
Press Release

The Fundació Joan Miró and the "la Caixa" Foundation present *The Tapestries of Joan Miró. From the Thread to the World*

This is the first of three audio-visual projects resulting from a new era of collaboration between the two institutions, the aim of which is to continue bringing culture closer to as many people as possible. Now, this is also being done in the digital realm through the CaixaForum+ platform.

***The Tapestries of Joan Miró. From the Thread to the World* is a documentary about Miró's large tapestries, which begins with the restoration of the "la Caixa" Foundation tapestry carried out between March and April 2022. The film, developed by the producer BAS and directed by Anna Sanmartí, follows the research project on which both foundations collaborated to expand knowledge of the conservation of these emblematic works made by Miró and Josep Royo.**

CaixaForum+ will premiere this documentary tomorrow. In the first half of 2023, two new joint productions by the two institutions will be released on the Fundació Joan Miró's channel on the "la Caixa" Foundation platform. The first, *Intimate Miró*, is a film directed by Meritxell Colell and Jordi Morató that delves into the most personal facet of the artist. It does so by looking at the collections of work that he created for his family, which are the foundations of the collection preserved by the Fundació Joan Miró. The second is a documentary series directed by Niccolò Bruna that follows the move of the Fundació Joan Miró Archives from the extension spaces designed by Jaume Freixa to the original spaces conceived by Miró and Sert.

Barcelona, 17 January 2023. The documentary *The Tapestries of Joan Miró. From the Thread to the World* was presented at the Fundació Joan Miró today. Elisa Durán, Deputy General Manager of the "la Caixa" Foundation, and Marko Daniel, Director of the Fundació Joan Miró, presented the new era of collaboration between the two institutions, the aim of which is to spread culture based on the Fundació Joan Miró's collection and exhibition and research projects.

The common goal of putting culture within everyone's reach has historically linked the Fundació Joan Miró and the "la Caixa" Foundation, and they have done so through multiple projects. This collaboration has been updated and a new chapter is beginning with this initiative, which enables the global presence of Joan Miró and the foundation he created in Barcelona to be strengthened via the possibilities that new digital environments offer.

The Fundació Joan Miró has joined the new CaixaForum+ platform promoted by the "la Caixa" Foundation and now has its own channel, which includes pieces from its audio-visual catalogue as well as newly created content. The Barcelona museum is part of the first group of national and international museum institutions to become involved in the project, such as the British Museum, Museo Nacional del Prado, Guggenheim Bilbao and the American Museum of Natural History.

Over the years, the Fundació Joan Miró has created an audio-visual collection of contemporary art characterised by the representativity of voices and projects within it. A selection from this collection can already be watched on the Fundació's own channel on the CaixaForum+ platform.

It consists of around 15 pieces documenting the exhibitions of artists who have won the **Joan Miró Prize**, such as those by Ignasi Aballí and Kader Attia, as well as some of the most outstanding projects of **Espai 13**, the annual exhibition programme that the Fundació has dedicated to emerging artistic and curatorial practices for over 40 years. In this collection of content, it is currently possible to watch short interviews with Lorea Alfaro and Jon Otamendi, Rosana Antolí, Lúa Coderch, Fito Conesa, Lara Fluxà, Für Alle Fälle, Antonio Gagliano, Gideonsson/Londré, Lola Lasurt, Martin Llawaneras, Gerard Ortín, Rita Ponce de León and Vanesa Varela.

The Tapestries of Joan Miró. From the Thread to the World

Giving continuity to the collaboration between the two institutions in recent years, the "la Caixa" Foundation and the Fundació Joan Miró have now opted for the production of **newly created content**, which will be available to watch on the Fundació Joan Miró's digital channels and the CaixaForum+ platform. The first of these audio-visual projects is a clear expression of the link between the two institutions: a co-production that follows a shared research project, whose protagonist is the tapestry that Joan Miró and Josep Royo created for the "la Caixa" Foundation in 1980.

The Tapestries of Joan Miró. From the Thread to the World is a documentary reportage developed by the producer BAS and directed by Anna Sanmartí about the large-format textile work created jointly by Miró and Royo. In the 1970s, Miró set off on one of his last expressive adventures in the field of textile art. He made his first large piece, the Tarragona tapestry, in 1970. Overweaves – halfway between painting, collage and tapestry – were added to it in 1972. A few years later, following the

commission of several monumental tapestries for New York and Washington – the huge *World Trade Center Tapestry* (1974) and the tapestry of the National Gallery of Art in Washington (1977) – Miró devised one for the Fundació Joan Miró. The tapestries of the Fondation Maeght (1980) and the "la Caixa" Foundation (1980) were also woven on the Farinera de Tarragona loom, thus completing this series of five monumental tapestries.

