

MUSEU NACIONAL
D'ART DE CATALUNYA

24.02 – 02.07.2023



LLUÍS BORRASSÀ

Els colors retrobats de la catedral de Barcelona

Los colores reencontrados de la catedral de Barcelona

The rediscovered colours of the Barcelona Cathedral



LLUÍS BORRASSÀ. THE REDISCOVERED COLOURS OF THE BARCELONA CATHEDRAL

This exhibition brings together, for the first time, 600 years after its creation, a large proportion of the paintings that Lluís Borrassà (Girona, circa 1360 - Barcelona, 1424-25) made for the Cathedral of Barcelona.

The genesis of the exhibition began with the purchase by the Generalitat of two panels by Borrassà, at the request of the Museum, from the cathedral, located in the art market. They are two magnificent paintings that are now presented together with other paintings by the same artist with the same origin, which were distributed among private collections and in other museums, such as the Museo Nacional del Prado and the Museu Episcopal de Vic.

The exhibition includes important original documents from the period, as well as a selection of drawings of the panels, made in the 19th century by historian Josep Puiggarí, the first scholar to rescue the painter's work from oblivion. Borrassà is one of the leading Catalan Gothic artists, and head of the most productive and influential art studio of the early 15th century in Catalonia.

The intensity and brilliance of the colours are two characteristic features of Borrassà's work. Analyses of the cathedral choir pulpit carried out at the Museum have confirmed that the artist painted it in lapis lazuli blue, the most expensive and appreciated colour of the time.

Among the documents on display is the purchase agreement of Lluç, a slave of Tartar origin who worked as a painter in Borrassà's studio. In addition to collaborators and apprentices, some painters had artists working in their studios who were slaves.



Decapitació dels familiars de sant Hipòlit / Decapitación de los familiares de san Hipólito / Beheading of the Relatives of Saint Hippolytus, 1419-1420. Dipòsit de la Generalitat de Catalunya. Col·lecció Nacional d'Art, 2020. Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya



Miracle de sant Pere Màrtir i el salvament de naufragi / Milagro de san Pedro Mártir y el salvamento del naufragio / Miracle of Saint Peter Martyr and Ship Saved from Storm, 1414-1421. Col·lecció Adolfo Autric Amarillo de Sancho



Miracle de sant Andreu i l'incendi sufocat (fragment) / Milagro de san Andrés y el incendio sofocado (fragmento) / Miracle of Saint Anthony and the Extinguished Fire (fragment), 1400-1410. Adquisició, 1956. Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

IMATGE COBERTA / IMAGEN CUBIERTA / COVER IMAGE

Vestició de sant Pere Màrtir / Vestición de san Pedro Mártir / Vestition of Saint Peter, 1414-1421. Dipòsit de la Generalitat de Catalunya.

Collecció Nacional d'Art, 2020. Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

#LluísBorrassà



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