter to design a line of clothing. The painter did his part, and the sketches were put on public display, but the collection itselfwas never produced. The designs were clearly ahead of their time, and they demonstrate the famous Dalí imagination. This is Dalí the publicist. Until Feb 29.

ightarrow Galeria Mayoral (Consell de Cent, 286)





Barcelona is surprisingly bereft of permanent displays of art by Dalí. However, if you head north towards France and the town of Figueres, you'll find a splendid testament to the man's extravagant imagination, the Museu-Teatre Dalí. www.salvador-dali.org



JOAN MIRÓ PORTRAIT D'UNE DANSEUSE SURO, PLOMA I AGULLA FIXOS EN EL PANELL DE FUSTA AMB RIPOLIN 100 X80 CM CENTRE POMPIDOU, PARÍS. MUSÉE NATIONAL D'ART MODERNE / CENTRE DE CRÉATION INDUSTRIELLE. REGAL D'AUBE BRETON-ELLÉOUET 2003 © CENTRE POMPIDOU, MNAM-CCI. DIST RMN-GRAND PALAIS/PHILIPPE MIGEAT © SUCCESSIÓ MIRÓ. 2015



02.PORTRAIT D'UNE DANSEUSE (1928) Joan Miró

Miró learnt to paint on the basis of touching objects and, after he announced the assassination of painting, gave himself over to assemblage and surprising compositions. André Breton acquired this 'sculpture' - a parody of a Spanish dancer - created with a piece of cork, a pin and a peacock feather, which is an excellent example of Max Ernst's definition of surrealist collage. Until Jan 17. **Fundació Joan Miró (Parc de Montjuïc, s/n)**

03. SENZA TITOLO 92 (1976) MICHELANGELO PISTOLETTO

'Cento mostre nel mese di ottobre' is a square book, unfinished and alive. At the end of the '70s, the Italian Michelangelo Pistoletto collected different suggestions for the use of space in the book, such as 92, these mountains of white and coloured clothing, separated by a mirror, a metaphor for diversity and difference that the artist had recommended embracing. Until Mar 27. → **Blueproject Foundation (Princesa, 57)**

04. RETRAT D'UN HOME AMB GORGERA. VARIACIÓ INSPIRADA EN EL GRECO (1962) PABLO PICASSO

At the start of the 20th century, Picasso was fired up by the elongated portraits of gentlemen produced by El Greco during the Spanish Golden Age. This later Picasso work, the final engraving in a series, shows that his admiration for El Greco wasn't just a phase or youthful exuberance. It lasted a lifetime. Until Jan 17. \rightarrow Museu Picasso (Montcada, 15-23)

05. PLAT DE MAGRANES (1629-31) JUAN VAN DER HAMEN

An appetising composition full of references regarding virtue and the passing of time. A breath of Dutch baroque that is captivating in its simplicity and naturalism. While there are doubts about who created the image, it seems that whoever the painter was they were testing out methods for more flowery still lifes, the type appreciated by collectors in Spain's Golden Age. Until Feb 28. \rightarrow **MNAC (Parc de Montjuïc, s/n)**

*

At the Museu Picasso hangs El Greco's 'Old Gentleman' (1587-1600), the painting that inspired Pablo Picasso's own 'Man in the Style of El Greco', (1900). It's a reminder of the passion that El Greco aroused on the Catalan art scene at the turn of the last century, and of his influence on the young Picasso.

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WE TALK TO...

NIMFA BISBE

* Director of the contemporary art collection of the Fundació Bancària (Bank Foundation) "la Caixa"

Bisbe has been responsible for acquisitions since 2002. She takes us on a tour of the innards of CaixaForum, the storage facilities, refrigeration rooms and restoration studios – the beating heart of operations.

How do you buy a work of art?

I work with a committee of experts, who meet a couple of times a year in Barcelona. We talk a lot during these gatherings. I put forward a list of artworks, between 10 and 15 pieces, and between us all we draw up a list of priorities.

Who is on this committee?

Directors of contemporary museums from around the world. At the last session there was one person from Brazil, one from the UK, one from Spain, one from Poland and another from the US. We've also had art critics, and even some artists, but that's more complicated, because we need people who are impartial, which means that this isn't an opportunity for artists to sell us their work.

How many works did you buy during the last session?

I suggested 12 - four were bought.

And what happens to the pieces then?

They're brought to the repository. The registry does an inventory that includes all the work's characteristics, future needs, conservation requirements. To get an idea of what's involved, in the repository we have an installation made up of dehydrated citrus fruit, and another one of skateboards made of pork. They both have to be kept at less than 15° C.

Is all this stipulated in the contract? Yes, always. The artist has to provide a document with all the instructions, attached to the authenticity certificate. And we're obliged to respect them all. *–Josep Lambies*



06. LA MIRADA INSONDABLE (1963) **EUGENI FORCANO**

Catalan writer Josep Pla said that Eugeni Forcano was different, unpredictable, unique. Self-taught, and a regular in the pages of 'Destino' and 'Don', Forcano focused on portraits and advertising and fashion photography. In 2012 he was awarded Spain's National Photography Prize. He saw the most human and social side of the country in the '60s, and this 'fathomless look' was captured in Montjuïc. Until Feb 13. \rightarrow Fundació Foto Colectania (Julián Romea, 6)



At the Galeria Carles Taché (Méxic, 19) you can see works by Cornelia Parker and Sean Scully, in the Exposició Inaugural show (until Jan 16).

07. CONCETTO SPAZIALE, ATTESE (1965) LUCIO FONTANA

The work in bronze and brass created by the Argentinian artist three years before his death is almost an icon of 20th-century contemporary art. From 1949, when he was living in Italy, Fontana focused all his efforts on spatial concepts - piercing, scratching, crumpling cloth and all manner of other materials. This piece sums up the major exhibition, Species of Spaces. Until Jan 31.

 \rightarrow MACBA (Plaça dels Àngels, 1)



08. ECHO IX (2007) LOUISE BOURGEOIS

'Clothes are an exercise in memory. They let me explore the past, how I felt when I wore them.' This is how Bourgeois expressed herself, this sculptor who worked on shapes, ladders and materials, moving between figurative and abstract art to represent pain and loneliness. This piece with a ghostly aura is one of the last created by the prolific artist. Until Mar 28. \rightarrow Fundació Gaspar d'Art Contemporani (Montcada, 25)

20 | Buy tickets & book restaurants at www.timeout.com/barcelona & www.tickets.visitbarcelona.com

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By Abby Narishkin

Palau Güell

CASA VICENS

Antoni Gaudí's first great house holds a special place among the architect's earlier works. Designed with his signature eye for colours and motifs, Casa Vicens marks a distinct period of Moorish influence for the Catalan architect. Although it's not open to the public, this greenand-white tiled masterpiece is well worth stopping by to see from the outside. *Carolinas, 24 (Gràcia). M: Fontana (L3)*

LA PEDRERA

It's been variously described as looking like rising dough, molten lava and a stone lung. Casa Milà (popularly known as La Pedrera, 'the stone quarry') is a daring example of Gaudi's use of stone to create natural features. When La Pedrera, his final civil project, started to be built in 1906, it became a laughing stock for its undulating facade, wrought-iron balconies and vast windows. But Gaudí's innovative, selfsupporting stone exterior has marked the house among today's most stupendous architectural feats, and won it a spot on UNESCO's World Heritage Site list. Provença, 261-265 (Eixample Dret). M: Diagonal (L3, L5); FGC: Provença. Jan 1-3: 9am-8.30pm; from Jan 4: Daily 9am-6.30pm (last entry 30 minutes before closing). Closed Jan 11-17. €20.50; €16.50 reductions; €10.25 ages 7 to 12; free under-7s. www.lapedrera.com

PARK GÜELL

Up in the neighbourhood of Horta-Guinardó, Park Güell boasts breathtaking hillside views of the whole city. You can enter the park for free, but if you want to get into the 'Monumental zone', you'll pay around €8 to see the iconic mosaic bench and dragon, plus more gems. (Visit their website to book in advance online and you'll save yourself a euro.) Chock-full of symbolism and nature motifs, this park, belonging to Gaudí's naturalist phase, will spark anyone's imaginative side. Once you've taken in the Monumental zone's attractions, make sure to save some time to walk up and explore the surrounding park, which is a mustsee in its own right.

C/ d'Olot, 5 (Horta-Guinardó). M: Lesseps, Vallcarca (L3). Monumental zone: Jan 1 – Mar 28: 8.30am-6.15pm (last entry 30-45 minutes before closing). Park outside Monumental zone: 5am-midnight. Monumental zone: €8 (€7 advance via Park Güell website); €5.60 reductions (€4.90 via website); free under-7s. Free entry to the park outside Monumental zone. www.parkguell.es

PALAU GÜELL

A perfect combination of old-fashioned opulence and stylised modernism, Palau Güell will have you picturing yourself rolling up to the door in a horse-drawn carriage. Tucked into a skinny street in the Raval, Palau Güell, designed





by Gaudí for his patron, Count Güell, stands today as a symbol for Catalan nationalism. As you explore the house, take note of how the rising levels (from the modest basement to the ostentatiously colourful roof with 20 mosaic chimneys) reflect the motif of wealth. Nou de la Rambla, 3-5 (Raval). M: Drassanes, Liceu (L3). Nov-Mar: Tue-Sun 10am-5.30pm (last entry at 4.30pm). €12 general; €8 reduced; €5 ages 10-17. www.palauguell.cat

COLÒNIA GÜELL

In contrast to most owners of industrial colonies from the late 1800s, Colònia Güell's patron, Eusebi Güell, wanted good living conditions for his workers. Güell's ideas included religious and cultural buildings, all constructed in Gaudí's modernista style. This colony in Santa Coloma de Cervello is an impressive place to study early architectural inspirations for projects like the Sagrada Família.

Claudi Güell, 6, Santa Coloma de Cervelló. M: Espanya (L1, L3); FGC: Colònia Güell (S4, S8, S33). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat, Sun, public holidays 10am-3pm. www.gaudicoloniaguell.org

FINCA GÜELL

Between 1884 and 1887, Eusebi Güell hired Antoni Gaudí yet again for the construction and renovation of the grounds of his estate. The architect was to landscape the gardens and construct gatehouses for the estate. Styled with Asian designs and Mudejar influences, Finca Güell is striking because of its colourful tiles and innovative ironwork. But most notable is the mythical dragon protecting its gate. *Av. Pedralbes, 7 (Les Corts). M: Palau Reial (L3). Daily 10am-4pm (public holidays included). Closed Jan 1 &* 6. €6.

CASA BATLLÓ

When you first step up to Casa Batlló, it's the immaculate mosaic work and dragon-like tiles of Gaudi's greatest construction facelift that will bewitch you. The whimsical air of the 'house of bones' continues once inside with the flowing stonework, ovular windows and nature motifs. Most striking is the atrium in the centre of the house, designed with ombré blue tiles to allow for a constant stream of light and air. This fanciful residence-turned-museum boasts such attention to detail that even the furniture flows with the house. Be sure to leave time for the short film of the house's folklore story, which explains how the heroic prince saves his princess!

Passeig de Gràcia, 43 (Eixample Dret). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). Daily 9am-9pm. €21.50; €18.50 ages 7-18, seniors and students; free under-7s. www.casabatllo.cat

CASA CALVET

Although considered to be one of Gaudí's most conservative early works, Casa Calvet, with its



wrought-iron balconies and curved façade, hints at the architect's more opulent modernista works to follow. Built out of stone quarried from Montjuïc, Casa Calvet now houses a restaurant in its lowest level. While sipping your wine, see if you can spot the nods to Pere Màrtir Calvet's work in the textile industry.

Casp, 48 (Eixample Dret). M: Urquinaona (L4).

SAGRADA FAMÍLIA

Soaring above Barcelona's cityscape, the Sagrada Família will be the world's tallest church upon completion. This 130-year labour of love, dreamt up by Antoni Gaudí, is one of the world's most controversial basilicas, but it's also one of the most visited. Three million tourists descend upon it each year to gawk at the architectural achievement that has brought nature, light and religion together into one stunning ensemble piece. The interior is like a giant jigsaw puzzle with each new architect's style blending into the rest of Gaudí's vision. Pay attention to how the light dances through the space, while the bright colours emote a sense of peaceful celebration. Sadly, it's that innovative vision and design that has regularly delayed the predicted completion date. But the Sagrada Família, with its modernista style and conventional Gothic themes, is a masterpiece because of its impossibilities. Even Gaudí knew how ambitious his final magnum opus would be, when he said, 'My client is in no hurry.' Mallorca, 401 (Eixample Dret). M: Sagrada Família (L2, L5). Nov-Feb: Daily 9am-6pm. Jan 1 & 6: 9am-2pm. General admission €15. Tour with guide €19.50. Self-guided audio tour €19.50. Lift to spires €4.50. www.sagradafamilia.cat

By Ricard Martin Feed the the



Dragon's breath

When you get that slow-building advance warning of the spiciness to come, you know things are about to get seriously hot. The Chinese hot pot, or *huoguo*, a dish that should be enjoyed with absolute calm, is the ideal way to embark on the fiery roller-coaster ride you sense on the horizon. You can choose your heat level, but you're not here to waste time: order the spicy broth – served so hot it cooks the ingredients you dip into it in seconds – and combine it with duck, chicken, beef, lamb or fish. Dunk sliced vegetables, prawns, lobster claws, baby octopuses – you'll feel like a miniature demon in charge of your own private inferno. P: €19.50

L'OLLA DE SI CHUAN Pl. del Doctor Letamendi, 11 (Eixample Esquerre) 9 93 503 18 88



The chilli trolley Tacos with 'molcajete' sauce

Spicy food might appear to be a gastronomic faux pas, but if you're eating quality chillies and not mass-produced sauces designed to burn off the roof of your mouth, that spiciness can help digest your meal. A case in point is the spectacular *molcajete* salsa trolley at Oaxaca, a temple of traditional Mexican cuisine. They prepare the sauce at the table, and you can specify the level of spiciness as they grind six dry chillies, imported from Mexico, in a Mayan mortar. Each one contributes a subtly different flavour, whether smoky, sweet or extra hot. The perfect match for this salsa are their *carnitas michoacanas*, tacos filled with pork slow-cooked in its own juices. P: €14

OAXACA Pla del Palau, 19 (Born) 0 93 319 00 64

SCOVILLE SCALE

100-5,000

The spiciness scales begins with the common red pimiento or the *guajillo* – mild stuff.

5,000-25,000

Spicy, but bearable – think the jalapeño, and Padrón peppers from Galicia.

50,000-100,000

Thai peppers are no joking matter - the best antidote is to drink something sweet or milky.

spicy 100,000-250,000

Tabasco! The tiny pepper used to make the famous sauce. Warning: small but deadly.

Mild

burn

SPICY FOOD CAN HELP YOU LIVE LONGER. CAPSAICIN, THE SUBSTANCE THAT GIVES CHILLIES AND PEPPERS THEIR HEAT, HAS ANTIOXIDANT AND ANALGESIC PROPERTIES.





The devil's condiment

Hera, the owner of Betawi – Barcelona's only Indonesian restaurant – points out that sambal is a condiment and not a recipe: 'Each diner can add it to their own taste.' Whatever your taste may be, if you order sambal they'll bring you a small dish of thick paste, which is made from Habaneros, Thai chillies and Spanish pimientos. As red as a fire engine, it doesn't attack without warning – one look at it and you know it's going to coat your tongue like molten lava. But spread sparingly on delicate rolls stuffed with chicken, bean sprouts, prawns and transparent rice noodles, that hint of heat is exactly what the doctor ordered. P: €5.10 **BETAWI Montsió, 6 (Gòtic) 9** 93 412 63 64

Soothing contrast

Kaproaw mu

If Thai cuisine is one of the spiciest in the world, you'll agree that its hottest dish must be pretty darn hot. At Thai Barcelona they make a mean *kaproaw mu*, a pork and chilli pepper stir-fry that's a popular classic. I watch in awe as it's prepared in the kitchen: meat and vegetables scalded in broth for a minute, then stir-fried with a sauce of dry chillies, garlic, sunflower oil and oyster sauce. I order it extra spicy – pet pet in Thai – and it's devastating, but when cooked properly the chillies burn without overwhelming. The contrast between the spiciness and the fresh green pepper and Thai basil is addictively soothing. P: €12.45 **THAI BARCELONA**

Diputació, 273 (Eixample Dret) 9 93 487 98 98

Pharmacist Wilbur Scoville invented this scale in 1912. The units represent the mililitres of water needed to dilute one mililitre of pepper extract.

