

MUSEU NACIONAL  
D'ART DE CATALUNYA

ENG

# NEW ROOMS ART & THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR COLLECTION





# ART AND CIVIL WAR

CIVIL WAR

ART, CONFLICT  
& MEMORY

The Museu Nacional renews its exhibition discourse, and at the same time extends the number of rooms dedicated to the art produced during the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939).

Painting, sculpture, drawing and engraving, along with new types of media, such as illustrated publications, posters, photography, photomontage and cinema, were put to use on both sides.

During the war years, many artists decided not to remain neutral: art became a powerful weapon for stirring consciences and gaining support for one political cause or another.

Despite the dramatic circumstances, this mobilisation was the culmination of some of the aspirations in modern art and the avant-garde. Using the war as a motive, an entire iconographic programme unfolded, where themes such as the war front, aerial bombardments, and massacres and evacuations of the civilian population were singled out.



[Cover]

Room 76

Andrés Fernández Cuervo Sierra. *Bombing*. Detail, 1937

From the International Exhibition in Paris, 1937

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

Room 78

Helios Gómez. *Evacuation*, 1937

Loan from Gabriel Gómez Plana, son of the artist, 2003

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya. © Associació

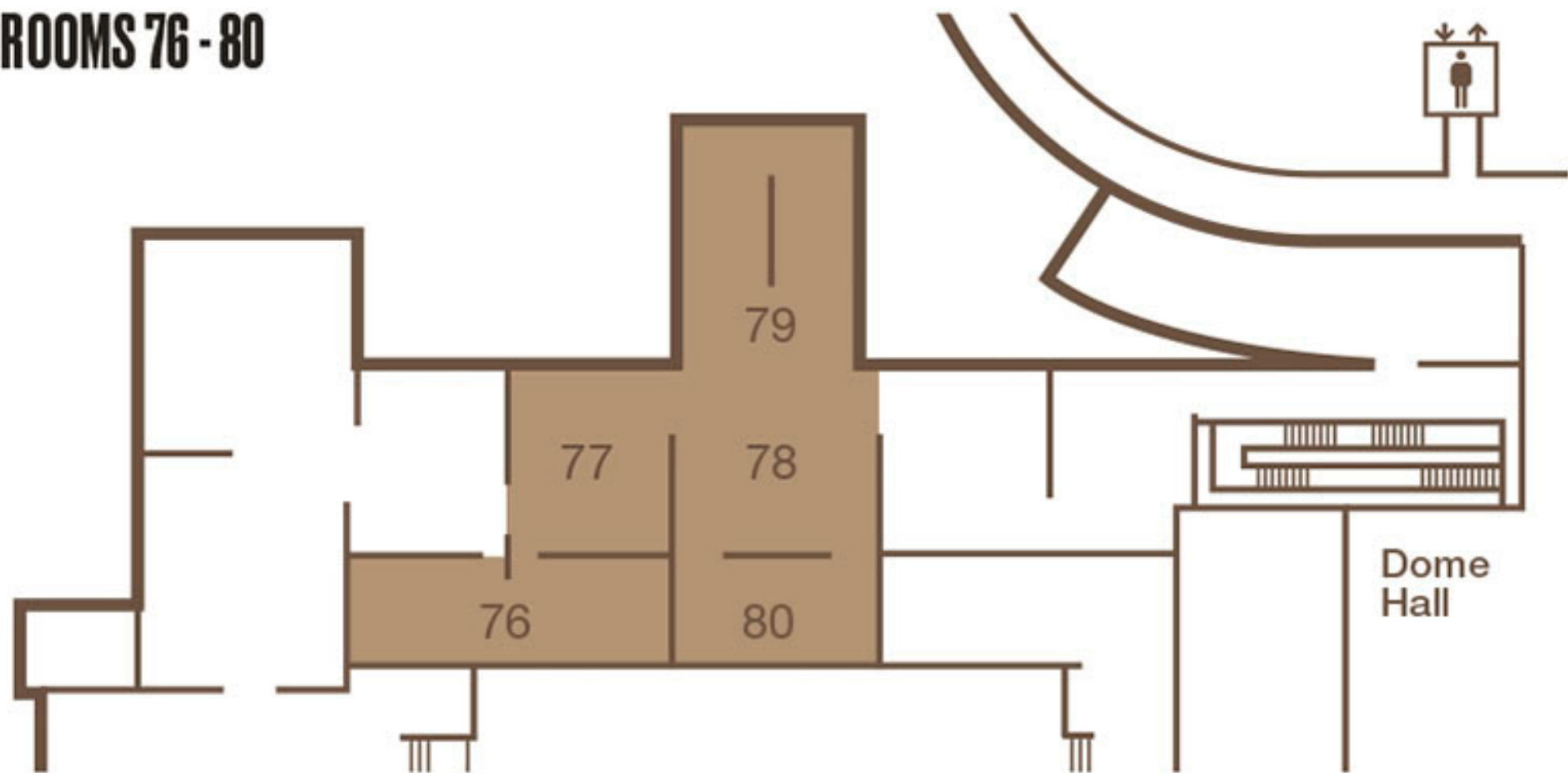
Cultural Helios Gómez, VEGAP, Barcelona, 2021



