

Time Out

Barcelona

ENGLISH EDITION!


Barcelona
Turisme
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WHEN LOVERS
EXCHANGE GIFTS

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... AND ROSES

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The Best of BCN

MARIA DIAS

Features

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Barcelona gets all loved up on April 23. Hannah Pennell explains what it's all about.

20. They've got rhythm

Groove on down as Marta Salicrú talks to four local funk and soul bands.

24. Time for the chop

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26. Temptation calls

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Take part in the vermouth revival that is currently taking the city by storm **p. 58**



Our cover
IRISNEGRO

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The hot list

BCN_APR 2015



ALFRED FERRER

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	 JOSEP MARIA DE LLORET
02	03	
Ruta de la Sal Regatta	Rolf y Flor	
Sailing Show of work by Leopold Pomés at La Pedrera.	Family Bilingual Spanish-English show for children.	
THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
09	15	16
Mecal	Scott Matthew	Tablao Cordobés
Film festival The CCCB hosts short films and animation.	Concert Australian indie singer performs at L'Auditori.	Flamenco The popular venue marks its 45th anniversary.

DON'T MISS!

Lapsus. Festival of national and international avant-garde electronic music held at the CCCB. **SAT 11**

Morrissey. British singer was last in BCN in...October 2014! He's clearly a fan of the city. **WED 29**

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	MONDAY	 JA. BOPILL	THURSDAY
17	18	20		23
Esperit de Montjuïc	BCN Open Banc Sabadell	Carmen		Sant Jordi
Sport Classic racing cars in action at Catalan track.	Sport Week-long tennis tournament gets going.	Opera Modern retelling of Bizet's epic work.		Tradition Celebration of love and Catalonia's patron saint.
 LA CHAMBRE BLEUE (2014) / MATTHEU AMALRIC	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	THURSDAY
	24	25	26	30
	D'A Festival	Shen Yu	Espanyol vs. Barça	Santa Eulàlia schooner
	Film Fifth international festival of auteur films.	Dance Show taking in 5,000 years of Chinese history.	Football Local derby played at RCD Espanyol's Cornellà pitch.	Sailing Take a three-hour sea trip on this historic boat.



Please enjoy responsibly. 4,6°

People of Barcelona

Louise Keohane
Bookshop owner,
39 years old

Did you arrive in Barcelona with the idea of setting up a cafe-bookshop?

No, not at all. I was actually living in Madrid at the time and I was working for a production company on small documentaries and some cinema stuff. But the boss was from Barcelona and she wanted to move back here so she said, 'Look, if you want to come with me, you've a job; if not, you're welcome to stay in Madrid'. And I thought about it a lot, but I came and I'm still here. That was eight and a half years ago.

Did you carry on working with her?

Yes, for about a year, and then another production company for about six years. And it was in the other company that I made friends with Berta, and the two of us wanted to do something different, something that was ours.

The idea for the bookshop came from throwing around ideas?

Well, I studied literature and I've always liked books and always had this idea of owning a second-hand bookshop. Berta liked the idea of having a café, so we thought, Why not do both at the same time? Because a second-hand bookshop is difficult to make a living from. The idea was, with Berta coming from here and me coming from abroad, to unite the two worlds a bit, because you know in Barcelona the two worlds tend to stay separate. So with the food, there's *entrepà de fuet* (cured sausage sandwich) but carrot cake as well. And book clubs and meetings, we have some in Catalan, some in English.

Where do you get your books?

I brought a lot with me from Ireland, and my family do a continuous 'Lou needs books' donation, so every time I go home, I bring books back.



LANDMARK: LA CARBONERIA

This squatter's building is due to be demolished, but Keohane says its murals used to cheer her up.



PLACE OF BIRTH: SHANNON

Originally from this town in the west of Ireland, she has also travelled around South America.

The books from here, it's people who are moving flat, or houses that are being left empty or people give donations.

Do people come from all over Barcelona?

I think so. The impression I get is that in the mornings, what we get is mostly Catalans working in the area, so they come in here for their coffee. Then at lunchtime it's people who want a lighter lunch. But in the evening, there's a mixture. I think there are people who will go out of their way to come, there's every nationality. I suppose we get a lot of English speakers, as well, knowing that they can have a chat because they haven't got their Spanish yet.

What are you reading at the moment?

I'm reading Toni Morrison's *Jazz*, because we have it for the book club on Monday.

—Hannah Pennell

BCN:
TOP SECRET

Begoña García

_ To see the 49-bell 16th-century carillon of the Generalitat Palace, which rings daily at noon and 6pm, go to the corner of C/Ciutat and C/Hèrcules.

_ Discover a 'Roman' building at Bailén, 70. A 19th-century reconstruction of a temple, it has been a theatre and jeweller's studio.