250,000-500,000

Exercise caution with cayenne peppers, as anyone who's accidentally overdosed can testify.

500,000-1 MILLION

Welcome to hell. The Indian 'bhut jolokia' pepper is so hot it can only be handled with gloves.

Extreme

2 MILLION

The Trinidad moruga scorpion chilli – as you eat it, it causes blisters in the mouth and throat. 2 MILL-5 MILL

The spiciest thing on Earth isn't edible – we're talking pepper sprays, as used in self-defence.

THE HUMAN POLLIINATION PROJECT

The CCCB exhibition + Humans looks at what the future may hold for humanity.

By Maria Junyent

o be a human in 2016 is radically different from being one in 1914, 1800 or the 15th century. What does it mean to be human today? What are the limits of progress? What is the future of our species? These are just a few of the questions the Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin, an institution on the frontier between art and science, asked 50 artists and researchers. To impose some kind of order on such a wide-ranging exploration, the questions are organised under five headings: Augmented abilities, Nonhuman encounters, Extended ecologies, Authoring evolution, and Life at the edges. I'm not spoiling anything by revealing that the + Humans exhibition doesn't provide answers, only more questions - and thorny ones at that. 'That's exactly what we intended,' says researcher Ricard Solé, a consultant on the + Humans project and a member of ICREA (the Catalan Institute for Research and Advanced Studies).

Slow down

the rapid pace

of life with the

decelerator

The exhibition includes real-world projects and speculative pieces. In the words of Science Gallery director Michael John Gorman, it's 'a combination of a sweet shop and a chemists, a wonderland of pills, promises and prosthetics'. Read on to discover four of the most representative pieces.



For an ever-accelerating society like our own, Lorenz Potthast has imagined the ability to personalise our perception of time. The tool he's designed to do this is a spherical helmet that allows the wearer to experience the world in slow motion, deepening their awareness of their relationship with time. A small computer processes sounds and images from the outside world, and the user can slow them down them with a handheld remote. What can we learn from it? Could this improve our lives? If we uses lenses to see the world more clearly, why shouldn't we put on a helmet to experience a slowed-down version of our lives?

02. OPTIMISED BIRTH. PART TWO

A motorised arm rocks a cradle every time the baby cries or wakes up. Addie Wagenknecht, artist and mother, came up with the idea for this piece when she was pregnant, looking for ways to combine her creative career with motherhood. Many technological devices have been designed to make domestic tasks easier, but child-rearing (another domestic task) is considered sacred. The author provocatively raises the issue so many modern parents face – how to strike a balance between the demands of family life and work.



Yet more provocation. Julilonas Urbonas's imaginary device is designed to bring life to a humane, elegant and euphoric end. Drawing on research in aerospace medicine, mechanical engineering, materials technology and gravity, he proposes a roller coaster designed to kill all its passengers with a devastating adrenaline rush – totally painlessly. Is it such a crazy idea?



Bees pollinate a third of our food crops, but it's an undeniable fact that they're now on the brink of extinction. To draw attention to our dependence on bees, and also the way their populations are declining, Laura Allcorn has created tools that can be worn as jewellery, but which are designed to carry out the painstaking pollination work that bees currently do.

Shopping & Style

Edited by Eugènia Sendra esendra@timeout.cat @eugeniasendra

The art of dressing well

Triple whammy in the Eixample – Wer-Haus is a photo gallery, a bar and a shop stocking prestigious international labels. By **Eugènia Sendra**

Wer-Haus is a new temple dedicated to fashion, photography and gastronomy. How can a former car park and anodyne furniture shop be converted into a space like that? It takes a clear concept, as well as refined taste and investment, which in this case come from a trio of sources. Frenchmen Nicolas Rossi and Jean-Antoine Palagos met in an IT company. When they got to know Barcelona cinema director Marc Miró, it triggered the start of this hybrid project, with its three separate parts and a name that has German overtones. Miró wrote the business plan that they used to court luxury fashion brands, while the architects (and friends) of LaBoqueria studio drew up plans for the space.

The design is minimalist, ideal for the impressive, avant-garde content. The French partners say that they've always liked a certain type of fashion, labels that focus on design and have a very strong visual graphic identity. Wer-Haus has launched with various men's lines (they plan at some point to have women's ranges as well), Lemaire - simple, never over the top-and Raf Simons. Both are high-fashion brands with which the three men are hoping to establish themselves in the city, as well as to educate shoppers about 'the art of dressing'.

As well as these more exclusive ranges, they also have pieces from Études Studio, which is great for graphics; the urban designs of Gosha Rubchinskiy; Polish brand misbhv; contemporary menswear from CMMN SWDN; and the lineal designs of MariusPetrus and British label Sunspel. When it comes to accessories you'll find PB 0110's deliciously spare leather bags, and limited series from Asics and Nike.



ogenic T-shirt from tudio (€72).





From the logo – symmetric and Bauhausian - to the distribution of the spaces, everything has been carefully considered. Visitors enter and leave through the photo gallery – the idea is for it to draw them in for a browse through the selection of specialised books and magazines. This section is the responsibility of photographer Dani Pujalte - he chooses difficultto-find titles, photo books featured at the Rencontres d'Arles summer festival, and publications from small international houses such as Dienacht, Skinnerbox and Riot Books, which last year was among the prizewinners at the Aperture Paris Photo awards.

As well as discovering new favourites such as Leon Reindl,

We like labels that focus on design and have a strong graphic identity

Pujalte also selects local releases - books from Terranova, Paralaxe Editions and Cal'Isidret, which, among others, has published the work of Galician Antonio M. Xoubanova. Using a metaphotographic language, Un universo pequeño (A Small Universe) contains images taken by Xoubanova in 2.5 seconds on 10 metres of street. Large-scale versions of his shots can be seen in the first Wer-Haus exhibition, running until January 15. Following it will by photos from the Tokyo concept store Ima Concept.

WER-HAUS

Aragó, 287 (Eixample Dret). wer-haus.com

You inspire us

The emotional landscapes of Vanessa Linares are all about people like us. By **Laia Beltran**

Vanessa Linares keenly recalls the summer she spent in Mallorca with some friends from the Fine Arts faculty - she spent the whole time drawing in a Zap Book. On her return to Barcelona, Linares tore out the book's pages to make a large collage. And so her first picture was created, a hypnotic world of liquid watercolours populated by guspirus, incredible anthropomorphic beings that seem like fantastic animals but actually represent the human condition. Linares always exploits colour and never hides uncomfortable emotions. Sadness. loneliness, heartbreak whatever happens to her (what happens to all of us regardless of Mr. Wonderful) is found in the details of her magnificent pieces. Some time ago, she began working on dark, mysterious forests, painted with watered-down acrylics, and through which guspirus pass, creating emotional landscapes that invite you to enter the canvas to (re)find yourself. Pure magic realism.

www.vanessalinares.com

GET THE LOOK!

PERSONAL STYLE

Linares combines Hagamús bags with vintage clothes from Dalton's Second Hand shop in Mataró, a town just up the coast (Xammar, 3).

WAVY HAIR

She likes how they style her locks at La Pelu (Templers, 6).





FAN OF HENNINGSEN

She's obsessed by the lights of Dane Poul Henningsen. That's why whenever she heads to the Raval, she's drawn to the windows of Vintage Room (Peu de la Creu, 16) to see them lit up.



UNIQUE PIECES Linares commissions plates of various sizes from Italian ceramicist Rita Lugli, who has a workshop in the Born. She then paints them with her guspirus, giving them life and colour.



ON SHOW AND ON SALE Linares's work can be seen in various galleries around the city, and paintings in different sizes are on sale in design store Ici et Là (Passatge Sert. 5. www.icietla.com).

A complete concept



Ktu is the pet project of the Vásquez sisters, two entrepreneurs who, after working for big names in the fashion sector, decided to launch their own concept store where local brands are the stars of the show. However, as the women themselves say, it's difficult to compete with leaders in the field such as Urban Outfitters and Be, and do something different from the concepts of minimalism and Nordic ambience that most of these spaces display (indeed, the two-floor premises of Ktu adheres closely to this aesthetic).

So how to distinguish themselves from neighbouring shops? With a selection that mixes national and international labels. As well as the latest products from Swedish brand Dr. Denim, they also have Rita Row. from the Catalan city of Girona, the organic clothes of n.u.s.k., the always flattering pieces from Maal, and the basics of Batallata (all three are Barcelona labels). The leather bags designed by the Vásquez sisters – which include unisex options - head up a collection of accessories that also features Ivyl shoes, and W-A-U's urban creations. For unusual gifts, check out the Doiy gadgets. -E.S.

KTU

Astúries, 2 (Gràcia). www.ktubarcelona.com

Shopping & Style

A question of faith

When Olga Dubovik loves a photographer's work, she gives them free rein to capture her Lubochka bags. Korean Ina Jang has shot the new collection. By **Laia Beltran**



Design two collections a year, then start all over again. Olga Dubovik (who is originally from Siberia) wasn't in the least bit interested in joining this tyrannical cycle. Indeed, the thought bored her to tears. She understands fashion as a way of life, not as a way just to fill the market with products. She likes connecting her work designing leather bags with the vision of other artists, specifically photographers. 'I don't want to commission them to do an advertising campaign. Quite the opposite. I give them carte blanche and let them bring their

own point of view.' She allows others to freely express themselves through her Lubochka bags, which are produced in a small workshop in Igualada, a town in central Catalonia where Dubovik went to live as a teenager.

Social media are Dubovik's main allies. Through them she discovered the work of Aiala Hernando and Monling Lee, the first two photographers to whom she gave free rein. The results were spectacular. The first included Lubochka bags in disturbing still lifes. The second, in a universe full of dazzling colours. During a trip to Japan, Dubovik saw some photos in a magazine credited to Ina Jang. The designer fell in love with Jang's delicately sophisticated style, and got in touch with her via Instagram. The young Korean photographer accepted the challenge. Last summer Dubovik sent a dozen bags from her latest collection to Shanghai, then didn't give the matter another thought. A month or so ago, she received an email with the words, 'They're done. Let's see if you like them.' Attached were photos of her bags taken by Jang. 'They were a big surprise. I loved them,' says Dubovik, who felt a mixture of happiness and anxiety. But a lot of faith as well.

Jang's objective was to capture the sweeter side of Lubochka, with

6 She sees fashion as a way of life, not just a way to fill the market with products

unexpected framing, pastel tones and a poetic surrealism. Perhaps it's because the new bags – Dubovik reinterprets classic models from the line, producing them in various colours – don't have any studs or metallic chains. What they all still do have, including the small Àgata coin purses that can be hung from the wrist (bottom left), is the characteristic tassel made with colourful leather strips.

> LUBOCHKA Find the bags in La Tercera, Brosolí, 4

(Born). www.lubochka.com

> The **Mashka** is a classic that's been renovated $(\in 165)$.

Shopping & Style

Layer up

This month is when the cold weather in Barcelona really starts to take hold. Beat the chill with multiple layers. By **Eugènia Sendra**

The winter sales start here on Thursday 7. So you may get lucky and find some of our shopping selections reduced



Things to Do

Mapping the Raval's treasures

Raval Cultural is a project that aims to let the cultural wealth of the old-city neighbourhood shine. **Maria Junyent** investigates

A little over a year ago, local illustrator 'Lluïsot' published a fantastic book entitled El Raval - a world of culture in which he maps the area, its past and future, its secrets and, most important of all, the people who live there, with drawings that capture every detail of the district's busy streets. In the introduction, the author describes the Raval in the same terms that Argentinian writer Jorge Luis Borges used to describe his imaginary object, the Aleph: a point in space that contains all other points.

66 One tour of the Raval offers a two-hour trip through 2,000 years of history

The fact that the Raval is an area packed with both treasures in plain sight and diamonds in the rough is no secret, but it's handy to have a map that identifies them all. Ciutat Vella district council has created Raval Cultural, a project intended to highlight the neighbourhood's cultural heritage, on a website detailing the activities of more than 200 venues, and offering a range of guided tours open to all.

AN AMBITIOUS DIRECTORY

Few will be surprised by the inclusion of the Raval's big cultural flagships, such as the MACBA, the Filmoteca and the Teatre Romea. But Raval Cultural also lists libraries, organisations and societies, live music venues and bookshops - some have over 100 years of history and others have only just become part of the neighbourhood's social fabric. There are essential local bars such as La Confitería, a magnificent watering hole (Sant Pau, 128) that preserves the Modernista decor of its former incarnation as a cake shop, and institutions like the Fundació Mercè Rodoreda (Carme, 47). part of the Institut d'Estudis Catalans and dedicated to the Catalan author, with a library of her complete works, including translations into other languages, visual materials, video and film. Shops include A la Premsa d'Aquell Dia (Joaquín Costa, 44), founded in 1944, where you can buy original old newspapers from different historical periods, and there's the Fundació Tot Raval (Caramelles, 8), a citizens' platform that's been working to improve the neighbourhood since 2002. For those who want regular info on the area, a weekly newsletter is produced every Wednesday with selected highlights.

HISTORY ON FOOT

The other side of Raval Cultural is a series of free guided tours. The first, 'Sketches of the history of the Raval', offers a two-hour trip through 2,000 years of history, from the area's origins as the gateway to the city up to the present day. It's a history that



begins with farms, fields and market gardens, and continues through convents and monasteries to the colourful history of the Barri Xino – a nickname earned not from any Chinese connection, but because of its densely populated streets that offered entertainment of every kind, innocent or not. Look out for the dates and times of upcoming tours on the Raval Cultural website – and sign up early, as they fill up fast.

Another guided tour, 'El Raval BSO', delves into the musical history of the district and visits some of the most emblematic locations in an area with a strong musical identity – from the site of Cal Manquet, the one-time brothel and café Edited by Maria Junyent mjunyent@timeout.cat @junyjuliol

EATING IN THE RAVAL



DOS PALILLOS Michelin-starred restaurant where Asian and Spanish tapas combine to create gastro glory. It perfectly fuses a blue-collar bar (there are no tables) with haute cuisine. Elisabets, 9.



LO DE FLOR A gorgeous white interior decor, with wood and metal creating rustic, cosy minimalism, is matched by dishes that create a culinary tour of the Mediterranean. Carretes, 18.



FONDA ESPANYA A spectacular modernista restaurant that's home to a traditional style of cooking adapted by the creative genius of Basque chef Martín Berasategui. Sant Pau, 9-11. vialis BARCELONA

H A N D M A D E

IN SPAIN

STORES

ELISABETS 20 Local 3 (*Ciutat Vella*) VERDI 39 (*Gràcia*) PLAÇA MOLINA 5-7 (*St. Gervasi*) MAJOR DE SARRIÀ 72 (*Sarrià*) VIDRIERIA 15 (*Ciutat Vella*) C.C L'ILLA DIAGONAL C.C ARENAS

www.vialis.es





where the great flamenco dancer Carmen Amaya made her debut, to the music of the district's churches and its record shops. A third explores the area's social, voluntary and co-operative economy, focusing on shops, restaurants and collective production.

www.ravalcultural.bcn.cat

Things to Do

Day by day

Information and sales: **Tourist Information Points and** tickets.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

Kids

Festival de la Infancia

Sports, educational activities, games and more for a fun day out with all the family.

Fira de Barcelona (Av. de la Reina Maria Cristina, s/n.). M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC). 10am-8pm. Until Jan 4. €12. Reduced: € 7. www. festivalinfancia.com

Festival

Drap'Art: Festival Internacional de Reciclatge Artístic de Catalunya

Features the 'Colectiva Drap Art '15' expo, as well as street art installations, events, workshops and cinema. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). Until Jan 3. Exhibition 11am-8pm. Seasonal market 11am-10pm. www.cccb.org

Traditions

FREE Fira de Reis de la **Gran Via**

Market stalls supply all you need for a present-giving frenzy on Kings' Day. (Gran Via Corts Catalanes, 580, between C/ Rocafort and C/Muntaner). Until Jan 6.10am-10pm (Jan 5, 10am-3pm).

