



Joan Miró
Gallery of
Anti-portraits

Fundació Joan Miró *  Barcelona

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Introduction



Aerial view of the Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona. Photo: Pere Pratdesaba

The Fundació Joan Miró

The Fundació Joan Miró was created by Miró himself, at first principally with works from his own private collection, with a desire to set up an internationally recognised centre in Barcelona for Miró scholarship and contemporary art research, and to disseminate the collection. The Fundació opened to the public on 10 June 1975 and has since become a dynamic centre in which Joan Miró's work coexists with cutting-edge contemporary art.

With an interdisciplinary approach, the Fundació organises temporary exhibitions of 20th and 21st century artists as well as academic activities and projects in collaboration with other institutions and organisations. Through its exhibition and educational programmes, the Fundació Joan Miró explores lines of research linked to the work of Miró and to contemporary art.

The Fundació is located in a building designed by Josep Lluís Sert, making it one of the few museums anywhere in the world in which the complicity between artist and architect underpins the dialogue between the works and the space that houses them. The Fundació offers an overview of the landscapes of Joan Miró's art and life, creating an enriching dialogue with other artists from the 20th and 21st centuries.

Joan Miró. Gallery of Anti-portraits

Summary of the Exhibition

*Personally, I wish for the coming of an era when
artistic production will be purely collective.*

Joan Miró, 1951

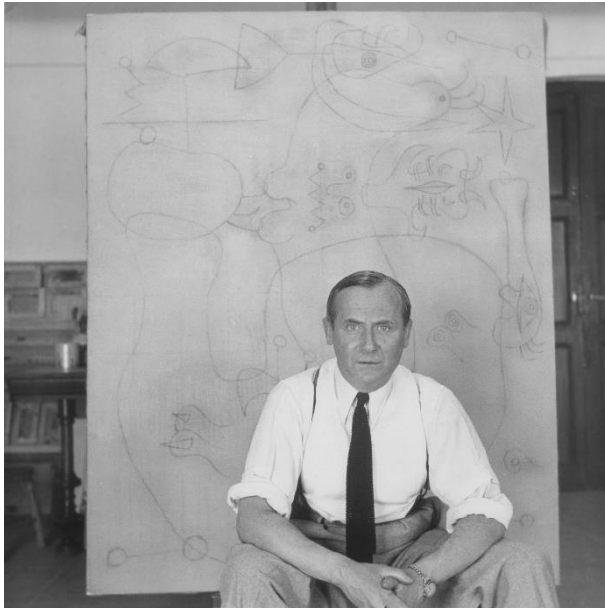


Photo by Joaquim Gomis: *Joan Miró*, 1944

© Hereus de Joaquim Gomis. Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

Joan Miró developed a keen interest in graphic work, in particular from the 1940s onwards. This discipline offered him new technical and artistic possibilities and, at the same time, allowed him to free himself from his individual responsibility as an artist and instead to commit himself to a collective venture in which other craftsmen were involved. In addition, producing prints enabled Miró to satisfy his desire to reach a much wider audience.

The exhibition *Joan Miró. Gallery of Anti-portraits* aims to showcase the expressive mastery and freedom of the artist as a printmaker, one capable of achieving through the techniques of etching, aquatint or carborundum printmaking, material and gestural effects like those of painting:

Throwing oneself bravely without any kind of prejudice or fear of scratching a plate, thinking that the realm of possibilities in printmaking is as vast as that of painting – a technical mistake can, by chance, lead to a valuable finding. Thinking of the magical shock that occurs in the contact between the tool and the metal and always taking that divine spark as your starting point.

It was in this spirit of innovation that over the course of the 1960s Miró incorporated into his graphic work all those innovations which could already be found in his pictorial work thanks to the influence of American Abstract Expressionism and European Art Informel. As a result, the size of his prints gradually increased; he used new approaches such as dripping and grattage; and he employed unorthodox and often improvised tools.

The works selected for this exhibition present an entire series of personages with human attributes and large eyes fixed unwaveringly upon the spectator. These are anthropomorphic, primitive and imaginary beings that call to mind an ancient culture and which appear in the centre of the compositions surrounded by astral signs. Jacques Dupin, a poet and the artist's biographer, captured their essence in the titles he gave them, titles that not only identify them but connect them with Miró's mythological world. In these works, Miró succeeds in eliminating the traditional notion of the portrait as mimesis.

Content of the Exhibition

The exhibition includes a total of 26 large prints that combine etching, aquatint and caborundum techniques. All the pieces are Hors Commerce prints reserved for the artist. The prints were produced between 1969 and 1978, and published by Maeght Éditeur, Paris.

The printing took place at the Atelier Maeght workshop in Saint-Paul de Vence (France), and at Morsang and Arte Adrien Maeght in Paris.

The selection of prints is complemented with six paintings that reinforce the notion of the anti-portrait. These pieces were produced between 1965 and 1974; two of them are Miró's revisions of works from 1940. In addition, the exhibition is accompanied by a bronze painted sculpture with which he applies the assembly of everyday objects, cast by the lost-wax process, and shows a preeminent taste for the culture of the surrealist object as well as a great interest in the matter.