# FIRST FLOOR

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## ROOMS 76 - 80



**PAVILION OF THE REPUBLIC**  
**PROPAGANDA**  
**HEROES AND HEROINES**

**VICTIMS AND EXECUTIONERS**  
**WOMEN ARTISTS IN TIMES OF WAR**  
**EVACUATION**

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Room 76  
Juana Francisca Rubio. *Hero*, c. 1937  
From the Quarterly Exhibition of Visual Arts of Barcelona,  
1938. Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya



# PAVILION OF THE REPUBLIC

The Pavilion of the Spanish Republic at the 1937 Paris International Exhibition was the mouthpiece in Europe for the Republican cause. The aim was to gain international support in the fight against fascism.

Designed by Josep Lluís Sert and Luis Lacasa, it was inaugurated in July 1937. It allowed the world to see a wide range of cultural developments that took place in defence of legitimate government. The aim was to show what the country was experiencing through art, created in real time, as a response to the grave events that were taking place.

Important works such as *Guernica* by Pablo Picasso, *La Montserrat* by Juli González, *Mercury Fountain* by Alexander Calder and *The Catalan Peasant in Revolt* (also known as *The Reaper*) by Joan Miró – which disappeared after being exhibited in the Pavilion – were shown along with those of other artists who were equally committed to the Republic, but who were less well known to the general public.

A large part of the works included in the exhibition of the Pavilion of the Republic, and which are currently included in the Museum's collections, can be admired in these rooms.

