The Fundació Joan Miró organizes in Milano, Italy, the exhibition Joan Miró. La forza della materia, a show that brings together a total of 114 works by the artist.

Joan Miró. La forza della materia highlights the will of Miró of reaching the purity of art by exploring beyond conventional painting. The show illustrate the constant experimentation with techniques, media and different procedures that led him to the development of a new culture of matter.

Under the direction of Rosa Maria Malet, the Fundació Joan Miró in Barcelona organizes this exhibition, which has sixty-six works from its collection. The show includes paintings, drawings, sculptures and graphic works made between 1931 and 1981.

The exhibition will be open from March 25 to September 11, 2016 at the MUDEC, Museo delle Culture, Milano, Italy.

"Matter, the instrument gives me the technique, a means to give life to one thing [...] In my painting, a small line with a thick shape at the end is a surprise. I'm as surprised [...] More than the picture itself, what counts is what brings out into the air, what diffuses." With these words, collected by Yvon Taillandier in an interview in 1959 at Xxe Siècle, Joan Miró reflects on the importance of experimentation with matter in his work and on the freedom and its creation effects in various media.

Joan Miró. La forza della materia includes a broad representation of this experimentation with matter, through 114 works of their funds and private collections, presented in four rooms. In the first one, paintings and drawings from 1931 and 1944 are exhibited, most of which produced under the influence of the Spanish Civil War and World War II. Thus, these works synthesize the tragedy of this period and show the new symbolic language that Miró configured.

The move of Joan Miró in 1956 to Palma de Mallorca, where his friend, the architect Josep Lluís Sert, had designed a studio, is the starting point of the exhibits in the second room. The paintings of this space show how Miró, with the desire to reach an increasingly anonymous artistic expression, releases his gesture. At maturity of his career, a continuing interest in matter and its possibilities lead him to work with profusion bronze sculpture, also represented in this room. Miró uses the lost-wax process to give life to new beings by the assembly of objects, mainly from natural and popular environment.
The third room presents a series of works of the seventies in which Miró continued questioning the ultimate meaning of the painting without ever leaving it. With the intention of removing all illusory elements of his painting, he underwent it to the most unorthodox practices -for example, burning the canvases- while uses or reuses the most unusual medias, wood, sandpaper, paintings pompier style, etc. Destroying and creating both, the artist provokes the viewer and questions the economic value of the artwork.

The last section of the exhibition focuses on the sculptural and graphic works of Miró, modalities with immense technical possibilities enhanced by collaborative work with artisans. In this room are remarkable his works with carborundum -an artificial abrasive made from powder of carbon and silicon-, that allows him to enrich the matter and enhance the line of the engravings. In each of these disciplines, Joan Miró challenges the technique seeking the freedom of expression that he achieved with painting.

Joan Miró. La forza della materia is organized by the Fundació Joan Miró in Milano, Italy at the MUDEC, Museo delle Culture, a center dedicated to the interdisciplinary research on the world cultures. Taking inspirations from the civic ethnographic collections and in partnership with our communities, MUDEC intend to create a place where to dialogue on contemporary themes by the medium of visual, performing and sound art, design and costume. The MUDEC presents an innovative form of governance with a partnership between the public and private sectors involving the Milan City Council and 24 ORE Cultura – Gruppo 24 Ore.

For further information:
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**Joan Miró**  
*Personnages et oiseau*  
Figures and bird  
1937  
Indian ink and watercolour on paper  
25 x 32 cm  
Private collection

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**Joan Miró**  
*Femme*  
Woman  
1938  
Colored crayón, pastel, Indian ink and gouache on paper  
41 x 33 cm  
Private collection

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**Joan Miró**  
*Personnages, oiseau, étoiles*  
Figures, bird, stars  
1942  
Pencil, watercolour, gouache, Indian ink and pastel on paper  
66 x 51 cm  
Private collection
Joan Miró

*Femmes, oiseau, étoiles*

Women, bird, stars

1942

Pencil, lead pencil, pastel, Indian ink and watercolour on paper

42.5 x 79 cm

Private collection

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Joan Miró

Painting

1960

Oil, graphite pencil and mastic on wood

50 x 58 cm

Private collection

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Joan Miró

Painting

1962

Oil on rag

229 x 67 cm

Private collection
Joan Miró
*Vol de canards, femme, étoile*
Flight of ducks, woman, stars
1965
Oil on « pompier »-style canvas
100 x 50 cm
Private collection

Joan Miró
*Femme III*
Woman III
1965
Oil and acrylic on canvas
116 x 81 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Joan Miró
*Femme au clair de lune*
Woman by moonlight
1970
Gouache, Indian ink and wax crayon on paper
99 x 61 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
Joan Miró
_Femme dans la nuit_
Woman in the night
1973
Acrylic on canvas
195 x 130 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Joan Miró
_Personnage dans la nuit_
Figure in the night
1974
Oil on canvas
73 x 92 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Joan Miró
_Poème_
Poem
1974
Oil on canvas
130 x 97 cm
Private collection

Joan Miró
_Tête_
Head
1940-1974
Acrylic on canvas
65 x 50 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
Joan Miró
Personnage, oiseaux
Figure, birds
1975
Oil, Indian ink and graphite pencil on cardboard
63 x 49,3 cm
Private collection

Joan Miró
Personnage, oiseau
Figure, bird
1976
Oil on wood
77 x 50 cm
Private collection

Joan Miró
Personnage, oiseaux
Figure, birds
1976
Oil and wax crayon on tarred packaging paper stapled on wood
77 x 50 cm
Private collection
Joan Miró
*Bas-relief*
Bas-relief
1969
Bronze
35,5 x 22,5 x 4,5 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Joan Miró
*Coq*
Cok
1970
Bronze
53 x 38,3 x 58,8 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Joan Miró
*Personage*
Figure
1981
Bronze
88,5 x 62,5 x 47,5 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Joan Miró
Starting-point for Figure, 1981
Cloth napkin
18 x 13,5 x 0,5 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
Joan Miró
Les Deux Amis
Two friends
1969
Etching, aquatint and carborundum
71,5 x 106,5 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Joan Miró
Pantagruel
1978
Etching, aquatint, carborundum and grattage
106,8 x 74,7 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Joan Miró
L’Égyptienne
Egyptian girl
1977
Etching, aquatint and carborundum
121,5 x 85 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

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