The film begins with the live preventive conservation tasks carried out on one of these works, the tapestry of the "la Caixa" Foundation. These took place at CaixaForum Barcelona between March and April 2022 and enabled it to be exhibited throughout last year at CaixaForum Barcelona (and at the moment, the work is exhibited at CaixaForum Madrid). These works brought together the experts Anna Vila and Elisabet Serrat – restorers for the "la Caixa" Foundation and the Fundació Joan Miró, respectively – on a research project about the fabrics and pigments of Miró's large tapestries. The study, which began in 2019 with the live restoration of the *Tapestry of the Fundació* in the museum's rooms, will enable important information to be obtained not only about the artist's work processes, but also for the preventive conservation of these iconic works.

The film follows the restoration tasks and the research work while retrieving the history of these pieces through interviews with the textile artist Josep Royo, Manel Margalef – Director of the Museu d'Art Contemporani de Tarragona, and Teresa Montaner – Head of Collections at the Fundació Joan Miró, among others. The reportage also includes a first-hand account by Glòria Malé, one of the weavers in Miró and Royo's team of collaborators, and by the filmmaker Pere Portabella, the director and writer of the short historical film *Miró Tapís* (Films 59, 1973), the only audio-visual record documenting the process of making one of Miró's large tapestries.

Anna Sanmartí (Barcelona, 1981) holds a degree in Audio-visual Communication from Pompeu Fabra University (2004) and works as a director of documentaries. In the professional field, she also undertakes camera operator tasks in documentaries, video art pieces and projects in various formats. She has worked as an assistant for directors such as Joaquim Jordà, Victor Kossakovsky and Ventura Durall. As a filmmaker, she has directed the documentaries *Viatge d'hivern* (Nanouk Films, 2020), *Altsasu ferides obertes* (BAS, 2019), *La terra habitada* (Estudi Playtime y TV3, 2008), *Je ne suis pas moi-même* (Nanouk Films, 2006), *African Request* (Unicament Severo Films, 2007) and *Memories without rememberers* (2004), entre otros. among others.

Upcoming premieres

In the first half of 2023, two new audio-visual projects will be premiered. These will provide greater insights into the Mironian legacy, the history of the institution and its museum processes, and will be available to watch on the Fundació Joan Miró's own channel on the CaixaForum+ platform.

In spring, *Intimate Miró* will be added to the platform. Directed by Meritxell Colell and Jordi Morató and produced by Allegra Films, this is a film that reveals the artist's most familiar and personal side. The feature film is based on the exhibition *Miró. His Most Intimate Legacy*, an investigation focusing on the collections of work that the artist created for himself, his wife and his daughter. Thanks to the generosity of Miró and his family, these works are currently the foundations of the collection preserved by the Fundació Joan Miró. The film follows the exhibition project from its conception, with the arrival of a new deposit of 59 works in December 2021. This deposit was made by Miró's current descendants, a gesture that gives continuity to Miró's commitment to the foundation that he created in Barcelona.

Before the summer, the documentary series on the Fundació Joan Miró building directed by Niccolò Bruna and produced by 15L Films will also be presented. The thread of the project is the move of the Fundació Joan Miró Archives to the spaces designed by Miró and Sert. In 1988, due to museum needs, the Fundació Archives were moved to an area of the building that is not accessible to the public. Now, with the desire to highlight the central nature of these holdings and to bring them closer to the visitor, the Archives have returned to their original space in the octagonal tower. The series follows the move while portraying the building that the artist and the architect both dreamt of, based on the activities carried out in it.

CaixaForum+

CaixaForum+ is an on-demand video and audio content platform that the "la Caixa" Foundation has recently launched, with a catalogue specialising in cultural and scientific dissemination. Users will find series, podcasts, documentaries, films, digital art, educational programmes, interviews, concerts and operas, and a long list of other formats focusing on nine themes: visual and plastic arts, performing arts, music, literature, thought and history, cinema, architecture and design, life sciences and physical sciences. The CaixaForum+ platform is free and is already available for mobile devices and tablets through apps that can be downloaded from the App Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android). Content can also be accessed on the website caixaforumplus.org and on smart TVs via AirPlay and Chromecast.

Images available at: bit.ly/TapissosMiró

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