_ Pròleg bookshop, at Sant Pere Més Alt, 46, specialises in women's writing. Francesca Bonnemaison, who fought for girls' education rights, once lived here.

_ BCN is home to many sundials, e.g. on the Casa de les Punxes (Rosselló, 260) and Petritxol, 17, a surprisingly shady street.

I love BCN

La Rambla/Columbus

Pl. Portal de la Pau

See the trees in full leaf on Barcelona's famous street as you stroll down to see Señor Columbus.



What am I doing here?



Jan Fleischer

Towering Catalans

This is probably not the best thing to say when writing about *castellers*, but reading about *castellers* seems to be a waste of time. What are they? Briefly, they're people who make human towers (see page 35). Why do they do it? It's a Catalan tradition, which dates back to around 1712. So don't question it. Go and check it out. Because you can read descriptions and look at photos and videos, but you won't know what it's really like until you're there. The first time I saw them, I happened upon a group on the Rambla del Raval. Friends were visiting so I made like I took them there on purpose to show them a bit of the local culture.

We squinted skyward as the barefoot *castellers* climbed like koalas up the trunks of their teammates, building this human house of cards that could topple at any minute. I didn't hear my friends asking questions I was meant to know the answers to, wrapped up as I was in the trembling drama and my train of thought: They must know each other well, judging from all the shimmying up and down of bodies. Oh! Please don't fall! I wonder what it would be like if they did—. No, terrible thoughts! Please don't fall! OH! That was close. Heh heh.

There was actually a small spill that day, but the crowd's collective gasp was quieted by the suprisingly effective human cushion around the bottom of the tower. Triumph, once again, belonged to the *castellers*. And the pleasure was all ours.

WTF IS...

Learn to speak Barcelona with our vocab guide | By Jan Fleischer

Fideuà

Fideuà (*fee-de-WAH*) is described by some foreigners as paella with noodles instead of rice. It can be just noodles or have seafood or meat. Ideally eaten with *alloli* (garlic mayo).



Jan is content to be a spectator, not a shimmi-er.

48 HRS IN BARCELONA

It's a
can't-miss
- Gaudi's
Sagrada
Familia...



See the city
from on high
with the
Montjuic
cable car...



14:00-16:30

Down in the Born

Start at the Born Centre Cultural (Pl. Comercial, 12), an iron and glass structure built in 1876 as a market. From there you can stop in to the spectacular Santa Maria del Mar church (Pl. de Santa Maria, 1), a local favourite and setting for many a wedding. Just next to that is the Fossar de les Moreres, a square that might not be much to look at, but which has great significance to the people of Barcelona; it was built over a cemetery where those who died fighting to defend the city in the Siege of Barcelona in 1714 were buried. The square features an eternal flame to honour the memory of the fallen.

17:00-19:30

Sustenance and shopping

Stop for a break in one of the Born's lesser-known squares, such as

Sant Pere de les Puel·les or Sant Agusti Vell. The Born is an area that's packed with boutiques where you can pick up some designer shoes or one-of-a-kind gifts to bring home. As you're strolling through the streets, keep your eye out for Ivori (Mirallers, 7), an exquisite shop with local designs, On Land (Princesa, 25), where men and women both can find new threads, and Studiostore (Comerç, 17), with everything from clothes and eyewear to original cushions.

20:00-23:30

It's time to eat

For dinner, try the Asian tapas at Mosquito (Carders, 46) – they'll melt in your mouth. Always a sure thing is eating in one of the city's fresh markets, such as the Santa Caterina market (Av. Francesc Cambo, 16) with its attention-drawing rooftop, or the Mercat Princesa (Flassaders, 21), where you don't have to limit your choice

COOL HUNTING

Once called the 'Barrio Chino', the Raval has inspired many a writer. Nowadays, it's a place where local businesses thrive in the form of unique shops and restaurants, while still maintaining some of its seedy underworld glamour. Urban culture is booming here, alongside gems such as the CCCB and Filmoteca.

to just one restaurant but can graze from a buffet of 16. To top off the night, head in the direction of the sea and have a drink in Absenta (Sant Carles, 36) and you're sure to get a good night's sleep, the more upscale Zahara Cocktail Club (Pg. Joan de Borbó, 69) or Café de los Angelitos (Almirall Cervera, 26).

09:00-11:30

Trees and parks

Start your day with a big breakfast among the tree-lined streets of the Esquerra Eixample. Velodromo (Muntaner, 213) opens at 6am, for those of you really keen to get going, while Travel & Cake (Rosselló, 189), opens every day from 9am and has an eclectic menu of sweet and savoury options. Once you've got your energy levels up, jump on public transport and head up to Gaudi's natural wonder, Park Güell – book in advance on www.parkguell.cat to ensure you get in to the 'monumental' zone and save a euro. Bonus!

