Joan Miró
Gallery of Anti-portraits

Fundació Joan Miró * Barcelona
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Introduction

The Fundació Joan Miró

The Fundació Joan Miró was created by Miró himself, at first principally with works from his own private collection, with a desire to set up an internationally recognised centre in Barcelona for Miró scholarship and contemporary art research, and to disseminate the collection. The Fundació opened to the public on 10 June 1975 and has since become a dynamic centre in which Joan Miró’s work coexists with cutting-edge contemporary art.

With an interdisciplinary approach, the Fundació organises temporary exhibitions of 20th and 21st century artists as well as academic activities and projects in collaboration with other institutions and organisations. Through its exhibition and educational programmes, the Fundació Joan Miró explores lines of research linked to the work of Miró and to contemporary art.

The Fundació is located in a building designed by Josep Lluís Sert, making it one of the few museums anywhere in the world in which the complicity between artist and architect underpins the dialogue between the works and the space that houses them. The Fundació offers an overview of the landscapes of Joan Miró’s art and life, creating an enriching dialogue with other artists from the 20th and 21st centuries.
Joan Miró. Gallery of Anti-portraits

Summary of the Exhibition

Personally, I wish for the coming of an era when artistic production will be purely collective.

Joan Miró, 1951

Joan Miró developed a keen interest in graphic work, in particular from the 1940s onwards. This discipline offered him new technical and artistic possibilities and, at the same time, allowed him to free himself from his individual responsibility as an artist and instead to commit himself to a collective venture in which other craftsmen were involved. In addition, producing prints enabled Miró to satisfy his desire to reach a much wider audience.

The exhibition Joan Miró. Gallery of Anti-portraits aims to showcase the expressive mastery and freedom of the artist as a printmaker, one capable of achieving through the techniques of etching, aquatint or carborundum printmaking, material and gestural effects like those of painting:

Throwing oneself bravely without any kind of prejudice or fear of scratching a plate, thinking that the realm of possibilities in printmaking is as vast as that of painting – a technical mistake can, by chance, lead to a valuable finding. Thinking of the magical shock that occurs in the contact between the tool and the metal and always taking that divine spark as your starting point.
It was in this spirit of innovation that over the course of the 1960s Miró incorporated into his graphic work all those innovations which could already be found in his pictorial work thanks to the influence of American Abstract Expressionism and European Art Informel. As a result, the size of his prints gradually increased; he used new approaches such as dripping and grattage; and he employed unorthodox and often improvised tools.

The works selected for this exhibition present an entire series of personages with human attributes and large eyes fixed unwaveringly upon the spectator. These are anthropomorphic, primitive and imaginary beings that call to mind an ancient culture and which appear in the centre of the compositions surrounded by astral signs. Jacques Dupin, a poet and the artist’s biographer, captured their essence in the titles he gave them, titles that not only identify them but connect them with Miró’s mythological world. In these works, Miró succeeds in eliminating the traditional notion of the portrait as mimesis.
Content of the Exhibition

The exhibition includes a total of 26 large prints that combine etching, aquatint and caborundum techniques. All the pieces are Hors Commerce prints reserved for the artist. The prints were produced between 1969 and 1978, and published by Maeght Éditeur, Paris.

The printing took place at the Atelier Maeght workshop in Saint-Paul de Vence (France), and at Morsang and Arte Adrien Maeght in Paris.

The selection of prints is complemented with six paintings that reinforce the notion of the anti-portrait. These pieces were produced between 1965 and 1974; two of them are Miró's revisions of works from 1940. In addition, the exhibition is accompanied by a bronze painted sculpture with which he applies the assembly of everyday objects, cast by the lost-wax process, and shows a preeminent taste for the culture of the surrealist object as well as a great interest in the matter.

The exhibition has been configured solely with pieces from the Fundació Joan Miró's collection in Barcelona.
List of Works

Engravings

Joan Miró

Les Deux amis
Two friends

1969
Etching, aquatint and carborundum
71,5 x 106,5 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 8690

Joan Miró

Le Matador
The bullfighter

1969
Etching, aquatint and carborundum
106,5 x 73,5 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 8693

Joan Miró

L’Ogre enjoué
The cheerful ogre

1969
Etching, aquatint and carborundum
106,5 x 73,5 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 8695
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joan Miró</th>
<th>Le Chef d'orchestre</th>
<th>The orchestra conductor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Etching, aquatint and carborundum</td>
<td>113,8 x 74 cm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona</td>
<td>FJM 8707</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joan Miró</th>
<th>L’Etranglé</th>
<th>Strangled man</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Etching, aquatint and carborundum</td>
<td>114,4 x 73,9 cm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona</td>
<td>FJM 8708</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joan Miró</th>
<th>La Femme toupee</th>
<th>The spinning-top woman</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Etching, aquatint and carborundum</td>
<td>118 x 74,1 cm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona</td>
<td>FJM 8710</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Joan Miró