FREE Fira de Consum Responsable

Promoting responsible consumerism with an emphasis on sustainable local goods and services.

(Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC). 10am-9pm. Until Jan 4. barcelona.cat/nadal.

FREE Nadal: activitats per a tots

Festive activities from dance. sports and hop-hop to music. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC). Until Jan 4. More info: www.barcelona.cat/nadal.

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de **Sant Jaume**

This year the traditional Pessebre - Nativity Scene - is inspired by pop-up books. (Placa de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4). 10am-10pm. Until Jan 6. timeout.com/

Tours

La Pedrera by day Enjoy one of the most spectacular buildings in Barcelona. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5) and FGC: Provença. Jan 1 11am-8.30pm. Jan 2-3 9am-8.30pm. Jan 4-10, 18-31 9am-6.30pm. Closed Jan 11-17. From €20.50.

Saturday 2

Festival

Drap'Art: Festival Internacional de Reciclatge Artístic de Catalunya See Fri 1 CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Kids

Festival de la Infancia

See Fri 1. Fira de Barcelona (Av. de la Reina Maria Cristina, s/n.). M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC).

El somni de volar

'The dream of flight' at the 3D planetarium. CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo. Until Jan 10. Noon-6pm (starts every two hours, except Jan 8 1pm, 6pm). For kids 8 and above. $\in 4$. agenda. obrasocial.lacaixa.es

Tours

Book your

favourite

restaurants at

barcelona

Torre Bellesguard

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. (Placa de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4). Mon-Fri 12pm to

5.15pm (various times and languages). Sat, Sun, public holidays 11am to 7pm (various times and languages).€10 (general). €8 (reduced). Booking: www.riostabarcelona.com.

Sortim a navegar amb el pailebot Santa Eulàlia

Take a trip on a beautifully restored three-masted schooner. Maritime Museum (Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3). Every Sat. Meet 9.30am; boat trip 10am-1pm. €12 adults. €6 kids. Reservation necessary: reserves.mmaritim@diba.cat.

El Born Centre Cultural

Guided tours of site with 18thcentury remains discovered below a former market. (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4). T. 93 256 68 51. Sat. Sun 12.30pm. Wed. Sun 5.30pm in Spanish; Sat, Sun 4.30pm in English; Sat, Sun noon in French. Spanish: €8.80; English and French: €10.56.

Traditions

FREE La Fàbrica dels Reis d'Orient

Visit the Three Kings' spectacularly illuminated "toy factory," with workers busy making Kings' Day gifts until 5 Jan. Fàbrica de Fabra i Coats (Sant Adrià, 18-24). M: Sant Andreu (L1).

Until Jan 4. 6pm-9pm.

FREE Fira de Reis de la Gran Via

See Fri 1. (Gran Via Corts Catalanes, 580, between C/ Rocafort and C/Muntaner).

FREE Fira de Consum Responsable

See Fri 1. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

FREE Nadal: activitats per a tots

See Fri 1. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

FREE Pessebre a la Placa de Sant Jaume

See Fri 1. (Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

Sunday 3

Sports

68 Torneig Internacional d'Hoquei de Reis

The traditional Kings' Day international hockey tournament at BCN's Royal Polo club. Reial Club de Polo de Barcelona (Av. Doctor Marañón, 19-31). M: Zona Universitaria (L3). Jan 3-6. Info: www.hockeyreyes.com.

Traditions

FREE La Fàbrica dels Reis d'Orient

See Sat 2. Fàbrica de Fabra i Coats (Sant Adrià, 18-24). M: Sant Andreu (L1).

FREE Fira de Consum Responsable

See Fri 1. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

FREE Nadal: activitats per a tots

See Fri 1. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de **Sant Jaume** See Fri 1. (Plaça de Sant Jaume).

M: Jaume I (L4).

FREE Fira de Reis de la Gran Via See Fri 1. (Gran Via Corts Catalanes, 580,
between C/Rocafort and C/ Muntaner).

Festival

Drap'Art: Festival Internacional de Reciclatge Artístic de Catalunya

See Fri 1. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Kids

Festival de la Infancia

See Fri 1. Fira de Barcelona (Av. de la Reina Maria Cristina, s/n.). M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC).

El somni de volar See Sat 2. CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo.

Football

► * League fixture. RCD Espanyol – FC Barcelona

Local derby sees Barça travel to the Espanyol stadium in the neighbouring town of Cornellà. Date and time TBC. www. rcdespanyol.com. Estadi Cornellà -El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100. Cornellà de Llobregat). FGC: Cornellà.

Tours

Santa Maria del Mar rooftop See Sat 2. (Plaça de Santa Maria,

1). M: Jaume I (L4).

FREE Guided tour of Poblenou Cemetery

Explore one of Barcelona's historical cemeteries. (Av. Icària, s/n). M: Llacuna (L4). 1st and 3rd Sun 10.30am (Catalan) & 12.30pm (Spanish).

Monday 4

Traditions

FREE La Fàbrica dels Reis d'Orient

See Sat 2. Fàbrica de Fabra i Coats (Sant Adrià, 18-24). M: Sant Andreu (L1). FREE Fira de Consum Responsable See Fri 1. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

FREE Nadal: activitats per a tots

See Fri 1. (Pl. Catalunya). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC).

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume

See Fri 1. (*Plaça de Sant Jaume*). *M: Jaume I (L4)*.

FREE Fira de Reis de la Gran Via See Fri 1. (Gran Via Corts Catalanes, 580, between C/ Rocafort and C/Muntaner).

Kids

Festival de la Infancia

See Fri 1. Fira de Barcelona (Av. de la Reina Maria Cristina, s/n.). M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC).

Sports

68 Torneig Internacional d'Hoquei de Reis See Sun 3. Reial Club de Polo de Barcelona (Av. Doctor Marañón, 19-31). M: Zona Universitaria (L3).

Tuesday 5

Traditions

FREE Gran Cavalcada de Reis In Catalonia and the rest of Spain, it's the Three Kings who bring children their presents – and in BCN they do so in majestic style, arriving by boat in the port and setting out on a spectacular procession through the city, accompanied by their colourful retinue of pages, dancers and toy makers, and followed by lorryloads of sweets thrown to the crowd. (Moll de Fusta). M: Drassanes (L3). From 4.30pm.

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume

See Fri 1. (Plaça de Sant Jaume). M: Jaume I (L4).

FREE Fira de Reis de la Gran Via See Fri 1. (Gran Via Corts Catalanes,



is really something else

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580, between C/Rocafort and C/ Muntaner).

Sports

68 Torneig Internacional d'Hoquei de Reis

See Sun 3. Reial Club de Polo de Barcelona (Av. Doctor Marañón, 19-31). M: Zona Universitaria (L3)

Kids

El somni de volar

See Sat 2. CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo.

Tours

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

Wednesday 6

Sports

68 Torneig Internacional d'Hoquei de Reis

See Sun 3. *Reial Club de Polo de Barcelona (Av. Doctor Marañón,* 19-31). *M: Zona Universitaria (L3).*

Kids

El somni de volar See Sat 2. CosmoCaixa (Isaac

Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo.

Traditions

FREE Pessebre a la Plaça de Sant Jaume See Fri 1. (*Plaça de Sant Jaume*).

M: Jaume I (L4).

Tours

▶ Gaudi's Pedrera. The Origins Spectacular night-time event that includes rooftop video mapping, screenings in different parts of the building and a glass of cava. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença. Jan 1-3 9pm-11pm. From Jan 4 7pm-9pm. Closed Jan 11-17. €34. Reduced: €17. **El Born Centre Cultural**

See Sat 2. (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4).

Thursday 7

Kids

El somni de volar See Sat 2. CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo.

Tours

► Gaudi's Pedrera. The Origins See Wed 6. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Friday 8 Tours

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

Santa Maria del Mar rooftop

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

Sant Pau modernista monument

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. \in 14. \in 9.80 (reduced).

Kids

El somni de volar See Sat 2. CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo.

Saturday 9

Tours

 Santa Maria del Mar rooftop
 See Sat 2.
 (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).
 The other Pedrera

Extended visit to discover hidden

corners of Gaudi's popular building, and find out about the changes it's gone through. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença. Every Saturday 12.15pm. €12.

Sortim a navegar amb el pailebot S*anta Eulàlia*

See Sat 2. Maritime Museum (Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3).

El Born Centre Cultural See Sat 2. (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4).

Kids

El somni de volar See Sat 2. CosmoCaixa (Is

See Sat 2. CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo.

Sunday 10

Football

►* League fixture. FC Barcelona – Granada FC Barca take on the side from the

south of Spain. Date and time TBC. For more info: www.fcbarcelona. cat. Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Tours

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

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 11.15am (Spanish).

Kids

El somni de volar See Sat 2. CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo.

Bornet de cançons - Macedònia Upbeat pop for kids with one of Catalonia's best-known and children's pop groups. El Born Centre Cultural (Plaça Comercial, 12. Sala Moragues). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4), Arc de Triomf (L1). Noon. €15. Reduced €10.

Traditions

FREE Cavalcada dels Tres Tombs a Sant Antoni

To celebrate Saint Anthony the Abbot, protector of domestic animals, horses, household pets and other animals, as well as horse-drawn carriages and traditional tradespeople, parade around the Sant Antoni district. Neighbourhood of Sant Antoni. M: Poble Sec (L3), Rocafort & Urgell (L1), Sant Antoni (L2). More info: www.barcelona.cat.

Monday 11

Tours

Liceu opera house

Discover Barcelona's glorious opera house, carefully restored after a devastating fire in 1994. (*La Rambla* 51-59). *M*: *Liceu* (*L*3). *Mon-Fri* 9.30am & 10.30am. €16.

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. €11 (reduced).

Tuesday 12

Tours

Liceu opera house See Mon 11. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

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

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

Sant Pau modernista monument See Fri 8. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret,

167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5).

Wednesday 13

Tours

Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins See Wed 6. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi

Visit the 14th-century Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi and its belltower.

(Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Noon, 1.30pm, 5pm. Catalan, Spanish, English. €10 (adults). €8 (children 7-16 years). Reservations: www. tickets.visitbarcelona.com and www.adsentia.com.

Thursday 14

Cinema

Inauguration of the 15th Xcèntric season

The CCCB's festival of underground, avant-garde, experimental and hard-to-find films of all kinds. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1,L3;FGC). www.cccb.org.

Tours

Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi See Wed 13. (*Pl. del Pi, 7*). *M: Liceu* (L3).

▶ Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins See Wed 6. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Friday 15

Tours

► **Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi** See Wed 13. (*Pl. del Pi, 7*). *M: Liceu* (*L*3).

Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins See Wed 6. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M:

Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Saturday 16

Tours

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

Sortim a navegar amb el pailebot Santa Eulàlia See Sat 2. Maritime Museum (Av.

de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3).

Sunday 17

Football

▶* League fixture. FC Barcelona – Athletic Club de Bilbao

Another chance to see the wonder team in action, as they take on the Basque side. Date and time TBC. For more info: www.fcbarcelona. cat. Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Tours

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

FREE Guided tour of Poblenou Cemetery See Sun 3. (Av. Icària, s/n). M: Llacuna (L4).

Kids

Concerts familiars al Palau -Kantikipugui

Singers from the Palau's own choir explore the secret universe of childhood in this family concert. Palau de la Música (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1,L4). Noon. \in 11. For children 6 years and above.

Monday 18

Tours

► Liceu opera house See Mon 11. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

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

Tuesday 19

Tours

► **Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi** See Wed 13. (*Pl. del Pi, 7*). *M*: Liceu (L3).

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

Wednesday 20

Tours

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

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

El Born Centre Cultural See Sat 2. (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4).

Thursday 21

Tours

► Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins See Wed 6. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

► Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi See Wed 13. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Friday 22

Tours

Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi See Wed 13. (*Pl. del Pi*, 7). *M: Liceu* (L3).

► Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins See Wed 6. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provenca.

Saturday 23

Tours

Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins

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

Sortim a navegar amb el pailebot Santa Eulàlia See Sat 2. *Maritime Museum (Av.*

de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3).

The other Pedrera

See Sat 9. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Kids

Concerts familiars - Setze cordes

A specially designed family concert, which places kids centrestage as music and song unfolds around them.

L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Jan 23 noon, 5.30pm. Jan 24 10.30am, noon, 5.30pm. Jan 31 10.30am, noon, 5.30pm. €10.

Traditions

FREE Cavalcada dels Tres Tombs a Sant Andreu

The traditional parade of animals and historic trades in honour of Saint Anthony the Abbot, in the Sant Andreu district. Barri de Sant Andreu. M: Sant Andreu (L1). More info: www. barcelona.cat.

Sunday 24

Football

► * League fixture. RCD Espanyol – Villarreal CF

The Valencian side, nicknamed 'The Yellow Submarine' visit Espanyol in another league match. Date and time TBC. www.rcdespanyol.com. Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100. Cornellà de Llobregat). FGC: Cornellà.

Kids

Concerts familiars - Setze cordes

See Sat 23. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2).

Tours

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

FREE Guided tour of Montjuïc Cemetery

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

Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins

See Wed 6. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provenç

Monday 25

Tours

Liceu opera house See Mon 11. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

La Pedrera by Day See Fri 1. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Sant Pau modernista monument See Fri 8. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5).

Tuesday 26

Tours

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

Torre Bellesguard See Sat 2. (Bellesguard, 6-9).

M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC).

Wednesday 27

Tours

Sant Pau modernista monument See Fri 8. (Sant Antoni Maria

Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/ Dos de Maig (L5).

Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins See Wed 6. (Provença,

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

Thursday 28

Tours

La Pedrera by Day See Fri 1. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Sant Pau modernista monument See Fri 8. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5).

Friday 29

Tours

Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins See Wed 6. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Sant Pau modernista monument

See Fri 8. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5).

Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi See Wed 13. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3)

Saturday 30

Family festival

Flic Festival The children's literature festival returns to the CCCB, with

storytellers, performances, workshops and activities. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1,L2), Catalunya (L1,L3). Jan 30-31. More info: www. cccb.org

Kids

La Petita Flauta Màgica **Book your** favourite restaurants at timeout.com/ barcelona

Mozart's great opera retold for children-as 'Papageno's Big Adventure' – in a fun adaptation that has become a classic at the Liceu.

Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 6pm. €13. For kids 6 years and above.

El Born en família

A children's theatre show about the secretive lives of underground rodents. 'Seven Little Mice' uses puppetry and storytelling to tell the tale of a mousey adventure. El Born Centre Cultural (Pl. Comercial. 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4), Arc de Triomf (L1). Jan 30 5pm. Jan 31 noon. Recommended for kids 3 and older.

Tours

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

The other Pedrera See Sat 9. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

El Born Centre Cultural See Sat 2. (Pl. Comercial, 12), M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4).

Sortim a navegar amb el pailebot Santa Eulàlia See Sat 2. Maritime Museum (Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3).

Sunday 31

Family festival

Flic Festival See Sat 30. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1,L2), Catalunya (L1,L3).

Football

▶ * League fixture. FC Barcelona - Club Atlético de Madrid

It's another big match for Barca as Messi, Neymar, Sánchez et al take on the Madrid team in the second half of the Spanish league. Date and time TBC. For more info: www. fcbarcelona.cat.Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Kids

El Born en família

See Sat 30. El Born Centre Cultural (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4), Arc de Triomf (L1). Noon.

Concerts familiars al Palau -Simfònic Ara!

Virtuouso violinist Teimuraz lanikashvili leads audeinces on a hilarious and unconventional foray into symphonic music. Palau de la Música (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1,L4). 10.30am, 12.30am. €15. For children 6 years and above.

Concerts familiars - Setze cordes

See Sat 23. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2).

Tours

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

Sant Pau modernista monument

See Fri 8. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5).

Gaudí's Pedrera. The Origins See Wed 6. (Provença, 261-265, entrance on Passeig de Gràcia). M: Diagonal (L3, L5), FGC: Provença.

Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi See Wed 13. (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

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Sights

Architecture

Basílica de la Sagrada Família

(Mallorca, 401). M: Sagrada Família (L2, L5). T. 93 513 20 60. 9am-6pm. Jan 1, 6 9am-2pm. Guided tour/with audio guide: €19.50. Barcelona's most famous landmark, begun by Antoni Gaudí in 1891 and unfinished to this day. Ticket sales help fund the ongoing construction of Spain's most popular tourist attraction.

► 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, thanks to the harmony of its proportions and its inherent serenity.

▶ Basílica de Santa Maria del Pi

(Plaça del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 318 47 43. 10am-6pm. Closed Jan 1, 6. €4. €3 (reduced). Guided tour (including 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 (nighttime tour): Thu, Fri 9pm (9.20pm English); Sat 9.30pm (9.50pm English). 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). casabatllo.cat. 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 Güell

(Claudi Güell, 6 – Santa Coloma

de Cervelló). M: Espanya (L1, L3) & FGC: Colònia Güell (S4, S8, S33). T. 93 630 58 07. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat, Sun, public hols 10am-3pm. Closed Jan 1, 6. €9 (incl. audio guide). €7.50 (reduced). Gaudí's hidden treasure is a UNESCO World Heritage Site inside Colònia Güell, a planned textile factory and residential area 20 mins 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). €8. www.liceubarcelona.cat Visit one of the world's great opera houses: discover the impressive concert hall and exclusive private rooms that make this one of Barcelona's most emblematic buildings.

La Pedrera

(Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 902 202 138. Jan 1 11am-8.30pm. Jan 2-3 9am-8.30pm. Last entry: 8pm. Jan 4-10, 18-31 9am-6.30pm. Last entry: 6pm. Closed Jan 11-17. €20.50. €16.50 (reduced). Many Barcelona residents regard this as Gaudí's true masterpiece. The roof terrace represents modernista architechture at its finest. Enjoy the spectacular design at night with 'Gaudi's Pedrera. The Origins', a tour and rooftop videomapping with multiple screenings and music (Jan 1-3 9pm-11pm; from Jan 4 7pm-9pm. Closed Jan 11-17).

Palau Güell

(Nou de la Rambla, 3-5). M: Drassanes & Liceu (L3). T. 93 472 57 75. Tue-Sun 10am-5.30pm. Last entry: 4.30pm. Closed Mon (except public hols) and Jan 1, 6, 18-24. \in 12. \in 8 (reduced). Built by 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 modernista buildings in the city, today a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Sant Pau, modernista monument

(Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau (L5). T. 93 553 78 01. Mon-Sat 10am-4.30pm; Sun, public hols 10am-2.30pm. Closed Jan 1, 6. Self-guided tour: €8. €5.60 (reduced). Guided tour (various times): €14. €9.80 (reduced). First Sunday of month and under-16s free. More info: www.santpaubarcelona.org. Tour the buildings and grounds of Hospital Sant Pau, 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 and Jan 1, 6. Panoramic tour (audio guide to exterior, remains of Martin the Humane's palace, audiovisual centre): \notin 9. Guided tour (tower, roof terrace): \notin 16; in English – Sat, Sun 11am. 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, Jaume I (L4). T. 93 295 57 43. Sun-Thu: first entry 10am; last entry between 10pm and midnight; Fri, Sat: last entry between midnight and 2am. www.airedebarcelona.com. These gorgeous 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-3pm. €11-€27 (depending on age and circuit). Zip lines, trampolines and bungee jumping for high-adrenaline fun.

Gaudí Experience

(Larrard, 41). M: Vallcarca, Lesseps (L3). T. 93 285 44 40. 10.30am-6pm. Closed Jan 6. €9. €7.50 (reduced). A fascinating interactive journey that uses 4-D technology to take you inside Gaudí's universe.

Poble Espanyol

(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3). T. 93 508 63 00. Mon 9am-8pm; Tue-Thu, Sun 9am-midnight; Fri 9am-3am; Sat 9am-4am. €12. €7, €8.40, €9.50 (reduced). Built for the 1929 Barcelona Expo, Poble Espanyol is an open-air museum on Montjuïc with replicas of streets, squares and buildings from all over Spain. Regularly hosts live music events.

► Tibidabo Amusement Park

(Plaça del Tibidabo, 3-4). Bus Tibibus (T2A) from Plaça Catalunya. FGC: Av. Tibidabo + Tramvia Blau or Bus 196 + Funicular del Tibidabo. T. 93 211 79 42. Jan 2-5 noon-5pm. Closed Jan 6-Mar 5. Sky Walk: ≤ 12.70 . Children under 120cm: ≤ 7.80 . Amusement park: ≤ 28.50 . Children under 120cm: ≤ 10.30 . Inaugurated in 1899, Tibidabo features both classic rides and new attractions with amazing views over the city.

► PortAventura

(Av. Alcalde Pere Molas. Km. 2. Vila Seca, Tarragona). Train: Port Aventura. T. 902 20 22 20. Jan 1-6 10am-7pm. Closed Jan 7-Mar 19. For prices visit tourist offices or see portaventura.es. An hour south of Barcelona, this theme park has six zones of attractions, processions, eateries and shops.

Barcelona Zoo

(Parc de la Ciutadella, s/n). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Ciutadella/ Vila Olímpica (L4). T. 902 45 75 45. Daily 10am-5.30pm. €19.90. Children (ages 3-12): €11.95. Open for more than 100 years, this is one of the city's bestloved attractions, home to more than 2,000 animals representing over 315 species.

Edited by Eugènia Sendra esendra@timeout.cat @eugeniasendra

How to draw in the stars

The Gaspar family strikes back, with a contemporary art foundation on C/Montcada. By **Eugènia Sendra**



Change is afoot at Montcada, 25. The palace that, until 2012 was home to the Maeght gallery, a long-time fixture on the city's art scene, has reopened as a foundation linked to another historic name. that of Sala Gaspar. The project is headed by Moishan Gaspar, who three years ago decided to revitalise the project of the family gallery on Placa Letamendi in the Eixample. 'It was going well, but I had the feeling it wasn't the way forward,' Gaspar explains. 'If you want to be relevant, you have to move into a globalised world, even if your essence is local.'

Relevance and quality

The Gaspar Foundation is a move away from the commercial spirit of the gallery, and as an institution it hopes both to contribute to making the city more relevant at an international level and to revive local audiences' appetite for contemporary art.

The promotor reflects that 'it doesn't make sense to exhibit Jeff Koons or Damien Hirst in

Our galleries can't compete with NYC or London, but foundations can

Barcelona, because there's no market for them. We can't compete with galleries in New York or London.' Foundations like theirs can help fill this gap. Gaspar explains that while he

Gaspar explains that while he

was planning the project, he happened on the Palau Cervelló, a stone's throw from where he opened his first gallery when he was 16, and just along the street from the Museu Picasso. 'This is the ideal site, not a Gehry building,' he guips. In addition to the location, the 1,500 square metres of floor space will allow them to accommodate a café - in which the family heritage is apparent - a book and gift shop, where they'll also exhibit limited edition works by artists such as Tacita Dean, and multipurpose rooms for all kinds of activities, as well as the exhibition spaces themselves.

When quizzed about the foundation's artistic philosophy, the promoter emphasises an eclectic approach, citing places that inspire him, such as the Hangar Bicocca in Milan, and New York's New Museum and MoMAPS1. 'We're dynamic, small and independent; we don't want people to think that contemporary art is just one thing, and we want to show as much as we can, while maximising quality and relevance.' Their inaugural exhibition is Art Strikes Back!, a collaboration with Swiss gallery Hauser & Wirth. Running until the end of March, it brings together some 20 key contemporary works of art from figures such as Louise Bourgeois, Paul McCarthy, Dieter Roth, Martin Creed, Subodh Gupta and Rita Ackermann.

Fundació Gaspar is open every day from 10am to 8pm. €3-€5. www.fundaciogaspar.org

Mozart maestro

Classical music fans rejoice. This month sees Sir John Eliot Gardiner visit Barcelona as part of a sixdate tour of major European cities the British conductor is doing with his Monteverdi Choir and English Baroque Soloists. Gardiner is regarded as a key figure in the revival of early music witnessed in recent times, and he regularly collaborates with symphony orchestras around the world.

This tour also takes in London, Zurich and Salzburg, with a changing programme each time. In Barcelona, the highlight will be Mozart's 'Great Mass in C Minor', one of the Austrian composer's last efforts at a musical setting for the Mass (although he didn't actually complete it, the piece was premiered in Salzburg in 1783), along with a symphony that is yet to be announced. If you want to expand your Mozart experience, an hour before the concert starts,



there will be a half-hour discussion about the performance. -Hannah Pennell

Sir John Eliot Gardiner

conducts the Monteverdi Choir and English Baroque Soloists at L'Auditori (Lepant, 150) on Sun 24 at 7pm. €10-€88. www.auditori.cat

There are no words...



Ask any Catalan who Joan Gràcia, Paco Mir and Carles Sans are, and chances are a smile will come to their lips. That's because this trio, known collectively as Tricicle, are one of the area's best-known theatre groups, particularly adored for their humorous mime performances. BITS is their latest production and features a series of rapid-fire jokes based on 'bits' of information, with the aim of reaching the highest number of gags per minute. While some of the scenarios may feature an element of local culture or colour, chances

are good you'll get the punchline anyway, with these masters of physical comedy giving it their all for 80 minutes of fun. From humble beginnings at the tail end of the 1970s, when they performed on streets and in alternative spaces, Gràcia, Mir and Sans progressed via theatre and television to win a special place in the hearts of many, both at home and abroad. –*H.P.*

BITS is at the Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115) until Sun 31, daily except Mon and Tue. €10-€32. www.teatrepoliorama.com

Fantastic world Cirque du Soleil returns to Barcelona with its alternative ending to the Icarus myth

See 2016 in with a bang, a wideopen mouth and possibly just a few nerves with the arrival of Cirque du Soleil's *Varekai* touring show in Barcelona. This contemporary circus troupe has been entertaining millions around

the world for over three decades, since two former street

performers created the group in Canada back in 1984. They now have 20 different productions on the go including the tribute shows Michael Jackson ONE and The Beatles LOVE, which are both currently playing in Las Vegas (along with six other spectacles). For its part, Varekai (which means 'wherever' in Romanian) is just one of nine Cirque du Soleil performances touring the world right now. Low-key this organisation is not. But then it's not really any surprise that they've decided to exploit the great success their combination of acrobatics, music and extravagant sets have achieved down the years. As traditional circuses have fallen out of favour with global audiences, the amazing contortions and flamboyant style of Cirque du Soleil have been welcomed with open arms.

The storyline of Varekai, which premiered in 2002, starts with the famous Greek myth of Icarus, that confident young man whose father made them both wings out of wax so they could fly to freedom. Despite his pa's warnings, the son then flew too close to the sun, causing the wings to melt and his fall to earth. However, in this new take on the story, rather than drowning in the sea, lcarus lands in a lush forest full of exotic creatures. It turns out that the forest is located on the peak of a volcano, and it's a place where anything is possible. The characters twist, turn, skate,

dangle, flip and all but fly, as Icarus takes advantage of the second chance he's been given. Another attraction of Varekai is the live music that accompanies the on-stage thrills. Composed by Violaine Corradi, it's performed by seven musicians and two singers, and combines sounds from Hawaii, France and Armenia as well as gospel music. Such internationality is also reflected in those taking part in the show, with the 95-member cast and crew representing some 25 different nationalities. -H.P.

> **FOOTNOTE** Varekai has been seen by around 6 million people to date.

> > **'Varekai'** January 1-10 (except Jan 6). Palau Sant Jordi. €29-€79

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Music

Friday 1

Classical

Johann Strauss – New Year's Concert with ballet

The Strauss Festival Orchestra and Ballet Ensemble with a set inspired by Vienna's New Year's waltz fest. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Jan 1, 3, 10, 16, 17. 6pm (except Jan 1, 9pm). €27-€54. www.promoconcert.es

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Flamenco in candlelit concert. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 7pm. €20. Discount at tourist offices. Information at: www.tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Spanish guitar maestros

Barcelona Guitar Trio perform in a beautiful setting. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. \in 23. www.tickets. visitbarcelona.com

Jazz

Jazzcare All Stars - 60th Anniversary Concert

An all-star line-up created for the occasion relives Louis Armstrong's December 1955 debut in Barcelona, playing many of the numbers he performed then. Jamboree (PI. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €18 (box office). €15 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

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). 5pm. \in 20- \in 50. Info: www.tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

► 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). \notin 45- \notin 160. \notin 10 discount at tourist offices. palaciodelflamenco.com

Promising Young Flamenco Stars

Up-and-coming stars from the world of contemporary flamenco. Tablao Cordobes. (*La Rambla, 35*). *M*: Drassanes (*L*3) & *Liceu* (*L*3). 6.30 pm, 8.15 pm, 10 pm, 11.30 pm. €44-€78.50. tablaocordobes.com

Live Flamenco

The passion of flamenco in an intimate tablao on the 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

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

Casa Camerón 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). www.casacamaron.com.

► Flamenco at Palau Dalmases

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

Saturday 2

Flamenco

Flamenco at Palau Dalmases See Fri 1. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4).

Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla See Fri 1.

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

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

Classical

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Flamenco and classical sounds. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 9pm. €20. Discount at tourist offices. Info: tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Spanish guitar maestros

Barcelona Guitar Trio perform. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 5pm. \leq 30- \leq 35. www. tickets.visitbarcelona.com

Choir, Ballet and Orchestra of Sant Petersburg Army

Over 100 perfomers bring to life the some of Russia's best-known songs and dances.

L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9.30pm. €26-€45.

Jazz

Live Jazz

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

Rock

Rock Symphony

An orchestral tribute to the biggest names in rock, from Deep Purple and Queen to Led Zeppelin and the Rolling Stones. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Jan 2, 9pm. Jan 23, 10.30pm. \notin 26. \notin 53. www.promoconcert.es

Sunday 3

Jazz – Funk – Hip hop

Live Jazz

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

Classical

Johann Strauss - New Year's Concert with ballet

See Fri 1. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 6pm.

New Year Concert with Barcelona Municipal Band

Lively dances from around the world to welcome the New Year, with the music of Rossini, Falla, Strauss and other composers. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 6pm. €20. Reduced €15.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Sat 2. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 6pm.

Spanish guitar maestros See Fri 1. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi. 7). M: Liceu (L3)

Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Flamenco

Stories of Love

A full cast performs the traditions of opera, zarzuela and flamenco. Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 9.30pm. From €38. Info: www.tickets. visitbarcelona.com

Monday 4

Festive

FREE Christmas concerts in Plaça del Rei

Catalan Christmas carols in a historic square. (Plaça del Rei). M: Jaume I (L4). 7.30pm. More information at: www.barcelona.cat/nadal.

Classical

Vivaldi's Four Seasons

Vivaldi's most popular work, performed by the Ukranian State Symphony Orchestra. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. \in 26- \in 53. www.promoconcert.es

Spanish guitar maestros

Pedro J. González performs in a beautiful setting. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. \in 23. www.tickets. visitbarcelona.com

Jazz

WTF Jam Session

Anything goes at the long-running jam hosted by Aurelio Santos. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. \in 5 (box office). \notin 4 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/ jamboree.

Flamenco

Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Fri 1. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Stories of Love

See Sun 3. Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 7pm.

Tuesday 5

Flamenco

Promising Young Flamenco Stars

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

Palacio del Flamenco show See Fri 1. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5; FGC).

Classical

Spanish guitar maestros

Xavier Coll performs in the stunning basilica. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €23. tickets.visitbarcelona.com

Jazz – Funk – Hip hop

Live Jazz

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

Funk - Soul

Soul Sisters Blackcelona at Jamboree

The biggest female soul, funk and R&B voices in BCN come together for a unique concert. (*Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).* 9.30pm. €18 (box office). €15 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree.

