

MASAVEU COLLECTION



OBJECT AND NATURE

*Still Lifes and Flower Paintings
of the 17th-18th Centuries*

15-28

SEP 2023

JAN 2024



Juan de Arellano
*Glass Vase of Flowers
and Fruit (detail)*
h. 1668
Colección Masaveu



Still-life pictures are one of the most coherent groups of artworks in the Masaveu Collection in terms of both number and quality. This exhibition brings together a significant selection focused on the most outstanding Baroque and Enlightenment pieces in order to provide a representative overview of the origin and development of one of the most widespread subjects in the tradition of Western art.

The selection also includes pictures from the Fundación María Cristina Masaveu Peterson's own holdings as well as from the Pedro Masaveu Peterson Collection (consisting of four hundred and ten works). His personal collection was donated to the Principality of Asturias in lieu of payment in 1994, a year after his death, on the express instructions of María Cristina Masaveu Peterson, who wished to honour her brother's role as a collector. Since 1996 these pieces have been on view at the Museo de Bellas Artes de Asturias, regarded since then as one of Spain's leading provincial art museums. This show therefore marks a welcome reencounter of artworks, most of which were acquired to form the same thematic group.



Juan van der Hamen y León

*Still Life with Vases of Flowers
and Basket of Peas and
Cherries (detail)*

1621

Colección Fundación María
Cristina Masaveu Peterson



The exhibition traces the development of the still-life genre, for which Spanish has a distinctive term, *bodegón*. This is the name given to paintings that portray objects, fruits, animals or flowers very close up, paying attention to their different textures and appearance. These pictures of seemingly trivial subjects, which first arose in learned environments, later became popular with other wealthy social classes in the 17th century on account of their huge visual appeal. In contrast to history paintings or religious images, the sight of selected pieces of still life rendered with astonishing realism broadened spectators' horizons.

Divided into three sections, the show surveys the evolution of this theme in the main Spanish centres of artistic production throughout much of the Early Modern Age. Through paintings by the most famous practitioners of the genre in their day, such as Juan de Zurbarán, Arellano and Meléndez, the Masaveu Collection guides today's viewers on a journey across a century and a half of Spanish *bodegones*.

Ángel Aterido
Curator of the exhibition



Juan de Zurbarán

*Still Life with Basket of Fruit,
Peaches, Pomegranates
and Drinking Vessel (detail)*

h. 1643-49

Colección Masaveu



CREDITS

ORGANISED BY
Fundación María Cristina
Masaveu Peterson

WORKS ON VIEW
OWNED BY
Corporación Masaveu s.A.
Fundación María Cristina
Masaveu Peterson
Museo de Bellas Artes
de Asturias

CURATOR
Ángel Aterido

COORDINATORS
Fundación María Cristina
Masaveu Peterson

TEXTS
Ángel Aterido

EDITOR
Pepa Moreno

TRANSLATOR
Jenny Dodman

EXHIBITION DESIGN
Marta Redondo

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Ángel Rodríguez

RESTORATION
Colección Masaveu
Sofía Calderón Gregorio
Emilio Casero Chamorro
Almudena Gómez Agrela
Isabel González-
Conde Santiago
Mercedes Lacasa Díaz
Marta Méndez Rebolo
Ana Isabel Ortega Díaz

TRANSPORTATION &
INSTALLATION
SIT Grupo Empresarial

LIGHTING
Carlos Alzueta

INSURANCE
Zúrich (Roces Mediación)



Luis Meléndez

*Still Life with Sea Bream,
Oranges, Condiments and
Kitchen Utensils (detail)*

1772

Colección Masaveu



**FUNDACIÓN MARÍA CRISTINA
MASAVEU PETERSON**

C/ Alcalá Galiano, no. 6
28010 Madrid
fundacioncristinamasaveu.com
infomadrid@fmcmp.com
Tel.: +34 919 903 903

COVER

Bernardo Polo

*Still Life with Vase of Flowers,
Fruit and Pigeons (detail)*
h. 1660-70
Colección Masaveu

© Photographs:
Fundación María Cristina
Masaveu Peterson
Author: Marcos Morilla



OPENING HOURS

Open:

Tuesdays to Fridays: 11am–8pm

Saturdays: 10am–8pm

Sundays and public holidays: 10am–3pm

Closed:

Mondays (including public holidays),

1 and 6 January, 8 March, 1 May

and 24, 25 and 31 December

Free admission

Ticket office and website:

fundacioncristinamasaveu.com

Reduced capacity

Timed entry

The ticket office remains open until half an hour before closing time every day.

To prevent unnecessary waiting, you are advised to book in advance via the website

More information about the programme of guided tours and cultural activities can be found on our website:

fundacioncristinamasaveu.com

Follow us



FUNDACIÓN
**MARÍA CRISTINA
MASAVEU
PETERSON**



CORPORACIÓN
MASAVEU