

MIRÓ À MAJORQUE

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When Joan Miró moved to Majorca in 1956 he already enjoyed an international reputation and still had twenty-five years to live, dying on the Balearic island in 1981. Confident in his capabilities and status and spurred on by a kind of creative freedom, he spent these years in his studio experimenting to the greatest degree. He developed, or rather perfected, his own inimitable style: elementary forms became a personal iconography as he placed increasing faith in the expressive power of the brushstroke and the impact of the paint itself. His work displays the most varied influences and all are strongly present: the cave paintings at Altamira, Romanesque art, Catalan landscapes, and the inventiveness of Gaudí. But he also found inspiration in the East, in the rhythms of poetry, and in action painting. They all nurtured his theme of transformations, of metamorphoses.

The book is built around four key topics: Miró's attachment to the art, nature, and landscapes of his native land; the influences that acted most powerfully on his work; the large paintings of his later years, displaying energetic brushwork and an unrivalled taste for experimenting; and, lastly, the repertoire of original forms that reveal his distinctive imagination as it modelled his favourite subjects. Among these, women, birds, and starry nights play a central role and are ever-present in his ideograms, as ironic as they are joyful and always overflowing with imaginative energy.

The book, which includes over 150 illustrations of paintings, sculptures, and works on paper, many of which extremely large and previously unpublished, will be released to coincide with the Joan Miró exhibition to be held in Quebec (Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec, May 30 – September 8, 2019), an event that sees the artist's work return to Canada after a hiatus of thirty years.

Pilar Baos Rodríguez has been the exhibition coordinator at the Pilar i Joan Miró Foundation in Majorca since 1992. He has organized several important events based on the work of Joan Miró and other contemporary artists, at both a national and an international level.

André Gilbert is an art historian. He has been curator of the international exhibition programme at the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec since 1995, where he has organized important exhibitions featuring internationally famous artists, including Alberto Giacometti, Berthe Morisot, and Joan Miró.

Patrica Juncosa Vecchierini is now the curator of the Pilar i Joan Miró Foundation Collection in Majorca. She earned her PhD in Architecture with a thesis on the relationship between Miró and Sert, a theme she was later able to develop through a number of collaborations with the aid of the foundation.