Wednesday 6

Classical

Spanish guitar

maestros See Tue 5. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Discover the soul of flamenco. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 9pm, €20 (discount at tourist offices). tickets.visitbarcelona.com

Gospel

Mississipi Gospel Choir

A 20-strong choir explores the roots of American gospel. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. \in 26- \in 53. www. promoconcert.es

Flamenco

Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Fri 1. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Gran Gala Flamenco

Enjoy a grand performance of the classic Spanish music genre. Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 7pm. From €38. tickets.visitbarcelona.com

Jazz

Billie Holiday Tribute The Joan Chamorro quartet with Andrea Motis pays homage to the undisputed queen of jazz. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €18 (box office). €15 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree

Thursday 7

Classical

Gustavo Dudamel + **Find more Orquesta Sinfónica** concerts on our Simón Bolívar de website Venezuela timeout.com/ barcelona Messiaen's Turangalila draws on the legend of Tristan and Isolde: 20th-century music performed with Dudamel's customary verve. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €20-€140.

Jazz – Funk – Hip hop

Live Jazz

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

Flamenco

► Tablao Flamenco Nervión See Sat 2. (Princesa, 2). M: Jaume I (L4).

Opera

Opera at Palau Dalmases

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

Friday 8

Blues

Blues at the MEAM – Oscar Linares & Andrea Capalbo

From the first blues recordings to the themes of the '50s. (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Every Friday. 6pm. €14. meam.es

Classical

Strauss Gala/INSO Lemberg

The International New Symphony of Lemberg in a gala performance of the music of Strauss. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Jan 8-9. 9pm. €37. www.concertsabarcelona.com

Symphonic Abba

Abba's music performed in symphonic versions by female quartet The Amazones. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 10pm. \in 26- \in 53. www.promoconcert.es

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Carmen, Barcelona Duo de Guitar perform candlelit concert. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 7pm. €20. Discount at tourist offices. Information: tickets. visitbarcelona.com.

Flamenco

► Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Fri 1. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Saturday 9

Classical

Strauss Gala/Philharmonic de Lemberg

See Jan 8. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6).

OBC Concert - Gladiator Live

Hans Zimmer's epic soundtrack to the film *Gladiator*, performed live to accompany the film. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries* & Marina (*L1*), Monumental (*L2*). Jan 9, 7pm. Jan 10, 11am. €48.

Musical hits from the films

A selection from some of Hollywood's great soundtracks. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona

(L1, L4). Jan 9, 9pm. Jan 24, 7pm. €27-€54. www.promoconcert.es

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Wed 6. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC).

Jazz

Live Jazz

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

Flamenco

▶ Palacio del Flamenco show See Fri 1. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC).

► Live Flamenco See Fri 1. Sala Tarantos (Plaça Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Sunday 10

Jazz – Funk – Hiphop

Live Jazz

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

Classical

OBC Concert – Gladiator Live See Sat 9. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 11am.

Johann Strauss - New Year's Concert with ballet

See Fri 1. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 6pm.

Concierto de Aranjuez

Rodrigo's best-known work features in a night dedicated to the Spanish guitar. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 5.30pm. \notin 26- \notin 53. www.promoconcert.es

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine See Sat 8. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 6pm.

▶ Spanish guitar maestros Luís Robisco gives a recital in this beautiful church. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €23. tickets. visitbarcelona.com

Monday 11

Classical

Palau 100 – Mitsuko Uchida Recognised as one of the great interpreters of Mozart's music, pianist Uchida leads the Mahler Chamber Orchestra in a selection of his work. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €15-€100.

Jazz – Funk – Hip hop

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

Flamenco

Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla See Fri 1. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Flamenco at Palau Dalmases See Fri 1. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4).

Tuesday 12

Classical

The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine See Fri 8. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 7pm.

Flamenco

▶ Palacio del Flamenco show See Fri 1. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC).

Wednesday 13

Classical

Spanish guitar maestros See Tue 5. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Flamenco

Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Fri 1. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Flamenco at Palau

Dalmases See Fri 1. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4).

Pop – Neo-soul

Neddermann Sisters

Consummate covers and original compositions from sisters Judit and Meritxell Neddermann. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. \in 12 (box office). \in 10 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree

Thursday 14

Classical

Palau 100 Piano – Nikolai Demidenko Recital of Chopin, Medtner and Rachmaninoff's works. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau

de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona

Flamenco

(L1, L4). 8.30pm. €25.

Promising Young Flamenco Stars See Fri 1. (La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3).

Jazz

Hammond Cycle 5J

Generations featuring Fred Wesley with Leonardo Corradi and Toni Match.

Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €30 (box office). €25 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree

Opera

Opera at Palau Dalmases See Thu 7. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4).

Friday 15

Flamenco

Promising Young Flamenco Stars See Fri 1. (La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3).

Classical

Spanish Gala. From classical to flamenco

Discover Andalusia through music with extracts from *El Amor Brujo* and *La Vida Breve*, among others. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona* (L1, L4). 9pm. \notin 26- \notin 53. www. promoconcert.es

OBC Concert – Beethoven's Ninth

Guest conductor Jan Willem de Vriend leads the OBC in Beethoven's hymn to fraternity. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Jan 15, 8.30pm. Jan 16, 7pm. Jan 17, 11am. €10-€56.

Jazz

Hammond Cycle 5J

Gael Horellou presents Organ Trio. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €30 (box office). €25 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree

Blues

Blues at the MEAM

Blues and swing at the European Museum of Modern Art. (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Every Friday. 6pm. €14. meam.es.

Singer-songwriter

Songs in the Born – Lluís Llach

Catalan singer-songwriter Lluís Llach presents performances from the winners of the 8th Miquel Martí i Pol prizes. El Born Centre Cultural (Pl. Comercial, 12, Sala Moragues). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4), Arc de Triomf (L1). 8pm. €15. Reduced €10.

Saturday 16

Singer-songwriter

Songs in the Born – Jordi Guerrero

Flamenco guitarist Jordi Guerrero presents song and dance spectacle Egonáutica. *El Born Centre Cultural (Pl. Comercial, 12, Sala Moragues). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4), Arc de Triomf (L1). 8pm.* €15. *Reduced* €10.

Classical

Johann Strauss – New Year's Concert with ballet

See Fri 1.

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

Welcome to Broadway

The Feel'armonia quartet, backed by the Broadway Symphony Orchestra, perform the great showtunes. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 10pm. $\epsilon 26-\epsilon 53$.

www.promoconcert.es

Music at the Museum of Catalan Modernisme

Works by Bach, Mozart, E. Morera and J. Vila performed by the flautists of the Quartet Morera.

(Balmes, 48). M: Pg. de Gràcia (L2,L3, L4). www.mmcat.cat.

Spanish guitar maestros See Mon 4. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9.30pm.

Jazz

Black Pearl: tribute to Jimmy McGriff

Victor Puertas pays homage to the king of the Hammond B3 organ with a seven-piece backing band. (*Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).* 9.30pm. €15 (box office). €12 (online in advance). www.masimas. com/jamboree.

Sunday 17

Classical

Johann Strauss – New Year's Concert with ballet See Fri 1. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 6pm.

Munich Philharmonic Orchestra

The Munich Philharmonic, directed by Valery Gergiev, performs Wagner's Lohengrin, Scriabin's Poem of Ecstasy and Tchaikovsky's Pathétique symphony. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries* & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 7pm. €27-€138.

OBC Concert – Beethoven's Ninth

See Fri 15. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 11am.

Young musicians

Musical residencies series

Harpist Esther Pinyol performs works by Brotons and Guinovart among others, with Ferran Carceller on marimba. *Fundació Catalunya–La Pedrera* (*Provença, 261-265*). *M: Diagonal* (L3,L5), FGC: Provença. 6pm. €10. More info: www.lapedrera.com

Jazz

Gerard Nieto Organ-Izing

The Hammond 57 cycle finale with local keyboard maestro Gerard Nieto's tribute to the classic sound of organ with sax, on a joinery from shuffle to be-bop. Jamboree (PI. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €15 (box office).

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€12 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree

Rock

Suite Festival – Sopa de Cabra The Catalan group present their latest album, Cercles. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. \in 15- \in 65.

Flamenco

Flamenco show dedicated to Camarón de la Isla

See Fri 1. Casa Camarón (Roger de Flor, 230). M: Verdaguer (L4,L5), Sagrada Família (L2,L5).

Live Flamenco

See Fri 1. Sala Tarantos (Plaça Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3).

Monday 18

Classical

Jordi Savall

Internationally renowned expert on Early Music Jordi Savall performs works from the French Baroque, with music by Couperin and Sainte-Colombe. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. \in 30- \in 40.

Spanish guitar maestros

See Mon 4. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9.30pm.

Flamenco – Latin

17th Banc Sabadell Mil·lenni Festival – Niña Pastori

Presenting her latest album, Ámame Como Soy, Pastori takes her flamenco roots with her on a journey through the rich heritage of Latin music. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9pm. \in 28- \in 54.

Jazz – Funk – Hip hop

WTF Jam Session

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

Tuesday 19

Classical

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Wed 6. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC).

Jazz – Funk – Hip hop

Live Jazz

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

Rock

Elliot Murphy & Olivier Durand

Musician, poet, singer and rock legend Elliot Murphy with his regular partner in song, Olivier Durand. Jamboree (PI. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. \in 35 (box office). \in 30 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Wednesday 20

Classical

Palau 100 – Ivan Martín

Pianist Ivan Martín performs works by Scarlatti, Granados and others. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. \in 20.

Jazz – Reggae

The Gramophone All Stars Band

The home-grown jazz and reggae big band perform new numbers from their album *Jazzmaica*. *Jamboree (PI. Reial, 17). M: Liceu* (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €15 (box office). €12 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree

Thursday 21

Singer-songwriters

17th Banc Sabadell Mil-lenni Festival – Nacho Vegas Folk, rock and protest songs from Asturian singer-songwriter Nacho Vegas. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. \in 16- \in 36.

Songs in the Born – Guillem Roma and Friends

Guillem Roma's Camping Band Orchestra plays worlds music from Mexico to the Balkans. *El Born Centre Cultural (Pl. Comercial, 12, Sala Moragues). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4), Arc de Triomf (L1). 8pm.* €15. *Reduced* €10.

Jazz

Joan Chamorro presents Marc Martín

A rising star from Joan Chamorro's Sant Andreu Jazz Band project, Marc Martín is a keyboard prodigy. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €12 (box office). €10 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree

Opera

Otello by Giuseppe Verdi

Verdi's four-act opera based on Shakespeare's great play. The tragedy of Othello and Desdemona is set against the harsh backdrop of war in Deutsche Oper Berlin's dramatic production. (*La Rambla*, 51-59). *M*: *Liceu* (*L3*). *Jan 21, 26, 27, 29, 31. 8pm* (except *Jan 31, 6pm*). €10-€299. www.liceubarcelona.cat.

Friday 22

Blues

Blues at the MEAM

Blues and swing at the MEAM. (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Every Friday. 6pm. €14. meam.es

Classical

OBC Concert – Mahler's Fifth

Works by Granados, Liszt as well as Mahler. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Jan 22, 8.30pm. Jan 23, 7pm. Jan 24, 11am. €10-€56.

Music in the Born – Winter concert

Performance of pieces from Toldrà, Garreta and Montsalvatge. El Born Centre Cultural (Pl. Comercial, 12, Sala Moragues). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4), Arc de Triomf (L1). 8pm.

Spanish guitar

maestros

Concert by musician Manuel González. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €23. tickets. visitbarcelona.com

Singer-songwriter

Víctor Manuel

Spanish singer-songer and living national treasure Victor Manuel looks back over his long career. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. \in 15- \in 52.

Jazz

Scott Hamilton & Toni Solà Quintet

Tenors Scott Hamilton and Toni Solà with Gerard Nieto (piano) and Ignasi González (double bass). Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). Jan 22-23. 8pm, 10pm. €18 (box office). €15 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Opera

Viñas Singing Contest Final Concert

The 53rd Francisco Viñas International Singing Contest brings the world's best young singers of opera, oratorio and Lieder to Barcelona. This year's winners perform with the Liceu orchestra in the final concert. *Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla,*

Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambia, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 3pm. €10-€18.

Saturday 23

Classical

Beethoven and Jeremy Irons

Beethoven's music, interwoven with a text adapted from Goethe's

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play Egmont, as recited by actor Jeremy Irons. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €10-€122.

The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

Guitar expert Joan Benejam performs Fandango.Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC). 9pm. €20. tickets.visitbarcelona.com.

Symphonics at the Palau

Music by Beethoven, Schubert and Vaughan Williams. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. \in 18- \in 68.

Sunday 24

Classical

Sir John Eliot Gardiner /

Mozart's Great Mass in C Minor See page 43. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 7pm. €10-€88.

Musical hits from the films

See Jan 9. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm.

Music at Sant Pau modernista monument

Grup Teatre Intrumental and Emmanuel Balsa. Hospital Sant Pau (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau–Dos de Maig (L5). 7pm. €10. Tickets: www.santpaubarcelona.org and ticket offices at the venue.

Opera

Viñas Singing Contest Final Concert

See 22 Jan. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 6pm. €12-€30.

Monday 25

Classical

Municipal Band of Barcelona Works by Borgonyá, Serra and Falla performed by the city's band. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. $\in 12$ - $\in 15$.

Cologne Radio Orchestra

The Cologne Radio Orchestra performs Gershwin and Bernstein with pianist and conductor Wayne Marshall. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 8.30pm. £20.£98

Tuesday 26

Classical

Barcelona Guitar Orchestra

Thirty guitars led by Sergi Vicente, with violinist Ala Voronkova and the Spanish ballet group Retahila. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. \in 20- \in 49.

► The art of the Spanish guitar: music and wine

See Sat 23. Santa Anna Church (Santa Anna, 29). M: Catalunya (L1, L3;FGC).

Jazz

Jamboritalia – Enrico Rava New Quartet

Italian jazz legend, trumpeter Enrico Rava, visits Jamboree with his new quartet. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). Jan 26-27. 8pm, 10pm. €35 (box office). €30 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Opera

▶ Otello by Giuseppe Verdi See Thu 21. (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm.

Pop

17th Banc Sabadell Festival del Mil·lenni – Los Secretos

Pop in the key of symphony from this Spanish group famous in 'La Movida' in 1980s Madrid. L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries & Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). 9pm. $\in 24 - \notin 48$.

Wednesday 27

Classical

Quartet Quiroga & Javier Perianes

Pianist Javier Perianes joins the Quiroga quartet to play works by Turina, Granados and Schumann. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €25.

Spanish guitar maestros

Concert by Dúo del Mar. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €23. tickets. visitbarcelona.com

Thursday 28

Bizet's Carmen

A staged concert version (two hours with intermission) of one of the world's most popular operas. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. $\notin 22 \notin 52$.

Jazz – Blues

Sax-O-Rama

Two tenors duke it out as Sax Gordon goes head to head with Dani Nel·lo, with Lluís Coloma on piano. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €15 (box office). €12 (online in advance). www.masimas.com/jamboree

Friday 29

Classical

Iberia Classic

Masterpieces of 20th-century Spanish music from opera and zarazuela to Spanish classical ballet.

Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €20-€49.

Blues

Blues at the MEAM Blues and swing at the MEAM. (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). Every Friday. 6pm. €14. meam.es

Pop

Bryan Adams

Husky-voiced Canadian charttopper rocks on his Get Up tour. Palau Sant Jordi (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M: Espanya (L1,L3; FGC). 9.30pm.

Saturday 30 Classical

Asier Polo Virtuoso cellist Asier Polo performs Elgar's cello concerto and Schumann's Symphony No.3, 'Renana,' with the Orquestra Camera Musicae, conducted by Tomás Grau. Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €20-€25.

Sunday 31

Jazz – Blues

Sax-O-Rama

Popular 19th-century work by Gaetano Donizetti. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €22 (box office). €18 (online in advance). www. masimas.com/jamboree.

Indie rock

Foals

The UK indie group led by Yannis Phiippakis tour 2015's What Went Down. Razzmatazz (Pamplona, 88). M: Marina (L1), Bogatell (L4). 9pm. €28. www.livenation.es

Classical

Palau 100 - Royal Concertgebouw

Semyon Bychkov conducts Amsterdam's finest in a performance of Strauss's Ein Heldenleben and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.5 with soloist Jean-Yves Thibaudet. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música,* 4-6). *M*: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. \in 30- \in 175.

