

Signing and public presentation of the Fundació Joan Miró – UPF Chair of Contemporary Art

Friday 3 June 2022

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Press release

The Fundació Joan Miró and the Universitat Pompeu Fabra are creating the Fundació Joan Miró – UPF Chair of Contemporary Art

The chair, directed by Manel Jiménez, Vice Rector of Educational Transformation, Culture and Communication at the UPF, is intended first and foremost to foster research, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge related to Joan Miró and contemporary art.

This initiative is the latest result of the two institutions' commitment to collaborate with each other. This co-operation began in October 2020 with the signing of a framework agreement that has also included, among other actions, the temporary loan of work from the foundation's collection to the university, as well as the transfer of some of the museum's bibliographical holdings on contemporary art to the library of the UPF.

Barcelona, 3 June 2022. The Rector of the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Oriol Amat, and the Director of the Fundació Joan Miró, Marko Daniel, have today signed the Fundació Joan Miró – UPF Chair of Contemporary Art. This initiative represents another step in the wide-ranging and lasting partnership that has existed between the two institutions since October 2020. As a result of this framework agreement, specialists at the Fundació Joan Miró and academics at the UPF have been jointly pursuing projects to share and combine their knowledge and have been working together to promote the study of contemporary art, Miró's work and the museum's collection among students, while at the same time strengthening relations between the academic realm and the cultural sphere.

In the words of Marko Daniel, Director of the Fundació Joan Miró, 'the FJM-UPF Chair of Contemporary Art will develop research projects based on the foundation's collection and its programme of exhibitions and activities in order to generate knowledge and share it with the world of academia and researchers and with the general public'. For

his part, Oriol Amat, Rector of the UPF, stated ‘new territory in institutional collaboration has now been opened up thanks to this chair, a formula for innovation and exchanges. It forges a natural alliance between two bodies devoted entirely to knowledge but with different approaches, dynamics and logics. The cultural, social, educational and even playful functions of a museum overlap here with the vocation for inquiry and research of a university. This fusion paves the way for extraordinary areas of exploration that range from research into contemporary art to the innovation and development of museum creations, as well as proposals for disruptive learning that interlink in an extremely organic way with the educational framework of the UPF, EDvolution, and its Cultura programme.’

Accordingly, the chair has been set up as the central tool for fostering research, teaching, and the dissemination of knowledge related to Joan Miró and contemporary art. It will be directed by Manel Jiménez, Vice Rector of Educational Transformation, Culture and Communication at the UPF.

As its core areas of research, the chair will define and pursue joint fields of inquiry, it will promote the production of PhD theses between the two institutions, it will co-ordinate co-operation for obtaining common research projects and it will promote the publishing of research in specialist publications. Furthermore, the chair will promote activities to transfer knowledge between the realms of research and industrial exploitation, and it will enable the mounting of training-related initiatives such as predoctoral and postdoctoral grants, plans for practices and academic prizes.

Through the chair, the foundation will enable students and researchers at the UPF to participate in the museum’s general exhibitions plan by contributing exhibition interventions connected with the Tower of Knowledge, among other possibilities. The accord between the two institutions also makes provision for master classes to be taught by specialists from the foundation in a range of subjects such as conservation, restoration, education, exhibitions and communication.

The creation of the Fundació Joan Miró – UPF Chair of Contemporary Art constitutes a further advance in the implementation of the [collaboration accord](#) that has linked the two institutions since 2020. Thanks to this framework agreement, the foundation has temporarily loaned two acrylics on paper that Miró created in 1968, thus bringing the foundation’s collection closer to the university community. These two works are displayed in the Espai Tàpies at the UPF’s Ciutadella campus and are part of the [UPF Art Track](#), an itinerary that takes in the university’s artistic and cultural heritage and which also includes artists such as Antoni Tàpies, Susana Solano and Alfonso Alzamora.

The third initiative covered by this partnership is the ten-year loan of some of the Fundació Joan Miró Library’s holdings of books and other documents on art of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries to the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, thereby enriching the stocks on contemporary art held by the university’s General Library. This loan

encompasses a total of 11,327 publications from the foundation's Jacques Dupin Library that focus on Joan Miró, the history and architecture of the foundation, and art of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. These publications are listed in the [catalogue of the UPF's Library](#) and are available for consultation.

In keeping with the objectives of the partnership between the Fundació Joan Miró and the Universitat Pompeu Fabra and the accords of the newly established chair, the two institutions will continue to promote new initiatives and artistic and research projects with the aim of continuing to expand the academic and cultural horizons of the students at the university and of enlarging the audiences and reach of the foundation.

Images available at: <https://bit.ly/CatedraFJM-UPF>

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