

19.11.2021
— 6.3.2022

NARRATED
EXHIBITION
AUDIO AVAILABLE
IN ENGLISH

RE(DISCOVER)

GAUDÍ

FIRE AND ASHES

Anonymous author. Fire in the workshop of the Sagrada Família, July 1900. Archive Catedral Gaudí. ETSAB. UPC

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GAUDÍ

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Antoni Gaudí (1852-1926) is undoubtedly the most popular and internationally renowned Catalan architect.

Can we rethink the image that we have of him today? You will find the answer in this exhibition, which offers a new look at the architect and an exercise in deconstructing the man, the myth and his work, which are so often reduced and simplified to the point of turning them into a brand.

Antoni Gaudí was a complex character who carried out his work with very specific political, ideological and aesthetic strategies in mind.

🔊 To find out, we recommend you to visit the exhibition with the audio available in English. You will immerse yourself in Gaudí's universe and (re)discover one of the most important architects in history in all his dimensions.

GAUDÍ WAS NOT A MYSTIC ABSENT FROM THE WORLD

Twenty years after the celebration of the Gaudí Year, the Museu Nacional presents an exhibition that steers clear of clichés and covers the architect's entire career.

In a museographic approach grounded in theatricality and the accumulation of objects, as if it were Gaudí's workshop, more than 650 items are displayed, including pieces of art, architectural and design objects, furniture, documentation, floor plans and photographs from around one hundred national and international collections, including the Museum collection, which holds an important set of works by the architect.

The exhibition, which can be seen at the Musée d'Orsay in Paris in 2022, shows that Antoni Gaudí did not work in isolation from the world and places it in the international context of the time with works by Adolphe-Victor Geoffroy-Dechaume, Thomas Jeckyll, William Morris, Auguste Rodin and Eugène-Emmanuel Viollet-le-Duc.



Gaudí's workshop in the Sagrada Família. 1926 © Ferran. COAC Historical Archive.



Josep Costa (Picarol). *L'Esquella de la Torratxa. Barcelona Futura*, 04/01/1912. Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya - Library Joaquim Folch i Torres

Gaudí was known to be the favourite architect of the bourgeoisie and the Church. Proof of this is the regularity with which the architect and his work were the focus of the satirical press of the time. For example, in this cartoon by Picarol published in *L'Esquella de la torratxa* in 1912, the building of La Pedrera-Casa Milà is ridiculed as if it were a “garage” of the Barcelona of the future.



Anonymous author. *Fire in the workshop of the Sagrada Família*, July 1936. Archive Càtedra Gaudí. ETSAB. UPC

Gaudí's workshop in the Sagrada Família was burnt down in 1936 when anarchist militias burned down churches after Franco's coup. Almost 10 years had passed since his death, but the architect was still closely linked to more conservative groups.

The Sagrada Família was conceived by the Association of Devotees of Sant Josep, which planned for it to be a church of atonement and redemption for the working class in a Barcelona immersed in the class struggle. After the attack on the Gran Teatre del Liceu, Gaudí sculpted a scene on the façade of the church in which a demon places an Orsini bomb (the same device that exploded in the Liceu) in the hands of an anarchist worker.



The temptation of man. Corbel from the Chapel of Roser of the Sagrada Família. © Junta Constructora del Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Família Foundation / Pep Daudé



Antoni Gaudí. *Furniture in the entrance hall of the main floor of La Pedrera-Casa Milà*. Photography: Anonymous author. 1966. Archive Càtedra Gaudí-ETSAB-UPC

Gaudí's workshop was full of all kinds of models and body castings, a practice that consisted of placing the plaster mould directly over human bodies (both adults and children), plants and animals. Like other artists of the time, such as the sculptor Auguste Rodin, Gaudí even used corpses to make these body castings.

For the hall on the main floor of La Pedrera-Casa Milà, Gaudí designed furniture which was integrated into the undulating architecture of the building. The pieces that made it up were scattered in the 1960s and there are no photos of the ensemble. However, the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya's Restoration and Preventive Conservation team studied it for more than two years and has reassembled it as it was originally thought to be.



Antoni Gaudí. *Hollow of head of child*. 1898-1916. Plaster. Collection Solans. Photo: Museu Nacional / Marc Vidal.

MUSEU NACIONAL D'ART DE CATALUNYA

GAUDÍ ACTIVITIES FOR LEARNING MORE

PREVIEW

OPENING CONFERENCE: "GAUDÍ"

Thursday, November 18, at 6 pm in Sala Oval, delivered by Professor Juan José Lahuerta, curator of the exhibition.

GUIDED VISITS

Every Saturday, starting on November 27, at 11 am (in Spanish) and at 12.30 pm (in Catalan).

Visit included with admission.
Maximum capacity: 15 people.
For other times, view the conditions on the Museum website.

FAMILY VISIT-WORKSHOP "MANS A L'OBRA" ("HANDS ON"). ESPAI EDUCART (SALA OVAL)

We invite you to play and think as a family about the materials, sensations and spaces that should be part of any architecture designed for people.

From december 19.

Check the dates and book your place at www.museunacional.cat/gaudi.

COORDINATED VISITS AND VISIT-WORKSHOPS FOR SCHOOLS: "GAUDÍ, L'ARQUITECTURA I LES PERSONES" ("GAUDÍ, ARCHITECTURE AND PEOPLE")

Through Gaudí's work, students will reflect on their own experience, their idea of the city and how they can be an active agent in its construction.

Coordinated visit: 1 h 30 min.

Coordinated visit + workshop: 3 h.

"Gaudí" activities for families and schools
enjoy the cooperation of



STARTING IN JANUARY 2022

Enjoy a full programme of activities around Gaudí and the idea of the city: artistic practice, cinema, concerts, routes through Barcelona, debates about the model of the city and one open-house night. The activities are organised in collaboration with Cercle Artístic Sant Lluç, ESMUC, Filmoteca de Catalunya, Pedrera-Casa Milà, Plataforma Assembleària d'Artistes de Catalunya, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya – Càtedra Gaudí and others.

Starting in January, you will find
all updated information at:
www.museunacional.cat/gaudi



Exclusive "Gaudí" activities for
Amics del Museu Nacional at

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