## FEDERICO GARCÍA LORCA, IN PARIS

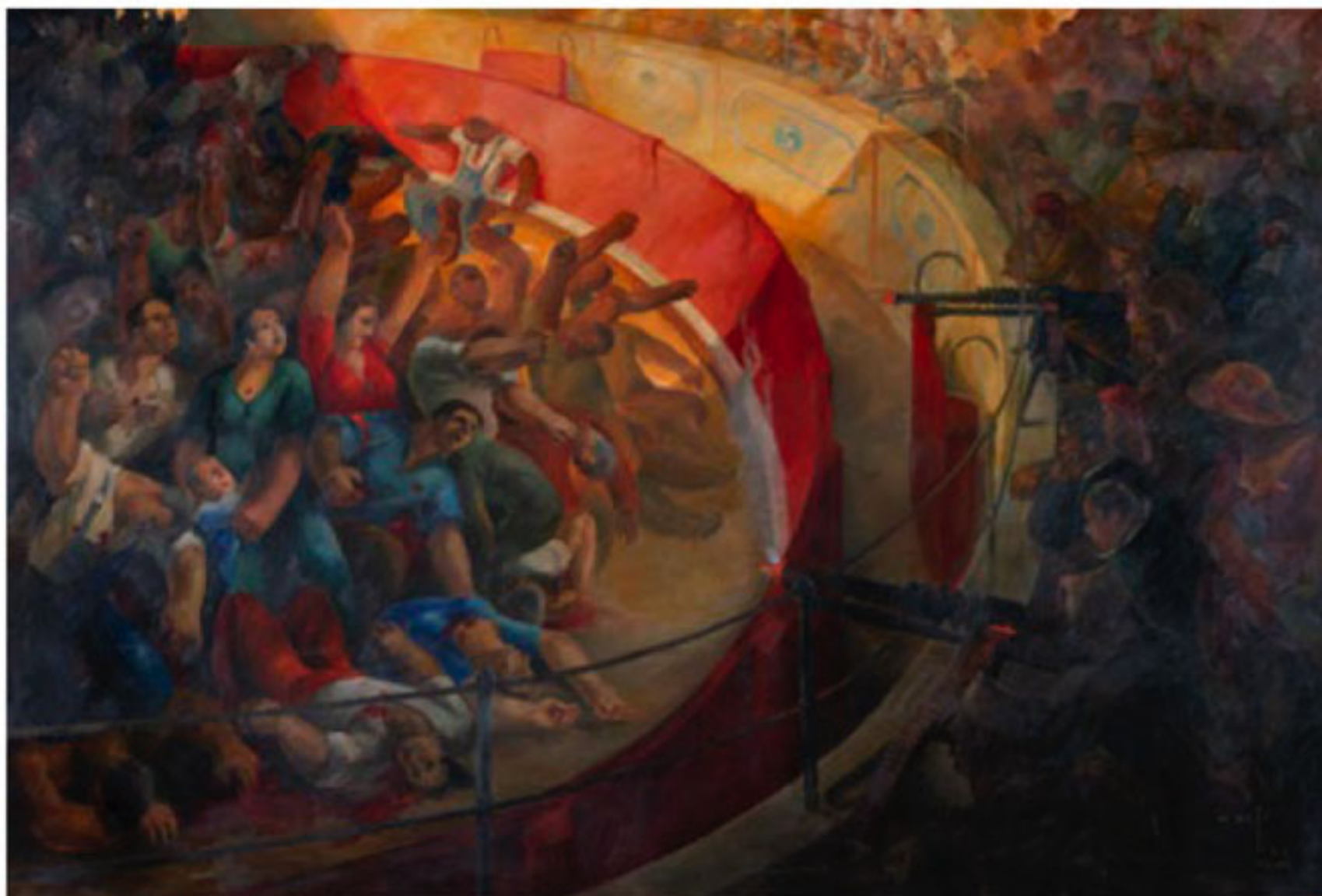
Following the assassination of Federico García Lorca, a tribute was paid to the figure of the poet and playwright at the Paris International Exhibition.

During the exhibition, tributes were paid to him with poetry recitals and a display of his books and photographs, among other things.

Fernando Briones' painting *Allegory of the Execution of Federico García Lorca* pays homage to the poet and represented an explicit condemnation of his murder.

When the Paris Pavilion was dismantled, the work was handed over to the Palau Nacional, the building hosting the Museum Nacional, along with many other works on display in the Pavilion.





Room 77  
Martí Bas. *Executions at Badajoz bull ring*, 1937  
Acquisition at the Barcelona Spring Exhibition, 1937  
Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

Room 80  
Antoni Campaña. *Rifleman* [Vicente Burón], 1936  
Loan from the Campaña Capella family, 2020  
Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

Room 79  
Francisco Pérez Mateo. *Bather*, c. 1935  
Loan from Vicente Pérez Mateo, 1944  
Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

Room 79  
Fernando Briones. *Allegory of Federico García Lorca's Execution*, 1937  
Donation by Isabel and Fernando Briones  
Fernández-Pola, daughter and son of the artist, 1999