Exhibitions

Arxiu Fotogràfic de Barcelona

(Pl. 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.

Biblioteca Pública Arús

(Pg. Sant Joan, 26). M: Arc de Triomf (L1). T. 93 256 59 50. Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am-3pm. Tue, Thu 4pm-9pm.

FREE The legacy of Frederick S. Pearson *Until Jan 15.* Marking 100 years since the death of the US engineer and entrepreneur.

Blue Project Foundation

(Princesa, 57). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 182 43 71. Tue-Sun, 10am-8pm. Closed Mon. €3.

Joachim Koester. Making bodies

with machines Until Jan 10. Work by conceptual Danish artist who uses video and photography. Michelangelo Pistoletto Until Mar 28. The Italian painter is a key figure of Arte Povera.

CaixaForum

(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 476 86 00. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm. Jan 5 10am-6pm. Closed Jan 1, 6. Adults €4. Under-16s free.

Animals and pharaohs Until Jan 10. Looking at the role of the animal kingdom in Ancient Egypt. Drawing Versailles Until Feb 14. Works by French painter Charles Le Brun, which include a series of

preparatory drawings for the Palace of Versailles.

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, Jan 1-3. €5. Reduced: €2.

A collection for a journey Jan 18-Apr 3. 1960 project that saw architects and artists produce one-off works to finance a roundthe-world trip for students. **The Art of Collecting** Jan 25-Apr 3. Ernesto Ventós has spent around 40 years seeking out works of art that suggest olfactory memories.

Castell de Montjuïc

(Ctra. de Montjuïc, 66). M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC). T. 93 256 44 45. Mon-Sun, public holidays 10am-6pm. Closed Jan 1. \in 5. Reduced: \in 3.

Montjuïc, the construction of a castle Permanent exhibition. Doble Creu Sculpture by Carles Berga. Permanent exhibition. Watching the city Until Feb 28. Exhibition with views of Barcelona.

СССВ

(Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 306 41 00. Tue-Sun & public holidays 11am-8pm. Jan 5,6 11am-3pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Jan 1. One exhibition \in 6. Two exhibitions \in 8. Wed (except public holidays) and for pensioners and students: \notin 4. Under-16s & unemployed: free.

+Humans Until Apr 10. See page 28.

CosmoCaixa

(Isaac Newton, 26). FGC: Av. Tibidabo. T. 93 212 60 50. Tue-Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Jan 5 10am-6pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Jan 1, 6. €4 (permanent and temporary exhibitions). Under-16s free.

► **3D Planetarium** *No end date.* Installation lets you explore space.

► Flooded forest No end date. Living exhibit with over 100 species from Brazilian jungle.
Year 2100 experiment Until Jan 24. Life in the year 2100 and the 22nd century.

• Accelerating science Until Jan 10. An exhibition focused on the work of CERN.

► Talking about drugs No end date. Programme that aims to prevent the consumption of drugs.

El Born Centre Cultural

(Plaça Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4). T. 93 256 68 51. Tue-Sat, 10am-7pm. Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Jan 1. €6. Reduced: €4.20. Under-16s free. Sun 3pm-8pm free. First Sun every month free, 10am-8pm.

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

FREE Until it is done! (Sala Casanova) Examining 14-month siege of Barcelona that ended with capitulation to the Bourbons on Sep 11, 1714. Temporary exhibition.

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, Jan 1-3. €1.

Architecture, typography and

other volumes Jan 21-Apr 24. Work by Catalan artist Ramon Enrich, who trained in the US with David Hockney.

Constructed landscapes Jan 21-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, Jan 1, 6. €7. Students and pensioners: €5.60.

Tàpies: An Artist's Collection

Until Jan 10. Works the late Catalan artist created between the '40s and the '80s, and pieces by other artists from his collection.

Fundació Catalunya-La Pedrera

(Pg. de Gràcia, 92). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 902 202 138. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm. Jan 1 11am-6.30pm. Jan 2-3 9am-8.30pm. From Jan 4 9am-6.30pm. Closed Jan 11-17. €3. Reduced €2.

Modernisme. Art, workshops,

industries *Until Feb 7*. The work of numerous artisans in the modernisme movement.

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 holidays), Jan 1. €11. Temp exhibition: €7. Espai 13: €2.50.

Permanent exhibition Most important public collection of works by the Catalan artist. Miró and the Object Until Jan 17. Exploration of how Catalan artist utilised items that he found. Nadala: Art de foc, art de badoc Until Jan 10. Each year the Fundació Joan Miró commissions a special festive installation. Photography in the lobby Until Jan 17. A series of images by Aleydis Rispa that forms a cosmology of

Fundación MAPFRE

planets and stars.

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.

FREE The Triumph of Colour *Until Jan 10.* Impressive exhibition of works by the likes of Van Gogh, Gaugin and Seurat.

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: €2.

Italia. The Six Senses Until Jan 9. Re-examination of late 20thcentury Italian works held by the Suñol Foundation.

Rosa Amorós. Debris and

urges *Until Jan 23.* Works from the '90s to the present day. **FREE ACTE 33** *Until Jan 23.* 'The Artist and the Stone' by Matteo Guidi and Giuliana Racco.

Gaudí Exhibition Center

Museu Diocesà (Pla de la Seu, 7). M: Jaume I (L4) and Liceu (L3).T.93 268 75 82. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm. €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. Daily 10am-10pm. Public holidays 2pm-10pm. €9. Under-13s free.

Permanent exhibition Past,

present and future of cannabis. FREE Grow on Until May 1 The 30th anniversary 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-5pm. Closed Jan 1. €3.50. Reduced: €1.70. Temporary exhibition: Tue-Sun, Mondays that are public holidays 10.30am-4.30pm. €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. Closed Jan 1.

FREE Catalonia in Venice. Singularity *Until Feb 14*. Exhibition curated by Chus Martínez to represent Catalan art at the 56th Venice Biennale.

MACBA. Museu d'Art Contemporani (Plaça 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 holidays 10am-3pm. Closed Tues (except public holidays), Jan 1. €10. Reduced: €8.

► Species of space Until Jan 31. Examining the spaces that define us by the way we use them.

Sergi Aguilar. Reverse/ Obverse Until Jan 31. Retrospective of work by Barcelona sculptor.

Miserachs Barcelona Until Mar 27. Work of Catalan photographer who documented 20th-century Barcelona.

• Carlos Bunga. Capella Until Feb 7. Show built around the chapel where it's being staged.

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern

(Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 319 56 93. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Jan 1. €9. Reduced: €7.

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

Winners and short-listed works from 8the Painting and Figurative Sculpture competition Until Jan 11. Top entries from artistic contest.

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 holidays), Jan 1. Free entry until Jan 6. From Jan 7, combined ticket for Museu Etnològic + Museu de les Cultures del Món: €5. Reduced: €3.50.

Contemporary art Permanent exhibition that aims to interpret society by comparing different places and times.

Land of potters Until Jun. Looking at trades associated with water, such as potters and diviners. The sacred, the profane and the festive Until Jun. Exploring the 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. Jan 6 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Jan 1. €8. Reduced: €6.

Permanent exhibition The world of creativity and inventing.

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. Closed Jan 1.

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

MUHBA Park Güell Find more (Olot, s/n. Casa de la expos on our website Guarda). timeout.com/ M: Vallcarca (L3). T. 93 barcelona 256 21 22. Daily 8.45am-6.45pm. The Casa de la Guarda museum is part of the 'monumental area' of the park, 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 Plaça del Rei

(Pl. del Rei). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 21 22. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-8pm. Jan 6 10am-2pm. Closed Mon, Jan 1. €7. Reduced: €5. Under-16s free. Free Sun from 3pm.

Permanent exhibition Tour of the Roman colony of Barcino. Deported Barcelona Until Feb 7. Video installation remembering Barcelona residents deported from the city to Nazi camps. Carolingian coins of Louis the Pious No end date. A display of currency that dates from the ninth century.

MUHBA Refugi 307

(Nou de la Rambla, 169). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 256 21 22. 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 holidays.

FREE Permanent exhibition.

Remains among the foundations of the Santa Caterina market.

MUHBA Turó de la Rovira

(Marià Labèrnia s/n). Bus: 119,V17. T. 93 256 21 22. General access has no fixed timetable. Museum areas: Sat, Sun 10am-3pm. Closed Jan 1.

Permanent exhibition

Barcelona to the limit.

Museu Blau

(Pl. de Leonardo da Vinci, 4-5, Parc del Fòrum). M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4). T. 93

256 60 02. Tue-Fri 10am-6pm. Sat 10am-7pm. Sun & public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €6. Reduced: €2.70. Museum & Botanical Gardens: €7. Reduced: €3.50. Temp exhibition: €5. Reduced: €3.50.

FREE Drawings by Luis Feo Until Jan 31. Artwork inspired by scientific illustrations. Nutrition, vital instinct Until May 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 holidays 10am-2pm. Temporary exhibition: Tue-Sat 5pm-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. Closed Mon, Jan 1, 6. €6. Reduced: \in 4.80.

Permanent exhibition Remains of the Roman city of Baetulo. FREE Toys and games in ancient times Until Feb 28. Playtime items on Ioan from different Catalan archaeological museums.

Museu de Montserrat

(Abadia de Montserrat. 08199 Montserrat). FGC: Monistrol de Montserrat + zip train. Mon-Sun 10am-5.45pm. €7. Reduced: €6. Temporary exhibition: €3.30.

Permanent Exhibition Paintings by El Greco, Caravaggio, Monet, Degas, Pissarro, Dalí and Picasso.

Ramón Calsina, Remembrance Until Jan 17. Retrospective of work by the late Catalan artist. Roger Ballen, Fate Until Jan 6. Photos from New York artist.

MEB: Museu de l'Eròtica

 $\begin{array}{l} (La \ Rambla, 96). \ M: \ Liceu \ (L3). \ T.\\ 93 \ 318 \ 98 \ 65. \ Daily \ 10am-\\ midnight. \ Jan \ 1 \ noon-midnight.\\ \ Adults \ \ 9. \ Reduced: \ \ \ 8. \end{array}$

Permanent exhibition History of eroticism and its portrayal in art.

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 holidays: check with museum. Closed Jan 1. €7. Reduced: €5. Under-8s free.

Motorbike. Society, industry, competition Permanent

exhibition looking at the history of the motorbike from its beginnings as an elite status symbol to the today.

Bultaco, a legendary

motorbike *Until Feb.* Tribute to one of Spain's great motorbike manufacturers.

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, Jan 1. €5. Reduced: €3.50. Free admission Sun from 3pm and for under-16s.

► **Permanent exhibition** Take a trip through musical history.

• Tridimensional music Until Jan 17. Sculptural homage to the guitar.

► Miquel Llobet Until Jan 17. Remembering one of Catalonia's most prestigious guitarists.

Museu de la Xocolata

(Comerç, 36 - Antic Convent de Sant Agustí). M: Arc de Triomf (L1). T. 93 268 78 78. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-3pm. Closed Jan 1, 6. €5. Group entry: €4 each.

► 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 public holidays), Jan 1. €5. Reduced: €3.50.

Permanent exhibition Art,

books and objects gathered in Asia, Africa, Oceania and the Americas.

► Writings. Symbols, words, powers Until Jan 31. Tracing the development of writing.

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, Jan 1. €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 seen 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 Mar* 27. Show of 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. Mon-Sat 10am-6.30pm, Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Jan 2-5 10am-7.30pm. Closed Jan 1. Some parts of tour are closed on match day. \in 23. Children: \in 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. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Jan 1. €7.50. Reduced: €5. Children (6-15): €3.50.

Permanent exhibition See remains of woolly mammoths and other Ice Age animals.

Museu del Modernisme Català

(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, Jan 1, 6. €10. Reduced: €7. mmbcn.cat

Permanent exhibition Works by 42 key artists of the Catalan modernisme movement.

Museu Egipci de Barcelona

(València, 284). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 488 01 88. Until Jan 5 Mon-Sat 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. From Jan 7 Mon-Fri 10am-2pm, 4pm-8pm; Sat 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. Closed Jan 1, 6. €11. Reduced: €8.

Permanent exhibition

Hundreds of exhibits provide a glimpse into life in Ancient Egypt. Tutankhamun. Story of a discovery *No end date*. 1922 archaeological expedition that uncovered the pharaoh's tomb.

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), Jan 1. €4.20. Reduced: €2.40.

Permanent exhibition Valuable artworks and objects.

Maillol and Greece Until Jan 31. How a trip to Greece inspired sculptor Aristides Maillol. Nunc Stans Until Feb 21. Dialogue between contemporary artworks from the "La Caixa" Collection and the Museu Frederic Marès.

Museu Marítim de Barcelona

(Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3). T. 93 342 99 20. Daily 10am-8pm. Closed Jan 1, 6. Temp exhibitions & visit to Santa Eulàlia schooner: €7. Reduced: €3.50. Permanent exhibition closed for remodelling.

Ona-Ola-Wave. Surf in Catalonia

Until Jan 17. How surfing has grown in popularity. **Nights of Ink** *Until Jan* 10. Art exploring tradition of fishing.

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), Jan 1. €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.

• Xavi Gosé Until Mar 20. Marking the centenary of the death of this acclaimed Catalan artist.

► **Undamaged.** Until Feb 28. Still lifes from Spain's Golden Age.

Stories in metal. Until Jan 17, 2016. European medals.

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-6pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays), Jan 1. €5.10. Students: €3.20. Under-7s and over-65s: free.

► **Permanent exhibition** Explore in-depth the worlds of sport and the Olympic Games.

International Biennial of Sports Photography: Fotosport 2014 Until Feb 14. Renowned sports photography event.

Museu Picasso

(Montcada, 15-23). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 30 00. Tue-Sun 9am-7pm; Thu 9am-9.30pm. Closed Jan 1. €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. Picasso and Reventós Until Jan 10 The relationship between Picasso and the Reventós family. Picasso's passion for El Greco Until Jan 17. This exhibition compares work by the two artists.

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 Catalan actresses of the 20th century Until Mar 27. Local stars of the stage. FREE Baltasar Porcel. Mallorca, Barcelona, the world Until Feb 28. Remembering the Mallorcan writer and journalist.

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: €3. 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-2pm; Sat, Sun 10am-5pm. Public holidays 10am-2pm. Closed Mon (except public hols), Jan 1. €4.40. Reduced: €3.10.

Permanent exhibitions Including murals, plants and other treasures.

Theatre

El Molino

(Vilà i Vilà, 99). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 205 51 11. www. elmolinobcn.com. Ticket offices: Thur-Sat, 5-9pm. Tickets available via Ticketea, Atrapalo, Telentrada, Entradas.com and ticket offices.

Cabaret Experience Until Apr 2. Thu 9.30pm; Fri, Sat 6.30pm, 9.30pm. From €24. Cabaret, circus, song and dance. La hora boira Jan 2, 8, 9. 11.59pm. From €14. Humour, cabaret and rock from local comedian Albert Boira.

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.

Matar al Rey Jan 13-24. Wed-Sun 8pm. €20. Medieval thriller set in 15th-century castle. In Spanish.

Sugar (Con faldas y a lo loco) Until Jan 31. Tue-Wed, Fri 9.30pm; Sat 6.30pm, 9.30pm; Sun 6.30pm. €24. Musical in Catalan. Trencanous Until Jan 31. Sun noon. Family performance of The Nutcracker. In Catalan.

Teatre Lliure (Gràcia)

(Montseny, 47). M: Fontana (L3). T. 93 289 27 70. teatrelliure.com

Rhum Until Jan 10. Tue-Fri 8.30pm; Sat 5.30pm, 9pm; Sun 6pm. €12-€23. Circus show in Catalan and Spanish. El minuto del payaso Jan 14-24. Tue-Fri 8.30pm; Sat 9pm; Sun 6pm. €15-€29. Monologue by a clown waiting to perform. In Spanish. Please, continue (Hamlet) Jan 29-30. 8.30pm. €12-€23. Play that imagines Hamlet in the dock. In Catalan.