12:00-14:00

Gracious living

Grab a bite down the hill in Gràcia, at the woody and spacious Café Salambó (Torrijos,

DID YOU KNOW?

► **Sant Jordi, Catalonia's patron saint, is also the patron of leprosy, plague, herpes and syphilis sufferers. Renaissance man.**



MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME IN BARCELONA. HERE'S OUR GUIDE TO THE CITY'S ESSENTIALS

Barceloneta has terraces, restaurants and amazing sea views...

51) or at La Pubilla (Pl. de la Llibertat, 23), specialising in old-school local food, or if the weather's nice, in a square such as Plaça del Diamant or Plaça de la Virreina. While you're in the area, have a look around for some unusual souvenirs in the shop-lined streets – suggestions include Pinc Store for clothes (Encarnació, 24) and Magnesia (Torrent de l'Olla, 192) or Mueblé Martínez de la Rosa, 34) for homewares.

14:30-18:00

Explore modernisme

Next stop: the Sagrada Família. Gaudí's masterpiece gets very crowded, but take your time to appreciate his vision. Once done, walk over to Av. Diagonal to keep the modernisme theme going by stopping at Casa de les Punxes (Rosselló, 260), Palau del Baró de Quadras (Diagonal, 373) and Casa Planells

(Diagonal, 332). Alternatively, take the metro from the Sagrada Família (L5) down to Diagonal and stroll down Passeig de Gràcia to just hit the modernisme biggies: La Pedrera (Provença, 261), Casa Amatller (Pg. de Gràcia, 41) and Casa Batlló (Pg. de Gràcia, 43).

WANDER OFF

Many Barcelona visitors stick to the central areas, but the city is so much more. Gràcia is full of life at all hours of the day, Sarrià retains much of its historical small-town ambience, while Poble-sec and Sant Antoni are currently the places to be, especially for their top cuisine and quality entertainment.

19:30-02:00

Big night out

Try the out-of-this-world double terrace of Invisible-Pizza Ravalo (Pl. Emili Vendrell, 1), Teresa Carles for a healthy vegetarian option (Jovellanos, 2), or the Mediterranean banquet that is Lo de Flor (Carretes, 18). After lining your stomach, get a couple of drinks in Negroni or Tahiti, both in the bar-laden C/ Joaquín Costa (46 and 39, respectively), and then ease on down to the dance floors at Apollo, Marula or other area clubs, before calling it a night.

10:00-12:00

Mountain climbing

Head to the 'mountain' of Montjuïc. Depending on what you're in the mood for, you can visit the Joan Miró Foundation (Parc de Montjuïc, s/n) or the National Museum of Contemporary Art (MNAC) (Palau Nacional, Parc de Montjuïc, s/n), or

walk around the plentiful gardens, including the Jardins del Teatre Grec (Pg. Santa Madrona, 39) and the Jardins Laribal (Pg. Santa Madrona, 2), including the Colla de l'Arròs rose gardens, at their most picturesque in late spring.

13:00-15:00

End on a beach spot

Take the cable car from Montjuïc to Barceloneta, where you can relax with a vermouth and a paella. Most restaurants in Barceloneta specialise in seafood, taking advantage of the nearby sea. Also due to the prime real estate, some of the better spots aren't cheap, but if you're feeling flush, they're worth it. Try Can Solé (Sant Carles, 4), La Mar Salada (Pg. Joan de Borbó, 58) or El Suquet de l'Almirall (Pg. Joan de Borbó, 65). A great place for the more budget-conscious, with a huge terrace and fresh, scrummy dishes to go with their relaxed vibe is Santa Marta (Grau i Torras, 59).

► Barça fans wanting to keep in with the tradition of rose-giving on the day of Sant Jordi can buy stems in the blue-and-red colours of their team.

Barcelona... just a click away

Find more than 200 suggestions to suit a wide range of tastes



Barcelona is a vibrant, cosmopolitan city that offers visitors a wealth of different products and services. You will be surprised at what you can find when you visit the bcnshop.com website and the Turisme de Barcelona Tourist Information Points around the city.

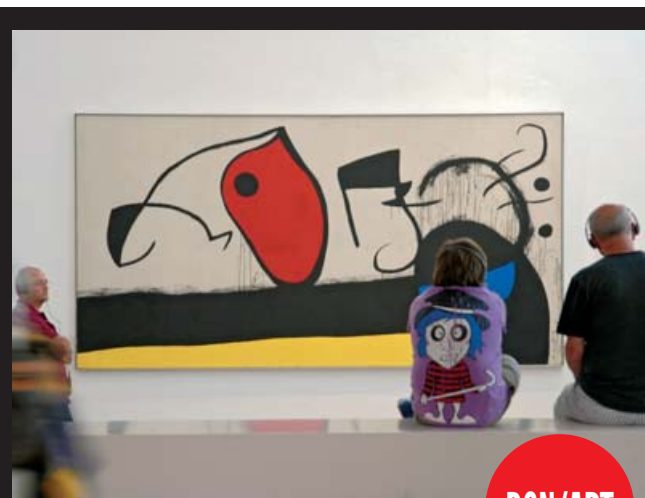
There are many ways to visit Barcelona – in the company of friends, or with your family or partner – and a multitude of reasons to come here: the culture, cuisine, music, art... Whether you're planning to see the best-known attractions or you're looking for a truly special experience, at bcnshop.com you will find more than 200 suggestions to suit a wide range of tastes.

