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Press release

A place where artists have the right to fail. Stories of Espai 10 and Espai 13 at the Fundació Joan Miró

14 March – 25 May 2014

Curator: Manuel Segade

The Fundació Joan Miró presents ***A place where artists have the right to fail. Stories of Espai 10 and Espai 13 at the Fundació Joan Miró***, an exhibition on the programming of emergent art in these two spaces since 1978.

In 2013 Espai 13 celebrated its thirty-five years in existence. The exhibition ***A place where...***, which will be open from 14 March until 25 May, and the publication marking the occasion will commemorate this anniversary.

The exhibition, with Manuel Segade as its curator, is organised around seven thematic chapters that show and explain the links between different artistic generations and languages over the past four decades.

A place where... brings together a total of sixty works, representing the more than 250 exhibitions programmed for Espai 10 and Espai 13. This is the first time that works produced for these two spaces will occupy the temporary exhibition rooms of the Foundation.

The exhibition ***A place where...*** reviews the body of artistic creation arising from the regular programming for Espai 10 and Espai 13. The former was opened in 1978 and was moved to another part of the Foundation in 1989 after Sert's building was renovated, whereupon it became known as Espai 13. Taking as its starting point a selection from the works produced throughout its history, the exhibition presents this space as a laboratory that has served as a testing ground for artists and curators.

The exhibition opens with a chronology showing the history of Espai 10 and Espai 13 from the beginnings of the Fundació Joan Miró in 1975 through to the present day. From its

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very inception, the programming for this space has aimed at responding to the needs of the sector and also to Joan Miró's desire to create an experimental venue for the projects of young artists. The space has embraced both the local art scene and emergent art in the international sphere, showing the work of almost five hundred artists and thirty curators since it first opened its doors.

Structure and Layout

The task of reviewing the last four decades of emergent art has enabled the exhibition curator, Manuel Segade, to analyse artistic trends and movements and to identify points of contact between different generations and practices. Seven thematic chapters have been established on the basis of these relationships and will occupy the exhibition spaces with the following titles: *Pictorial Phenomena*, *Sculptured Objects*, *Culture and Nature*, *Phenomenology of the Body*, *Postcolonialisms*, *Processes and Events*, and *The Uses of Popular Culture*.

The sixty works brought together for this show are fragments from earlier exhibitions, taking the form of a temporary collection. The exhibition design by the artist Xabier Salaberria consists of a series of modules and devices by means of which the pieces are presented with the aim of giving coherence to this wide-ranging narrative. Salaberria's pieces are functional sculptures that house other pieces, somewhere between exhibition design and autonomous works.

At the end of the exhibition there is an information area where visitors can find the catalogues and publications that have been produced throughout the programming of Espai 10 and Espai 13.

Artists shown in the exhibition

Antoni Abad - Ana Laura Aláez - Yves Belorgey - Jordi Benito - Alfons Borrell - Jackie Brookner - Joan Brossa - Jordi Cerdà - Jordi Colomer - Carles Congost - Pep Duran - Antoni Egea - Manel Esculsa - Esther Ferrer - Xavier Franquesa - General Idea - Albert Giròs - Susy Gómez - Jean-Pierre Guillemot - Jens Haaning - Pello Irazu - Salvador Juanpere - Laura Lamiel - Abigail Lazkoz - Liza Lou - Jesús Martínez Oliva - Erina Matsui - Fina Miralles - Jordi Mitjà - Vik Muniz - Elvira Navares - Pere Noguera - Antonio Ortega - Alberto Peral - Perejaume - Gabriel Pericàs - Enric Pladevall - Jaume Plensa - Josep Ponsatí - Àngels Ribé - Joan Rom - Ugo Rondinone - Benet Rosell - Carolina Saquel - Susana Solano - Luigi Stoisà - Antoni Tàpies - Paco Vacas - Xavier Veilhan

Publication and Activities

A place where artists have the right to fail. Stories of Espai 10 and Espai 13 at the Fundació Joan Miró is also the title of the publication that has been produced for this exhibition. Somewhat like a manual, the book analyses how the history of Espai 10 and Espai 13 presents a case study on the institutionalisation of contemporary art in Europe.

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The book is the result of the research carried out in preparing the exhibition and tells the stories of the spaces with the thematic sections of the show as their starting points. Besides the seven chapters structuring the exhibition, the study adds three further thematic sections titled *On Ways of Making Audiences*, *Site-specific Interventions* and *From Tautological Art to Institutional Critique*.

The publication is to be launched at the Fundació Joan Miró on Thursday 20 March at 7.30 p.m.. This event, which is open to the public, will be attended by Montse Badia, Miquel Molins, Fede Montornès and Glòria Picazo, as well as the exhibition curator Manuel Segade. The former four guests have all been curators of shows in Espai 13.

The exhibition will be completed with two activities related with memorable moments in the history of Espai 10 and Espai 13. On 17 May, which is Museum Night, Pep Duran will present a fragment of his 1985 performance *Tot és quincalla* (It's All Junk). This performance consisted of a parade by models in imaginative costumes and a dinner.

On Thursday 22 May, Francesc Ruiz will offer a route based on the different points of distribution of a fanzine. A decade after his Espai 10 show, Ruiz returns to the 2004 comic series *Soy Sauce*, which led his audience to different parts of the city. In the 2014 version, the closing act of the exhibition *A place where...*, the route will begin at the Fatbottom graphic bookstore and will end at the Fundació Joan Miró.

Between April and May, three guided tours of the exhibition will be offered by Vicenç Altaió and David Armengol, curators of Espai 10 and Espai 13 respectively, and Teresa Blanch, curator, critic and lecturer in the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Barcelona.

Espai 10 and Espai 13 in Viquipèdia, the Catalan language Wikipedia

The thirty-fifth anniversary celebrations of Espai 10 and Espai 13 opened in April 2013 with the longest [Viquimarató](#) (Wikimarathon) ever. Lasting thirty-five hours, this event, jointly organised with Amical Wikimedia and with the help of volunteers and students from several Catalan universities, was devoted to publishing contents in Viquipèdia, the Catalan language Wikipedia.

This was the beginning of a project of coming together to produce and complete for Viquipèdia articles about more than three hundred artists and curators who have worked in Espai 10 and Espai 13 over all these years. This information may be accessed in the exhibition *A place where...* by means of the QR codes located next to every work.

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