

## ***Visible Invisible (Animal Light)***

**Single-channel video loop and 12 photographs by Juan Bufill**

04/06/2019 – 08/09/2019

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## **Press release**

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**The Fundació Joan Miró presents the exhibition *Visible Invisible (Animal Light)* by Juan Bufill.**

**This audiovisual installation, which is being shown for the first time, employs a combination of photography and video to provoke reflection on the perception of reality.**

**With this work, Bufill underlines how reality can radically change according to the speed at which it is viewed, and when the human eye is complemented by cinematographic filming, video editing, and finally photography.**

**With no manipulation whatsoever – with just water, light and a camera – Bufill captures images of the invisible. These images may have a dreamlike quality, but they are real nevertheless.**

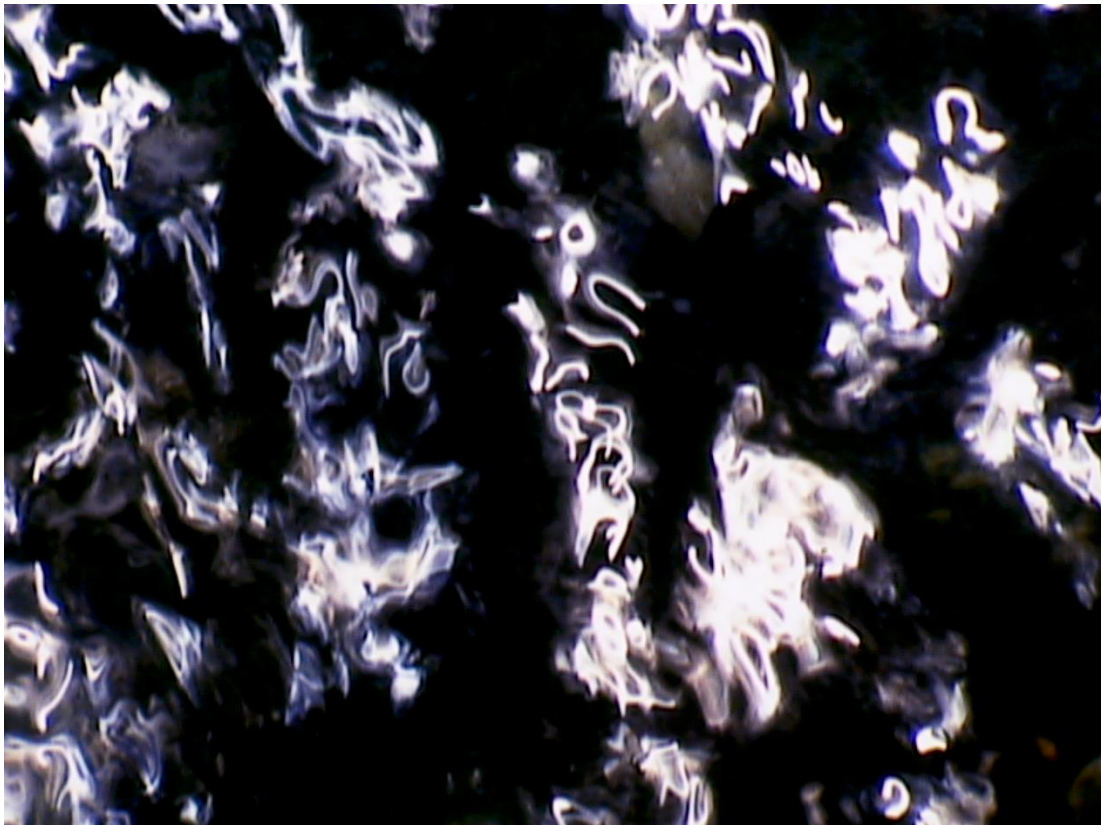
***Visible Invisible (Animal Light)* can be seen in the space devoted to photography in the foyer of the Fundació Joan Miró until 8 September 2019.**

**Barcelona, 4 June 2019.** The photography of Juan Bufill (Barcelona, 1955) is abstract and is centred around themes such as light, energy, water and the passage of time. In the space devoted to photography in the foyer of the Fundació Joan Miró, Bufill presents the exhibition *Visible Invisible (Animal Light)*, whose title is inspired by this visionary line written by the poet José Lezama Lima: "Light is the first visible animal of the invisible."

Through a working process that draws on audiovisual elements, Bufill captures and reveals the play of light on moving water. The artist obtains dreamlike perspectives without using microscopes or telescopes, while maintaining a human scale. He simply focuses his camera on a fragment of river (in La Pobla de Segur in the Catalan Pyrenees) under specific conditions and records the flow of the water for

half a minute. Then he slows down the images and extracts twelve stills, fractions of a second that reveal figures of living creatures to us – birds, people, fantastic animals – or spectres, in addition to signs, numbers, letters from different alphabets and words from various languages. According to Bufill: "Water, when combined with light and the other elements, contains in a latent state all the possible shapes that exist in the Universe."

Throughout the summer and up until 8 September, the space devoted to photography in the foyer will show the twelve resultant images and the original video, which lasts 9½ minutes.



**Juan Bufill** (Barcelona, 1955) has been active in various cultural fields, including photography, video and experimental cinema, but he has also been a cultural journalist, an art, film and music critic, a comic strip writer, an exhibition curator and a poet. His publications include the collections of poems *Antinaufragios* (Vaso Roto, 2014) and *Subespecies humanas* (Península, 1992), and he has translated the poetic work of Andreu Vidal (*Huesos de sol*, Rosa Cúbica, 2010).

# Fundació Joan Miró Barcelona

In the audiovisual field, he created and scripted the avant-garde television programme *Arsenal* (TV3, 1985-1987), and he directed the video *Buñuel* (1989-1990, with Manuel Hueriga) and the programme *Apropiacions* (2011, La 2/CCCB, part of the series *Soy Cámara*, with the CANADA group). His experimental cinema has been seen at exhibitions such as *Cinéma d'avant-garde en Espagne. Une anthologie* (Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, 1982) and *Surface/Ground* (Pacific Design Center, Los Angeles, 2010).

His photographic work has been shown at individual exhibitions, including *Esriptures naturals*, at Arts Santa Mònica; *SigNaturas*, at Galeria Àmbit; *Luz material*, at Galeria Amparo Gámir; and *Tiempo y luz*, at Galeria Joan Gaspar (PHotoEspaña, 2014). As a curator, he has organised exhibitions such as *Tintín a Barcelona. Homenatge a Hergé* (Fundació Joan Miró, 1984), *Nous relats fotogràfics* (Arts Santa Mònica, 2016) and programmes such as *Cinemavisió* (MACBA, 2006).

Since 2012, the Fundació Joan Miró has organised photography exhibitions in the foyer. Through an agreement with the heirs of Joaquim Gomis and the Catalan Government, the Foundation manages the Gomis Archive, and disseminates and promotes the study of this Catalan photographer's work. To this end, it organises temporary exhibitions of Gomis' work, together with shows featuring the work of other photographers who, like Gomis, combine photography with other professional activities.

Images available at <http://bit.ly/Juan-Bufill>

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