**Le Permissionnaire**
Soldier on leave

1974  
Etching and aquatint  
114 x 73,8 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 8713

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Joan Miró

**Le Pitre rose**
The pink clown

1974  
Etching, aquatint and carborundum  
115,5 x 74 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 8714

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Joan Miró

**Le Sonnambule**
The sleepwalker

1974  
Etching and aquatint  
114,8 x 74,5 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 8717
Joan Miró

**La Manucure évaporée**
*The flighty manicurist*

1975  
Etching and aquatint  
74 x 115,5 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 10529

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Joan Miró

**La Souris rouge à la mantille**
*Red mouse with mantilla*

1975  
Aquatint  
114,7 x 74 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 10531

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Joan Miró

**La Souris noire à la mantille**
*Black mouse with mantilla*

1975  
Aquatint  
121,5 x 85 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 10533
Joan Miró
La Contre-balancée
Counterbalanced

1975
Etching and aquatint
115,5 x 74 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 10535

Joan Miró
La Taupe hilare
The laughing mole

1975
Etching and aquatint
74 x 115,5 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 10539

Joan Miró
Le Rat des sables
Sand rat

1975
Aquatint
74 x 115 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 10557

Joan Miró
Galathée
Galatea

1976
Etching, aquatint and embossing
115 x 74 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 10543
Joan Miró

**L’Aigrette rouge**  
*The red feather*

1976  
Aquatint and carborundum  
115 x 74 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 10553

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Joan Miró

**L’Égyptienne**  
*Egyptian girl*

1977  
Etching, aquatint and carborundum  
74 x 115.5 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 10555

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Joan Miró

**L’Aveugle parmi les oiseaux**  
*Blind man among the birds*

1978  
Etching, aquatint, carborundum and grattage  
135 x 96.5 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 10521
Joan Miró

Le Brahmane
The brahman

1978
Aquatint, carborundum and grattage
110,7 x 74 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 10523

Joan Miró

La Métamorphose
Metamorphosis

1978
Etching, aquatint, carborundum and grattage
107 x 75 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 10525

Joan Miró

La Fugitive
The fugitive

1978
Etching and aquatint
107 x 75 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 10527
Joan Miró

**La Danseuse créole**  
*Creole dancer*

1978  
Etching, aquatint and carborundum  
114,5 x 74 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 10537

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Joan Miró

**Mambo**  
*Mambo*

1978  
Etching and aquatint  
114,3 x 73,9 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 10549

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Joan Miró

**L’Oustachi**  
*The ustaše*

1978  
Aquatint and carborundum  
114,3 x 74,2 cm  
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona  
FJM 10551
Joan Miró

Pantagruel

Pantagruel

1978
Etching, aquatint, carborundum and grattage
116,8 x 74,7 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 10560
Paintings

Joan Miró
Femme III
Woman III

1965
Oil and acrylic on canvas
116 x 81 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 4692

Joan Miró
Femme et oiseaux
Woman and birds

1968
Acrylic and oil on canvas
195 x 130 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 4707

Joan Miró
Femme et oiseau
Woman and bird

1969
Acrylic and oil on canvas
61 x 50 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona. Gift of
Pilar Juncosa de Miró
FJM 4722
Joan Miró

**Femme**
*Woman*

1969
Acrylic and oil on canvas
61 x 50 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 4723

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Joan Miró

**Tête**
*Head*

1940-1974
Acrylic on canvas
65 x 50 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona. Gift of Pilar Juncosa de Miró
FJM 4777

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Joan Miró

**Tête**
*Head*

1940-1974
Acrylic on canvas
61 x 38 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 4781
Sculpture

Joan Miró

Sa majesté
*Her majesty*

1967
Painted bronze
108 x 35,5 x 34 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 8649
Supporting Materials for the Exhibition

Texts
The text for the catalogue, as well as the wall texts, will be provided by the Fundació Joan Miró’s Collections team or by a contributing expert.

Photographs by Joaquim Gomis
Photographs of the artist, the atmosphere in his studio and his work process are available.

Educational Activities
Optionally, the exhibition can be complemented with an educational activity or workshop organized by the Fundació Joan Miró's Public Programmes and Education Department.
Exhibition Requirements

Duration
2 months

Required Space
100 linear metres and 420 m2 (approximately)

Useful Information

Total of Works
33

Description
26 engravings, 6 paintings and 1 sculpture

Insurance Value
9.030.000,00 €

The following costs are not included:
- Loan fee
- Packing
- Shipping
- Insurance
- Courier
- Exhibition installation
- Possible publication of a catalogue
- High-resolution digital photographs of the works
- Joan Miró’s copyrights (Successió Miró CB)