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. www.teatrelliure. com

El rei Lear Until Jan 31. Tue-Fri 8.30pm; Sat 7pm; Sun 6pm. €15-€29. Shakespeare tragedy. In Catalan; Sat with surtitles in English and Spanish. Biblioteca de cuerdas y nudos/Biblioteca de ruidos y sonidos Jan 12-31. Sat, Sun noon. €12 adults; €9 children. Family show, for 6-12 year olds. In Spanish. La Llista Jan 21-Feb 14. Tue-Fri 9pm; Sat 9.30pm; Sun 6.30pm. €15-€29. Monologue by Canadian Jennifer Tremblay. 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

El público Until Jan 3. Wed-Sat 8pm; Sun 6pm. €14-€28. Classic play from Federico Gárcia Lorca. In Spanish. Maria Rosa Jan 20-Feb 28. Check website for timetable. Vintage play by Àngel Guimerà. 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 performance. teatrepoliorama. com.

BITS. Tricicle Until Jan 31. Wed-Fri 9pm; Sat, Sun 6.30pm. €15-€25. Tricicle are a popular Catalan comedy trio whose stage work is mainly physical comedy and mime.

Somriures i Ilagrimes Until Jan 3. Sun noon. €10, €12. Translated version of The Sound of Music. In Catalan. **Rínxols d'or** Jan 10, 17, 24, 31. 12.30pm. Family theatre (3 years and up). In Catalan.

Teatre Tívoli

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

Mamma Mía Until Feb 28. Tue-Thu 8pm; Fri, Sat 5.30pm, 9.30pm; Sun 6pm. €25-€69.90. Abba's megapopular musical. In Spanish.

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.

Mar i Cel Until Jan 10. Thu 8.30pm; Fri 9.30pm; Sat 5.30pm & 9.30pm; Sun 6pm. €29-€46. Dagoll Dagomm's popular musical about corsairs and captives. In Catalan.

Guerra Jan 20-31. Wed-Fri 9pm; Sat 6.30pm & 9pm; Sun 6.30pm. €23-€30. Wed €20. A contemporary look at the realities of war. In Catalan.

Dance

Palau Sant Jordi

(Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M: Espanya (L1,L3;FGC).

Cirque du Soleil: Varekai Jan 1 6pm. Jan 2, 9 6pm, 9.30pm. Jan 3, 10 4.30pm. Jan 4 8pm. Jan 5 12.30pm. Jan 7-8 9.30pm. €29-€76. Latest production from popular contemporary circus group, based on the myth of lcarus.

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 function starts. www.mercatflors.cat

Cosas que se olvidan fácilmente

Jan 2-4, 8-10. 6pm, 9pm. Jan 4 7pm. €15. Exploration of memory by actor-artist Xavier Bobés. La máquina de la soledad Jan 2-3 6pm, 8.30pm; Jan 8 9.30pm; Jan 9-10 7.30pm. €15. Theatre of objects. Impulso Jan 4.8.30pm. €12. Flamenco dancer Rocío Molina and artist collective CaboSanRoque join forces. Nàufrags Jan 8-10 Fri 8pm; Sat, Sun 6pm. €18. Visual theatre featuring puppets, objects, voice and music. Fractus V Jan 11-17. 8.30pm; Sun 6pm. €25. Five performers from different dance backgrounds take to the stage. Kokoro Jan 22-24. 8.30pm; Sun 6pm. €12. Four dancers portray four people in search of their identity. Tarannà Jan 23 6pm; Jan 24 noon. €12 adults. €8 children. Solo work around concept of transformation. Political Mother o Projecte Comunitari Jan 31 6pm. €10. 80 amateur dancers and musicians from the Girona region perform together.

Edited by Ricard Martín rmartin@timeout.cat @RicardMartn



Quality for the masses

This macro-restaurant halfway down La Rambla plays in the same big league as El Nacional – with gigantic premises and attention to detail. By **Laura Conde**

Ultramarinos is not a small. charismatic restaurant where an erudite chef re-reads Bauman when he's not in the kitchen, and who revives his great-grandma's recipes when he's at the stove, adapting them with precision and sensitivity to his own philosophy. Ultramarinos is a macro-space with spectacular interior design (the work of designer-of-the-moment Lázaro Rosa Violán), recently opened in the middle of La Rambla, and it's playing in a different league, up against places like El Nacional, another of the megaprojects that, whether we like it or not, also help shape the culinary character of a multifaceted city.

The name comes from small, specialist groceries where people once shopped for imported goods (*ultramarino* means 'overseas') – a kind of business that, rather than

disappearing, is simply changing, often into mini-markets. The traditional grocers have always been a favourite of the owner of Ultramarinos. 'There are two things I've always liked: strolling down La Rambla, and the old-style ultramarinos.' savs José Lombardero, head of the Lombardo Group, the driving force behind the project, and an unquestionably self-made man who comes from a family of Galician farmers. 'In fact, I didn't go looking for this place, but when it was offered to me. I felt it had been looking for me,' he says.

That was how this immense, industrial-scale – and yet welcoming – space came into being, with wooden furniture, paintings covering the walls, a DJ at the decks every day, and a cocktail bar for which expert bartender Cristina has designed a menu with 13 cocktails inspired by a journey around the world. The food at Ultramarinos, supervised by Kate Preston,

com

Lombardero's wife, is serviceable, with strong Mediterranean roots and international touches, as befits a restaurant located at the heart of everything: pizzas, hamburgers, tartares and salads share menu space with meatballs with shiitake mushrooms or noteworthy ceviches, as well as other nicely devised dishes, including crunchy aubergines with coriander and citrus fruits.

Don't confuse this place with the other Ultramarinos, a tiny cocktail bar specialising in G&Ts on C/Sant Pau. Just remember the two establishments represent the two faces, condemned to coexist, of the same Barcelona.

ULTRAMARINOS

Rambla, 31 (Raval). T.93 270 2381. P: €25-€30.

Mendizábal



Junta de Comerç, 2 (Raval). Mon-Sat 10am-1am.

Until recently, Mendizábal was one of the most unclassifiable spots in the Raval. It was a bar that wasn't a bar. To clarify - it was a bar that didn't have any premises. 'The Mendi' was a hole in the wall at the corner where Junta de Comerç meets Hospital. Its 'interior' was actually exterior, specifically the tiny Plaça del Canonge Colom, a square with no view to speak of, where the Mendi set up its chairs and tables. The bar's uniqueness and position on one of the neighbourhood's key thoroughfares converted it into a flagship of this multi-ethnic area. But the time finally came for the Mendi to grow and answer the prayers of its many fans who no longer wanted their extremities to freeze when having a drink there in winter.

So now it has a real interior space. And it's amazing. The new covered part of Mendizábal, open just next to the legendary bar, is first-class. Simply decorated, with lots of stone and brick on display, the room has a clear Scandinavian influence, but hasn't renounced any Raval pride. The wooden tables and chairs along with the extremely clean design invite you to enjoy a beer, cocktail or top-notch sandwich without having to deal with the hordes of night creatures who populate the neighbourhood.

You can drink fresh juices, wine, gin and tonics, various classic cocktails - the list is short but reliable - or the magnificent beers of different sizes, with the half-litre option the trophy for true cervesa champions. To eat, tapas, salads and sandwiches each created with the signature in-house quality are all dead certs in a place that's changed without changing. The Mendi isn't the Mendi anymore, it's much more than that now - a rescue vessel for Raval explorers in need of shelter. -Òscar Broc

FOOTNOTE The Mendi is one of the Raval's main landmarks.

WHAT ELSE YOU NEED TO KNOW

SANDWICHES TO DIE FOR

Mendizábal makes excellent sandwiches for all tastes. And now the range is even bigger. Tuna tataki, cod, and one of squid and another of freerange chicken that are both amazing.

UNBEATABLE TERRACE

Even though the Mendi now has an actual interior, it's kept the popular terrace on Plaça del Canonge Colom. If you're in the neighbourhood, be sure to make a beeline for it.



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FLASSADERS, 2 (darrere del Museu Picasso) T. 93 268 15 18 www.mercatprincesa.com

MUSEUM RESTAURANTS Dine out among works of art

MONTJUÏC

CAIXAFORUM Set menu that's good value for money, and excellent local dishes such as oxtail (*cua de* bou). Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6.

MONTJUÏC

FUNDACIÓ MIRÓ Worth a visit to enjoy a great location, Med-inspired food with Asian touches and peaceful surrounds. Parc de Montjuïc, s/n. THE C3BAR AT THE CCCB (MONTALEGRE, 5) HAS AN ORGANIC SET LUNCH MENU AND A GREAT TERRACE

EIXAMPLE DRET

LA PEDRERA Eugeni de Diego, former head chef at El Bulli, has brought excellent cooking to Gaudí's showpiece. Pg. de Gràcia, 92.

BARCELONETA

RESTAURANT 1881 Basque tapas firm Sagardi runs the

Catalonia History Museum's penthouse eatery. Top views, top food. *Pla de Palau*, 3.

Open until the early hours



This bar-restaurant in Poble-sec is perfect for a drink or bite to eat at almost any time. Tast Gastro Bar offers non-stop service from 8am during the week, and from 9am at weekends, until midnight or 2.30am, depending on the day.

Thanks to these extensive opening hours you'll find an equally extensive selection of dining options – you can choose between breakfast, a vermouth aperitif, lunch (either à la carte or from their set menu), afternoon snacks, dinner and/or cocktails. The tapas are excellent – the list is short, but they tend to be put together with originality and served with care – such as the patatas bravas served in a paper cone, a steak cut up for sharing, a huge *bomba* (a meat- and potatofilled ball rolled in breadcrumbs and deep-fried) and marinated pork cubes. There are also lighter alternatives, such as tuna tartare with roasted tomato and parmesan, and an array of hot *coques* (pron. KO-kas), a Catalan speciality of bread topped with ingredients such as cheese and vegetables, or smoked salmon.

TAST GASTRO BAR Av. Paral·lel, 127 (Poble-sec). www.tastbcn.com



Ganduxer, 31 (Sarrià) T. 93 201 69 31. P: €40.

We lament the passing of iconic Barcelona eating places with everincreasing frequency. But today we can celebrate the revival of gourmet delicatessen Semon, and of its sister space L'Indret, a restaurant where you can try everything you see on display - and more. Brothers Pedro and Paulino Robles, who have worked in the establishment for 20 and 40 years, respectively, have taken it over with the intention of maintaining the business model that has worked since it first opened, while also 'raising the quality, whether in terms of service or products,' as younger brother, Pedro, explains.

'We want to make the restaurant more accessible, both for our regular clientele and for the new crowd who've joined us since we entered this new phase,' adds Paulino, who works behind the scenes to ensure everything runs smoothly.

They have kept and improved many of the dishes that made the previous incarnation of L'Indret famous. A youthful team in the kitchen are also introducing some star dishes from La Despensa de Laforja, which Pedro has run for years. One of these, the red scorpionfish pie, will come and go on the menu as a special. On the day of our visit we were able to confirm improvements to classic dishes such as the salt-cured salmon 'nest', the potato stuffed with its own creamy purée, and the king crab stew. A shared first course from the set menu, a carpaccio of ceps with roasted pine nuts and excellent olive oil, made an excellent starter.

On the set lunch menu. at €19. the highlight was a superb fabada asturiana (white bean stew). The house pastries are magnificent. The deli has revived products that were missing from its shelves until now, such as the goose foie gras, specially prepared and labelled for the Robles's shop. There's been a huge improvement in the wine menu, and the cavas, champagnes and liqueurs are still excellent What a pleasure to return to a unique Barcelona restaurant, and enjoy great food, top service and a friendly atmosphere. -Marcelo Aparicio

THE BILL
(For 2)
1 set lunch menu €19.00
1 salmon 'nest'€18.00
1 crab stew€28.00
1 chocolate Prelude€5.00
2 glasses of wine€6.00
1 coffee€1.30
TOTAL (inc VAT)€77.30

Time Out Barcelona Food & Drink critics review anonymously and pay their own bills.

Into the fire



Top Mex

In just one year, Albert Adrià and Paco Méndez's Mexican restaurant has created a language all its own. By **Pau Arenós**

Hoja Santa is the big enchilada among Barcelona's Mexican restaurants, light years away from your average Tex-Mex. Paco Méndez, Albert Adrià's business partner and the house chef, is keen to differentiate Hoja Santa from Niño Viejo, the restaurant with which it shares a door, a bathroom and a main wall. Niño Vieio is a cantina - or at least an idealised foodie version of a cantina - while Hoja Santa is 'popular Mexican haute cuisine'. That may sound like an oxymoron, but what he's really saying is haute cuisine that works with popular traditions.

On November 4 last year, Hoja Santa celebrated its first year in business. I was there and toasted it with margaritas skilfully mixed by Marc Álvarez, head of cocktails at the El Barri group, whose final destination will be the enigmatic Enigma restaurant, another Adrià project due to open next month.

As for the inaugural year at Hoja Santa, 'We've discovered our own language,' says Méndez. 'We've consolidated the team [incorporating Donatello Romanazzi as manager and Cristina Losada as sommelier], we've done in-depth work on our mole sauces, we've brought in

WHAT ELSE?

Look out for:

Luesma & Vega's tableware, nature captured in glass

Recommended for: Fans of the most refined Mexican cuisine

Stay away if:

You prefer your guacamole from a plastic tub

ingredients like truffles, foie gras and Wagyu.' They've mixed the day-to-day with the extraordinary. I love the truffle quesadilla with ceps, and the Wagyu with *chichilo* (one of the seven moles from Oaxaca), an adept combination of the street and the palace. But where I think their authentically gournet side comes to the fore is in their work with vegetables.

I remember the pasilla mole with baby vegetables from a previous visit, a surprising balancing act, and this time it's the onion with *x-ni-pek* sauce. Yes, an onion, which probably won't excite the newer generation of gourmets, still obsessed by caviar and white truffles, not realising that the truth lies in humbler ingredients. But it's an onion that's been carefully prepared – roasted in the Josper oven, peeled and impregnated with the x-ni-pek sauce ('In the Mayan language, it means "dog's nose", says Méndez. 'So spicy it makes your nose sweat'), and served at the table with two juices: one made of roast onion and Puebla chilli, and the other, a vinegary relish based on the *recado rojo* spice blend. This is an onion that will bring tears of joy, not indigestion.

'Throughout the year we've been working on the ideal tortilla,' Méndez adds. 'The thinner the better, so you can taste the maize without it becoming too heavy.' The tortilla and all its derivatives become part of the place setting you eat both container and contents. There are even serving dishes without dough, like their sensational take on the Caesar salad, served on crunchy chicken skin. Once again I try the prawn tostada, the prawn broth served in a glass, and the infladita (a puffed-up tortilla) of cochinita pibil. Another dish to remember is the corvine ceviche with recado negro spices under a frozen lake, based on an idea from El Bulli, which in turn was inspired by Tokvo one-table eatery Mibu. Ice (the product of the marination process) becomes a dressing.

Two extraordinary Mexican restaurants outside Mexico: Punto MX in Madrid, with a Michelin star, and Hoja Santa in Barcelona, which just last November was awarded its first star jointly with Niño Viejo. And well-deserved it is.

HOJA SANTA

Av. de Mistral, 54 (Sant Antoni). T. 93 348 21 92. P: €90 (without wine).

LANDO

Their star dish is a potato and sea urchin omelette. This seasonal creation is not always available, but they do have regular specials like this shiitake one. Ptge. Pere Calders, 6.



LES TRUITES Joan Antoni Miró has spent 37 years creating omelettes, like mushroom with truffle sauce. Make sure you leave space to try the sweet ones for dessert. Arimon, 22.





LA CEBA This Gràcia institution, opened in 1979, has a selection of around 55 omelettes on offer, including seafood, meat and vegetable varieties. Perla, 10.



CAL PEP This 'atomic' omelette is not for softies. Replete with white beans, blood sausage (botifarra negra) and garlic, it's a gourmet's dream. Pl. de les Olles, 8.

If life gives you eggs...