The exhibition has been configured solely with pieces from the Fundació Joan Miró's collection in Barcelona.

List of Works

Engravings

Joan Miró

Les Deux amis

Two friends

1969

Etching, aquatint and carborundum

71,5 x 106,5 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8690



Joan Miró

Le Matador

The bullfighter

1969

Etching, aquatint and carborundum

106,5 x 73,5 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8693



Joan Miró

L'Ogre enjoué

The cheerful ogre

1969

Etching, aquatint and carborundum

106,5 x 73,5 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8695



Joan Miró

Le Chef d'orchestre

The orchestra conductor

1974

Etching, aquatint and carborundum

113,8 x 74 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8707



Joan Miró

L'Etranglé

Strangled man

1974

Etching, aquatint and carborundum

114,4 x 73,9 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8708



Joan Miró

La Femme toupee

The spinning-top woman

1974

Etching, aquatint and carborundum

118 x 74,1 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8710



Joan Miró

Le Permissionnaire

Soldier on leave

1974

Etching and aquatint

114 x 73,8 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8713



Joan Miró

Le Pitre rose

The pink clown

1974

Etching, aquatint and carborundum

115,5 x 74 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8714



Joan Miró

Le Sonnambule

The sleepwalker

1974

Etching and aquatint

114,8 x 74,5 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8717



Joan Miró

La Manucure évaporée

The flighty manicurist

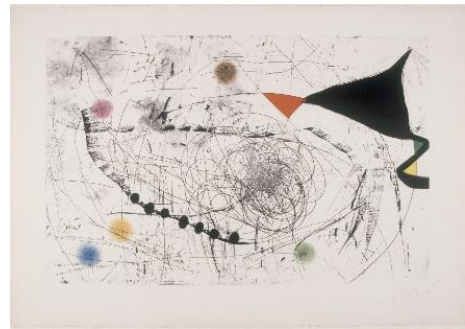
1975

Etching and aquatint

74 x 115,5 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10529



Joan Miró

La Souris rouge à la mantille

Red mouse with mantilla

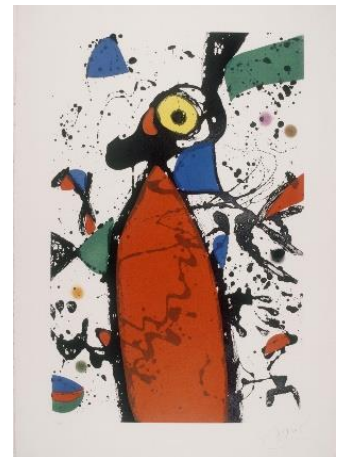
1975

Aquatint

114,7 x 74 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10531



Joan Miró

La Souris noire à la mantille

Black mouse with mantilla

1975

Aquatint

121,5 x 85 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10533



Joan Miró

La Contre-balancée

Counterbalanced

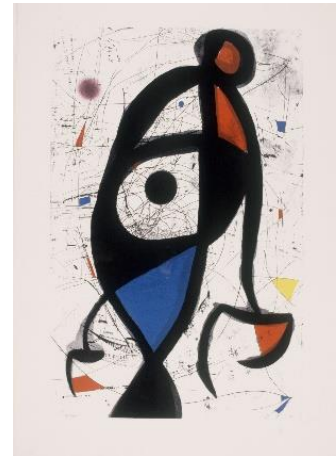
1975

Etching and aquatint

115,5 x 74 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10535



Joan Miró

La Taupe hilare

The laughing mole

1975

Etching and aquatint

74 x 115,5 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10539



Joan Miró

Le Rat des sables

Sand rat

1975

Aquatint

74 x 115 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10557



Joan Miró

Galathée

Galatea

1976

Etching, aquatint and embossing

115 x 74 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10543



Joan Miró

L'Aigrette rouge

The red feather

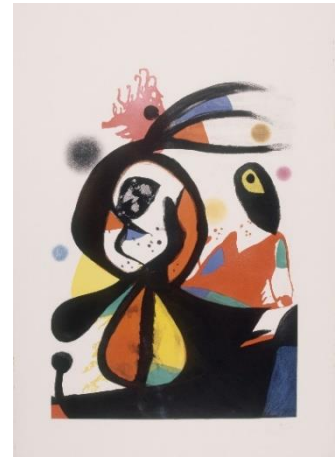
1976

Aquatint and carborundum

115 x 74 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10553



Joan Miró

L'Égyptienne

Egyptian girl

1977

Etching, aquatint and carborundum

74 x 115,5 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10555



Joan Miró

L'Aveugle parmi les oiseaux

Blind man among the birds

1978

Etching, aquatint, carborundum and
grattage

135 x 96,5 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10521



Joan Miró

Le Brahmane

The brahman

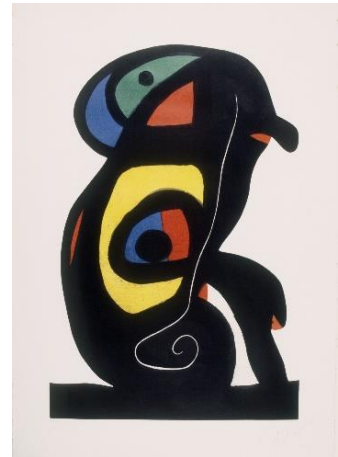