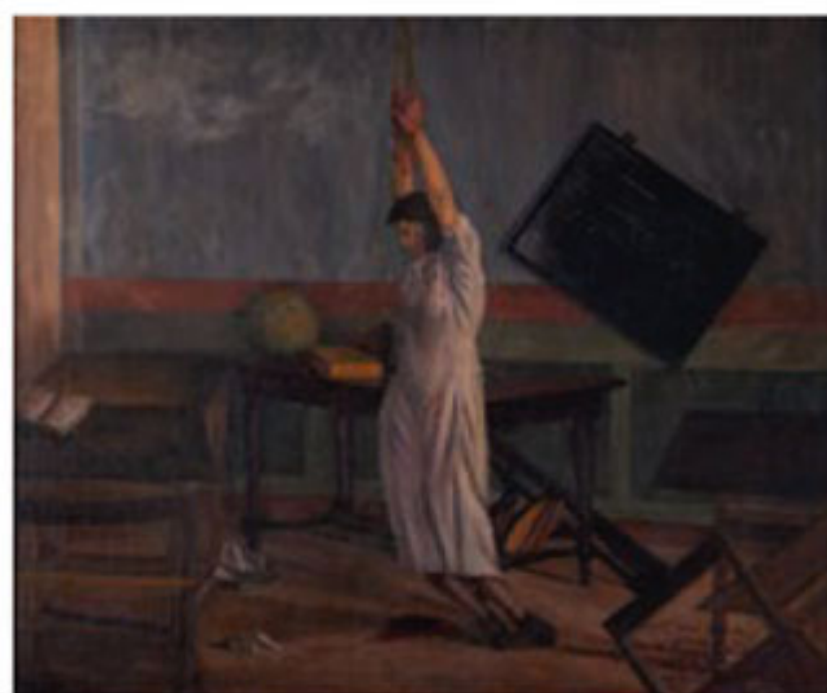
# WOMAN ARTIST IN TIMES OF WAR

Women play a prominent role in the new rooms of the Civil War. The various functions they took on during this period, such as those of artists, militia-women or victims, are depicted here.

Two artists in particular stand out: Àngela Nebot and Juana Francisca Rubio. They took part in the Quarterly Exhibition of Visual Arts in Barcelona in 1938.

## LINA ÓDENA

Communist militant and fighter for the Republic, this militiawoman died during the Spanish Civil War. Ódena was an example to many women who fought during the war, that refused to stay home and accept the traditional role given to them by society at the time.



Room 76

J. Pons. *Lina Ódena*, 1937

From the International Exhibition in Paris, 1937

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

Room 76

Àngela Nebot. *Saint Culture, Martyr of Fascism*, 1937

From the Quarterly Exhibition of Visual Arts of Barcelona,

1938. Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya



# PROPAGANDA

Faced with the need to communicate to the world the drama of war, and to coordinate the internal and external dissemination of the image of the anti-fascist struggle, republican institutions set up propaganda systems with artists committed to legitimate government.

To a lesser extent, the Francoist side also used posters as a vehicle for propaganda and counter-information, thus establishing a dialectic of forces. It was not a war of arms, but a battle to raise awareness among the population.



Room 77

Josep Renau. *Hoy mas que nunca, victoria*, 1938

Private collection on loan to the Museum, 2014

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya © Fundació Josep Renau

Room 77

Pere Català i Pic. *Crush Fascism!*, 1936

Acquired, 2011. Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya.

© Heirs of Pere Català i Pic, 2021



# ACTIVITIES

## THE MUSEUM'S NIGHT

Monday, July 3, doors open from 8 pm to midnight and a comment on the site on the works of the *Art and Civil War rooms* from 8 pm to 11 pm.

## THEATRE — *Rastres-Argelers*.

Wednesday, July 7, at 8.30 pm, in the Oval Hall. Prior registration on the Museum's website.

## GUIDED VISITS

Saturdays July 24 and 31, and every Saturday until October 23, at 11 am (Spanish) and 12.30 pm (Catalan). In August, only for groups upon request.

## GUIDED VISIT — Online

### *Spaces and stories of the Civil War*

A tour of the museums and interpretation centres throughout the country that describe the Civil War. Wednesday, September 15 and 22, at 6 pm. More information and registration on the Museum's website.

## EDUCATING FOR PEACE.

### SCHOOL PROGRAMME

Dynamic visit *Art and commitment*. A space for reflection on war and conflict for secondary education, baccalaureate and adult education.

## PODCAST — In person and online

### *Subversive sounds: LGBTI voices, guerrillas and refuges.*

Prior registration on the Museum's website.

## Volume I. Guerrillas

Tuesday, September 28, at 6.30 pm, at the Barcelona LGTBI Centre and online.

The Museum's iconographies focusing on the struggle of the republican guerrillas will be related to queer actions.

## Volume II. Refuges

Thursday, October 7, at 6.30 pm, at the Barcelona LGTBI Centre and online.

Imaginaries of evacuation and refuge will be reopened, to trace the notion of LGBTI exile, from the Civil War to the present day.

## CINEMA

*Josep, Aurélien Froment "Aurel"*, 2020, in the framework of the "7th Art. Cinema in the Museum". Thursday, October 21, at 7 pm, in the Oval Hall. Prior registration on the Museum's website.

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[www.amicsdelmnac.org](http://www.amicsdelmnac.org)



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Don't miss our videos on the Museu Nacional's YouTube channel.



#ArtConflicteMemòria

Download the programme of exhibitions and activities for *Civil War*. *Art, conflict and memory*.



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Ajuntament de  
Barcelona