For perfect winter comfort food try local omelettes (*truites* in Catalan and *tortillas* in Spanish), from traditional potato and onion to wild creations. By **Ricard Martín**

LA CUINA DEL GUINARDÓ

Away from the centre, in the neighbourhood of Horta, is this excellent deli (and tiny eatery) with omelettes to take away. Varsòvia, 148.





FLASH FLASH At BCN's first speciality omlette place, the menu includes a layered omelette 'cake', and alcoholinfused options for dessert. La Granada del Penedès, 25.

MIGUELITO'S This is a great place to try an omelette sandwich, a breakfast favourite with many locals. The perfect start to your day for just a few euros. Av. Diagonal, 405.





TAKTIKA BERRI

Try a runny version of the classic Spanish omelette – caramelised onion and perfect potatoes in a delicious egg 'broth'. València, 169.

Catalan cuisine

7 Portes

The eponymous seven doors open on to as many dining salons, all kitted out in elegant 19th-century décor. 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 oruio 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. barcelona 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

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 7 am or a croissant for a midnight snack, this is the place to go.

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

Wine bars

Can Cisa/Bar Brutal

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*, which is 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 most new 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 TIMEOUT.COM/BARCELONA

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 décor, 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, T. T.* 93 423 45 70. *M: Espanya (L1,L3,FGC)*

CHOCOLATE FEST



Be Chocolat

You may think you're done with chocolate for a while thanks to the recent festive season, but this shop/workshop could change your mind. Watch the treats being made using top-class cacao, then decide if you can resist buying. *Banys Nous*, *17* (*Born*). *www.facebook.com/bechocolat*

Tabarca Langosta's Club

Tino Martínez, sailor and chef extraordinaire, has opened 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*, 19.7.93 432 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 (*L*1)

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 problem 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

Chef Fran Monrabà has renovated this restaurant by combining traditional intentions with a determination to do things differently. Classic tapas are made with a touch of added imagination and effort – recommendations include Andalusian-style fried squid rings and delicious stuffed roast pork. *Enric Granados*, 58. T. 626 86 68 21. M: Diagonal (L3,L5); FGC: Provença

LGBT

Edited by Martí Sales msales@timeout.cat @itramselas

BCN has LGBT hotspots. such

as the Raval, but the scene is increasingly

decentralised

Girl seeks girl

If you're looking to meet women like you, here's our guide to the places around town where you should head. By **Hannah Pennell**

Restaurants

While the neighbourhoods of Gràcia and Sant Gervasi used to be the sole zones for lesbians in this city, and the Gaixample has had its golden age, the Raval has become one of Barcelona's LGBT hotspots, with a variety of venues in the area where you can meet girls who like girls. For seeking them out while dining well, try La Monroe (Plaça de Salvador Seguí, 1, shown right), Manolito (Robador, 18) or the atmospheric Las Fernández (Carretes, 11).





Bars

Ideal for a drink are La Penúltima (Riera Alta, 40, shown left), Madame Jasmine (Rambla del Raval, 22) and La Casa de la Pradera (Carretes, 57), where you can also go dancing if you can find space. On Friday and Saturday nights, head uptown to La Rosa (Brusi, 39), which is a veritable institution on the lesbian night scene. The regular vermouth parties from VenTú! are also worth a go. You need to check their website (ventubcn.es) to find out the venue, as it changes each time.

Party nights One of the big trends in BCN at the

moment are regular party nights, which take place every fortnight or so, or once a month. If you're a fan of pop hits or classic sounds, then try **Stupenda** at Aire (Diputació, 233); **Girlicious** (www.facebook.com/ GirliciouspartyBarcelona, shown left) from the Matinée Group, who also organise the annual Girlie Circuit Festival; **Silk BCN** (www.facebook. com/silk.bcn); **Melon Party** (www. facebook.com/melonparty); or Las **Vecinas del Cuarto** (www.facebook. com/lasvecinasdelcuarto).



DJs and indie music

If you're into alternative, modern music, you should keep an eye out for Les Fatales (below) and Muerta Sánchez - wherever these DJs play you're bound to find friends. They're often to be seen at Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113) as well as smaller Raval venues. Somoslas is a gay indie party held at La [2] de Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 111), and don't miss Nenis, a Saturday night event organised by veteran Barcelona DJ Lady Chus, who regularly performs herself (Consell de Cent, 280; www.nenis.info).



Elsewhere

If you're in the mood for a night of monologues, an art exhibition or enjoying the latest Barça match in good company, **La Sue BCN** (Villarroel, 60, left) is ideal. Since opening in 2012, it's become one of the key places for women to meet women in the city, and on special occasions, they host popular party nights. Alternatively, if you fancy trying your hand at the tango, head to **Rouge Lab 2.1** (Poeta Cabanyes, 21; Tue 8pm, Thu 8.30pm) for a gay-friendly class.

Clubs

Edited by Ricard Martín rmartin@timeout.cat @RicardMartn



The reluctant DJ

It's not often you get to see Anders Trentemøller behind the decks, so don't miss his show this month in Barcelona. By **Javier Blánquez**

Although he's a fantastic DJ, it's not every day (or week, or month...) you get the chance to see Anders Trentemøller behind the decks. This is clearly through his own choice. Following his decision to progressively withdraw from the mainstream electronic music circuit and explore sound arenas that are more related to soundtracks and the instrumental rock environment, the Danish artist no longer needs to whip his public up into convulsive movement. And when he perfoms live, he prefers to do it in a concert format. This doesn't, however, mean that he really hates spinning records – or mixing old audio files, as the case may be – but it's certainly not something he does with much frequency. As a result, whenever he does step up it's a big deal and a definite cause for celebration.

If you're a fan of Trentemøller – and you had a lot of fun with his first album *The Last Resort* (2006), a fundamental work of the 'new' expansive electronica that's just about to celebrate its first decade - you can't miss this event at Nitsa Club on January 29. Shelby Grey opens the night's proceedings, presumably taking us on a trip through unexpected spaces with a touch of magic. Imagining what Trentemøller's musical selection might be means taking a lot of risk, as he's not the kind of DJ who opts for the Beatport top 10 nor is he guided by any kind of trend. For instance, the session that he recorded in mid-2013 for the Resident Advisor portal was a tribute to the darkest elements of post-rock with pieces from Tropic of Cancer, Beak>, The Soft Moon and Dirty

66 Imagining what music Trentemøller might select is a risk

Beaches – guitars, gloom, groans, fear and little inclination for an intense, continuous rhythm.

That was a podcast, and Nitsa will be something different again, of course. Our man will choose material that is closer to techno than house - that's always what he does when he decides to look a bit further back in time - but we can't even be sure of the domestication of his eclectism. He'll surely seek a cosmic sensation, a journey as much for the body as for the mind - and the whole soul - and it's likely that, when you come down to earth after more than two hours flying, the voyage will leave you shaken. It's like magic - you don't know the mechanics of the trick but the result leaves your mouth hanging open and your body exhausted.

Anders Trentemøller

performs at Nitsa Club at Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113) on Friday 29 at 12.30am. www.sala-apolo.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. \in 15 (on the door). \in 14 (advance). Price includes one drink.

Raw Rebels

Dance to the best beats of the '40s, '50s and '60s, with local and international DJs. Sidecar Factory Club (Plaça Reial, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Tue 12.30am. €5. Price includes one drink.

Caníbal 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. \notin 12 (on the door). \notin 9 (advance). Price includes one drink.



Kings' Night special

Sala Apolo hosts its traditional January 5 event with a visit not from the Three Kings but from two of Spain's best MCs, Shotta and DJ Nexxa. They're joined by Rxnde Akozta, a key figure on Cuba's underground rap scene, and Dominican P8 Guevera. *Tuesday 5, 8.30pm*.€15. www.sala-apolo.com

Anti-Karaoke

This is the hard rock version of karaoke, with dressing up and obsessive fans, all under the watchful eye of MC, US comedian and actor Rachel Arieff. Sidecar Factory Club (details above). Thu $10pm. \in 8$. 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. \leq 10 (on the door). \leq 8 (advance). Price includes one drink.

The Bus Music Club

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



Getaways

Edited by Hannah Pennell hannah@timeout.cat



At the heart of Catalonia

Take a trip inland to the beautiful town of Vic for history, culture and good food. By **Hannah Pennell**

About 80 minutes by train from the centre of Barcelona, and located pretty much slap bang in the middle of Catalonia, Vic is a fantastically historical city with lots to see. At the town's heart is the impressive Placa Major (2). an expansive arcaded site that's home to a popular and historical market, which takes place on Tuesday and Saturday mornings. If you're on the hunt for original gifts, check out the local baskets, terracotta pots and, arguably the most famous product of the region, embotits (cured meats).

Another highlight of Vic is the **Museu Episcopal** (Pl. del Bisbe Oliva, 3; www.museuepiscopal. com). It houses some wonderful 12th-century murals and an excellent collection of Gothic and Romanesque art. As well as its 20,000 or so objects, you can currently see an exhibition about travel during the Middle Ages, featuring 100 items from other Catalan and European museums (until Feb 14). Next to the museum is **Vic Cathedral**, made up of myriad architectural styles, including Romanesque, Gothic

The Museu del Pell looks at how leather is used to create chests, chairs and more

and neo-classical.

Other architecture worth checking out includes the **Roman temple (1)**, which was uncovered in the late 19th century when the walls surrounding it, which dated from the 12th century, were demolished. Today it's home to a municipal gallery.

The **Museu del Pell** (Leather Museum, Arquebisbe Alemany, 5; www.museuartpellvic.cat) explores how leather has been used both in Europe and further afield to create items such as chests, altar frontals, chairs, masks and more, and looks at the various techniques employed in their production.

The local tourist office runs guided tours around the city, while for those who prefer to make their own way, signposted cultural routes have been created to help you appreciate all that Vic has to offer (3,4). To make your trip even easier, get your hands on the 'VII de Vic' ticket, which gives you entry to seven different spaces for just €10. Check out www. victurisme.cat for details of all this and more.

When you're hungry, there are various places worth trying. El Caliu has an extensive menu where salads, a wide range of grilled meats, and a selection of toasted bread topped with paté, cheese or cured meats all feature (Riera, 13; www.elcaliuvic.com). If you're a fan of seafood, you should head to Boccatti. This oldfashioned bar-restaurant is run by a husband and wife, and its dishes are surprisingly good considering how far Vic is from the sea. It's not cheap, though - expect to pay between €10 and €12 for starters, and at least €25 for main courses (Mossèn Josep Gudiol, 21: boccatti.es).

FOOTNOTE Take the train to Vic from the stations of either Barcelona-Sants or Plaça de Catalunya. Tickets cost €6.15 each way. www.victurisme.cat

Weekend in Tarragona

Once a key Roman community, the city of Tarragona offers numerous attractions for lovers of the past. By **Hannah Pennell**

Tárraco, as the Romans knew Tarragona, used to be Catalonia's main metropolis. Dating from 218 BC, it was one of the first Roman cities to be built outside Italy and featured all the key institutions of the empire both in leisure and work terms. There are some significant elements left from those times, which have collectively been named a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, while across the city you can trace its development of the past 2,000 years.

ROMAN RELICS

Start your tour of the remains of Tárraco by following the Passeig Arqueològic, a path along what's left of the walls that once surrounded the town. You will also be able to see part of the ancient Praetorium, which was used as a palace and government office, and is thought by some to be the birthplace of Pontius Pilate. The star attractions, though, are the 2,000-year-old Amphitheatre and underground Circus. This 93-metre-long corridor through which all passed who had to burst into the arena driving chariots, is nothing short of spectacular. In the main section some spectator stands are still in situ, so you can imagine watching the races, gladiator fights and executions. Single-entry tickets to each Roman site cost €3.30: a combined ticket is €7.45 – reductions are available. Buy in advance at: www. tarracoticket.cat

NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

This is the oldest archaeological museum in Catalonia and an important centre for the recovery, conservation, research and dissemination of the heritage of Tárraco and its area of influence. On display are numerous pieces from the Roman era, and the mosaics are considered to be of special value. Other sites are also part of the museum, including the





Roman villas of Munts and Centelles. *Placa del Rei*, 5; www.mnat.cat

CATHEDRAL OF SANTA TECLA While Tarragona thrived under the Romans, there are features from the Middle Ages that show it wasn't doing too badly during that period either. The Cathedral, consecrated in 1331, stands at the highest point of the city. Particularly worth seeing is the cloister, an exceptional architectural and sculptural ensemble from the 12th and 13th centuries. At its entrance, you'll find the Diocesan Museum, which has a collection of medieval



Sit in the stands and imagine watching chariot races and gladiator fights

(and modern) religious art from the local area that includes tapestries, ceramics and goldwork. *Plaça de la Seu, s/n*; *www.catedraldetarragona.com*

FISHING NEIGHBOURHOOD Nowadays Tarragona's fishing neighbourhood of El Serrallo is popular for its impressive seafood restaurants (we suggest Restaurant Manolo at Gravina, 61, and Ca l'Eulàlia located on Placa Bisbe Bonet). However, in the mid-19th century this area was developed to provide housing for local fishermen following the arrival of trains in Tarragona and the expansion of the city's longestablished fishing industry. Although many of the original homes were knocked down in the 1960s, it still retains a special ambience that's worth exploring, especially on a sunny day.

www.tarragonaturisme.cat

1 Roof of Santa Caterina market

Enric Miralles and Benedetta Tagliabue showed off all their design talent with this roof that's blessed the market (Av. Francesc Cambó, 16) for a decade now. The colourful surface, which is inspired by Gaudí's broken tile mosaics (*trencadissos*), includes 325,000 tiles, although I must admit I haven't checked that figure personally.

2 Torre Agbar

It's particularly at night that this giant suppository in Pl. de les Glòries – designed by Jean Nouvel and a competitor of Norman Foster's Gherkin in London – gleams. That's thanks to a system of LEDs created by Yann Kersalé, who says he was aiming for a moiré effect. Conclusion: Nouvel 1, Foster 0 – in this case, at least.

3

Sagrada Família vegetation

In Gaudi's temple nothing is subtle, and the fruit and vegetables dangling down from the lateral sculptures are a prime example of this. The truth is that, unlike with us humans, all new architectural elements are horrifying until they grow old.

4 Pink from above

From Tibidabo theme park

Barcelona looks pink, and I'm not just saying that because I was all loved up there after canoodling with some guy at the nearby Arrabassada lookout point, but because it's scientifically – ie, empirically – proven. Go up one sunny winter day and you'll see.



They're the city's main indicator of the seasons, and that's why planes have to keep being the trees of Barcelona, despite the

Barcelona Top Ten Colours of the city





headaches they cause the municipal Parks and Gardens department. What would locals do without them? We need the glimmering leaves in spring, and well-withered ones in autumn.

6 Marine petrol

This city is so cool that the sea here is irridescent, particularly in the port area. Look down at the water as you cross the walkway to the Maremagnum shopping centre and you'll see how it shines in a rainbow of colours.



The fish aren't so impressed, but luckily, they can't vote.

7

Black and yellow The revived Catalanista movement has seen Barcelona fill up with yellow and red (the colours of both the Catalan and Spanish flags, representing the pro- and anti-independence movements), while Barça triumphs bring out the red and blue team colours, and traces of the city's anarchism remain in red and black. But whatever else is going on, the bee-coloured taxis keep on driving.

8 Pigeon grey

In Valencia the pigeons are white and make the city look pretty. In Barcelona, they're grey and add nothing to local style. It seems these birds are doomed to be grey because even non-native parrots that appeared a few years back are losing their green. Biologists should get on the case. Is it a mimetic reaction?

9 Gebru

Gehry's fish

The stainless steel sculpture in front of the beachside Hotel Arts has golden tones that distance it from a humble cod or miserable sardine. This fish is like a giant gilded carp, and a reminder of when the city experienced a construction gold fever, the effects of which it's still suffering.

10 Frogs at the zoo

There's the red tomato variety from Madagascar, the blue poison dart one, the golden poison dart one (which is actually light green and shiny black), the giant monkey frog, the oriental fire-bellied toad and several more that seem to say 'Look but don't touch, I'm full of venom.' It's lucky that nature, ever diligent, sends out these warnings.

By Ada Castells



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