

MASAVEU COLLECTION



Spanish Twentieth-Century Art
from Picasso to Barceló

09-20

OCT 2024

JUL 2025



The Masaveu Collection brings together a very diverse group of pieces of Western art amassed over nearly a century by successive members of the Masaveu family. Each generation has contributed its aesthetic preferences to these holdings, which are hailed by experts as one of the most important private collections in Spain. In the 1980s the collection began to be disseminated through exhibitions, and in 1994, after Pedro Masaveu Peterson died, more than four hundred works were donated to the Principality of Asturias in lieu of tax. They are currently part of the Pedro Masaveu Collection, which is on display at the Museo de Bellas Artes de Asturias in Oviedo. Following the death of his sister María Cristina Masaveu Peterson in 2006 the family collection passed to the Masaveu Corporation, in accordance with her wishes, and since 2013 it has been managed by the Fundación María Cristina Masaveu Peterson.

Since opening in 2019, the Foundation's headquarters have hosted wide-ranging exhibitions, both chronological and thematic, designed to familiarise the public with different aspects of the collection. The first show staged in its exhibition galleries was *Masaveu Collection. Spanish Nineteenth-Century Painting. From Goya to Modernism*. It provided an overview of Spanish painting of that century, for which the Masaveu Collection has traditionally been better known, and ran until 2023. From 2023 to 2024 the Foundation displayed a selection of still-life paintings and flower pieces of the 17th and 18th centuries entitled *Masaveu Collection. Object and Nature*, which subsequently travelled to several Spanish cities. Also in 2023-24 it hosted an exhibition devoted to the Asturian artist Luis Fernández featuring works from the Masaveu Collection along with pieces from other institutions. As part of this programme, and a logical continuation, it is now offering a general survey of the 20th-century art in the Masaveu collections. This group of works, hitherto unknown to the public at large, is the result of a collecting effort begun in the final decades of the 1900s by Pedro Masaveu Peterson. It has grown systematically in recent years, chiefly through the Fundación María





María Blanchard

Musical Composition

about 1916-17

(commonly dated about 1918)

Masaveu Collection

Cristina Masaveu Peterson. This has involved an ambitious programme of acquisitions on both the Spanish and international markets, continuing with the policy of recovering Spanish artworks located in other countries, which has characterised the Masaveu Collection in the past. The result of these efforts is *Masaveu Collection. Spanish 20th-Century Art. From Picasso to Barceló*, which presents a selection of pieces highly representative of various artists and movements in order to provide an overview of Spanish 20th-century painting and sculpture. Restricted by space, and far from aiming to be comprehensive, the one hundred works on display reveal the tastes and lines of work that have shaped this outstanding collection, which represents the different sensibilities of the people who have made it possible and shows that growing openness towards contemporary art is compatible with independence of criteria.

The exhibition is structured into sections that highlight episodes in the history of 20th-century Spanish art. However, the resulting layout is not based on the usual historical storyline – although it may coincide with it in some sections – but on affinities between the pieces themselves, as well as on artists on whom collecting has been focused, such as Miquel Barceló. The layout takes visitors through the following rooms: ‘Juan Gris, Picasso, Blanchard, González and the Avant-Garde’; ‘Nostalgia and Fears: Other Paths of Modernity’; ‘Ethics and Aesthetics: From the School of Paris to Joan Miró’; ‘Dalí’; ‘Realisms’; ‘Other Realities’; ‘Art Informel’; ‘Spaniards in New York’; ‘Landscape and Abstraction’; ‘Pop Art? Image and Commitment’; ‘Geometric Abstraction’; ‘Madrid Figurative Art’; ‘Barceló’; and ‘End of Century’.

The show ends with a cabinet devoted to works on paper where groups of drawings and photographs, periodically renewed for conservation reasons, will be successively exhibited.





Julio González

Sharp Mask

c. 1930 (original work in iron), 1989 (this cast)

Fundación María Cristina

Masaveu Peterson Collection

The names of the artists featured in the show give an idea of the significance of the works on display: Pablo Picasso, Juan Gris, María Blanchard, Julio González, Pablo Gargallo, Manolo Hugué, Joan Rebull, Joaquín Sunyer, Isidro Nonell, Joaquín Sorolla, José Gutiérrez Solana, Daniel Vázquez Díaz, Francisco Bores, Óscar Domínguez, Joan Miró, Salvador Dalí, Fernando Zóbel, Gustavo Torner, Joaquín Vaquero Palacios, Joaquín Rubio Camín, Pancho Cossío, Rafael Canogar, Juana Francés, Manuel Millares, Manuel Rivera, Luis Feito, Eduardo Chillida, Martín Chirino, Antoni Tàpies, Antonio Saura, Lucio Muñoz, Amalia Avia, Antonio López, Julio López Hernández, Carmen Laffón, Antoni Clavé, Juan Genovés, Darío Villalba, Equipo Crónica, Eduardo Arroyo, Agustín Ibarrola, Esteban Vicente, José Guerrero, Manuel Hernández Mompó, Pablo Palazuelo, Eusebio Sempere, Manuel Calvo, Equipo 57, Soledad Sevilla, José María Yturralde, Juan Antonio Aguirre, Luis Gordillo, Juan Navarro Baldeweg, Miquel Barceló, Pepe Espaliú, Jaume Plensa, Cristina Iglesias, Juan Muñoz, Joan Brossa and Ignasi Aballí, among others, provide an overview of what was going on in art in a complex century full of complementary and even contradictory paths.

The result is a survey that is coherent but not closed, conscious of the other possible avenues that could be explored through future acquisitions and exhibitions.

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Cover:

Juan Gris
Violin, 1914. Masaveu Collection

Photographs:

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OPENING HOURS

Tuesdays to Fridays: 11am–8pm
Saturdays: 10am–8pm
Sundays and public holidays: 10am–3pm
Closed: Mondays (including public holidays), 1 and 6 January, 1 May, 3 November 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

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