1978

Aquatint, carborundum and grattage

110,7 x 74 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10523



Joan Miró

La Métamorphose

Metamorphosis

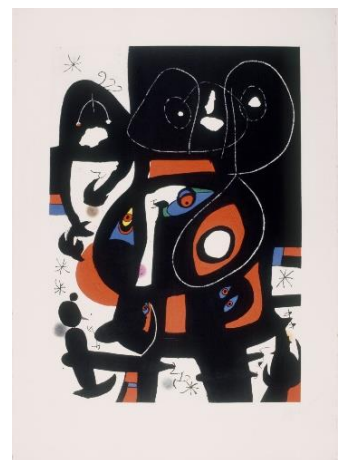
1978

Etching, aquatint, carborundum and
grattage

107 x 75 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10525



Joan Miró

La Fugitive

The fugitive

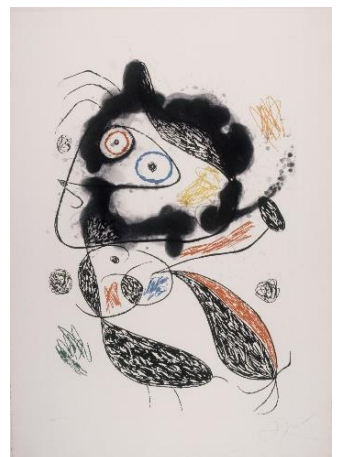
1978

Etching and aquatint

107 x 75 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10527



Joan Miró

La Danseuse créole

Creole dancer

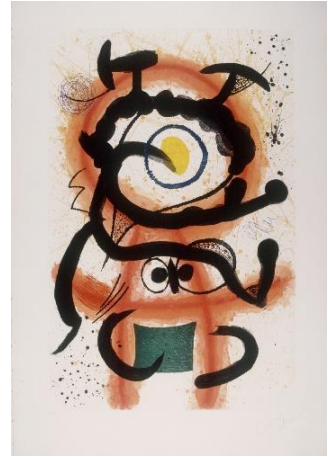
1978

Etching, aquatint and carborundum

114,5 x 74 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10537



Joan Miró

Mambo

Mambo

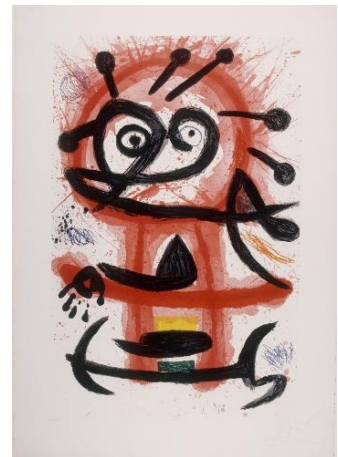
1978

Etching and aquatint

114,3 x 73,9 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10549



Joan Miró

L'Oustachi

The ustaše

1978

Aquatint and carborundum

114,3 x 74,2 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10551



Joan Miró

Pantagruel

Pantagruel

1978

Etching, aquatint, carborundum and
grattage

116,8 x 74,7 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 10560



Paintings

Joan Miró
Femme III
Woman III

1965
Oil and acrylic on canvas
116 x 81 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 4692



Joan Miró
Femme et oiseaux
Woman and birds

1968
Acrylic and oil on canvas
195 x 130 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona
FJM 4707



Joan Miró
Femme et oiseau
Woman and bird

1969
Acrylic and oil on canvas
61 x 50 cm
Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona. Gift of
Pilar Juncosa de Miró
FJM 4722



Joan Miró

Femme

Woman

1969

Acrylic and oil on canvas

61 x 50 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 4723



Joan Miró

Tête

Head

1940-1974

Acrylic on canvas

65 x 50 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona. Gift of

Pilar Juncosa de Miró

FJM 4777



Joan Miró

Tête

Head

1940-1974

Acrylic on canvas

61 x 38 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 4781



Sculpture

Joan Miró

Sa majesté

Her majesty

1967

Painted bronze

108 x 35,5 x 34 cm

Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona

FJM 8649



Supporting Materials for the Exhibition

Texts

The text for the catalogue, as well as the wall texts, will be provided by the Fundació Joan Miró's Collections team or by a contributing expert.

Photographs by Joaquim Gomis

Photographs of the artist, the atmosphere in his studio and his work process are available.

Educational Activities

Optionally, the exhibition can be complemented with an educational activity or workshop organized by the Fundació Joan Miró's Public Programmes and Education Department.

Exhibition Requirements

Duration

2 months

Required Space

100 linear metres and 420 m2 (approximately)

Useful Information

Total of Works

33

Description

26 engravings, 6 paintings and 1 sculpture

Insurance Value

9.030.000,00 €

The following costs are not included:

- Loan fee
 - Packing
 - Shipping
 - Insurance
 - Courier
 - Exhibition installation
 - Possible publication of a catalogue
 - High-resolution digital photographs of the works
 - Joan Miró's copyrights (Successió Miró CB)
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