You're here to see Barcelona, but how will you get around? Here are just a few ideas. There are guided tours on foot, by bicycle or with special vehicles like the

Segway, which cover both the city centre and the lesser-known neighbourhoods; running tours and gastronomic excursions; panoramic hop-on hop-off bus tours or themed routes through specific districts; cooking workshops, wine and chocolate tasting, or craft workshops for the little ones; visits to historic buildings like the Palau de la Música, or to museums, taking advantage of the Articket (see right) or Barcelona Card, with free transport and discounts; and babysitting services, wheelchair, pram and pushchair hire, in addition to the standard left-luggage services and airport transfers.

There are many Barcelonas to explore. Which one is yours? Discover the full range of possibilities on offer by visiting bcnshop.com.

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BCN/ART

Articket Barcelona: one ticket, six museums

In April, Barcelona means love, roses and books. But it's also a great time to discover the best art in the city. If you're an art lover, take

a journey through a thousand years of creativity by visiting the following museums: Picasso Museum, Joan Miró Foundation, MNAC, CCCB, MACBA and Antoni Tàpies Foundation – all with one ticket.

Get 5 percent off when you buy the Articket at bcnshop.com.

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR...



In the mountains: Pyrenees

Enjoy pure nature in a rustic ambience of stone houses and slate roofs. Don't miss Vall de Núria, a lovely valley surrounded by 3,000m-high mountains – ideal for a day out of the city.



On the coast: Costa Brava

A perfect place for beach lovers: small coves of crystal-clear waters, pine glades, charming fishing villages, great gastronomy and much more. And all just a stone's throw from Barcelona.

Buy your tickets at bcnshop.com.

A man with short brown hair is riding a yellow motorcycle on a dirt road. He is wearing a tan jacket over a red and white plaid shirt and blue jeans. The motorcycle is a cruiser style with a yellow fuel tank and a silver engine. The background is a hazy, rocky landscape. The text 'Wrangler' is written in a cursive font in the upper right, followed by 'Keeps you Cool+' in a bold sans-serif font. Below that is 'with COOL MAX freshFX' in a smaller font. At the bottom right, it says 'KIMI RÄIKKÖNEN IN WRANGLER'. At the very bottom, it says 'Shop at: WWW.WRANGLER.ES'.

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MARIA DIAS



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On our website you'll find details about what's on right now, and up-to-date news about the best of what Barcelona has to offer. With new events added each day, you'll have no excuse not to have fun.

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MARIA DIAS



NAPAPIJRI STORE

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CONTI

CC. ILLA DIAGONAL - RAMBLA CATALUNYA, 78 - PAU CASALS, 7 (BCN)

+D CONTI

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NAPAPIJRI

CITY OF LOVERS

SANT JORDI:
A BOOK AND
A ROSE

Sant Jordi (aka Saint George) is the patron saint of Catalonia, and although his feast day on April 23 isn't a public holiday, it's always a celebration. Don't expect knights clutching swords or dragons dripping blood: it's a day for lovers, authors and rose stalls. Tradition dictates a rose for her and a book for him. But nowadays the rules are more flexible – women like to read too! Balconies are draped with Catalan flags, and crowds stroll the streets, while restaurants are booked out by couples seeking a romantic table for two. By **Hannah Pennell**

★01

READ ALL ABOUT IT

In the days leading up to April 23, the matter of the weather forecast becomes crucial. There is nothing worse than a rainy Sant Jordi – so much of the joy of the day comes from wandering the streets (or, rather, fighting your way through the crowds) and perusing the bookstalls. However, as you'll soon notice, most of the tomes on sale are in the two official languages of the region, Catalan and Spanish. If you're keen to purchase, but not so certain of your language skills, here are four English-language bookshops to try – Come In and BCN Books sell new books, Babelia, second-hand and Hibernian, a mix of both.

Hibernian. Montseny, 17

☎ 93 217 47 96

www.hibernian-books.com

Come In. Balmes, 129

☎ 93 453 12 04

www.libreriainglesa.com

BCN Books. Roger de Llúria, 118

☎ 93 457 76 92

www.bcnbooks.com

Babelia. Villarroel, 27

☎ 93 424 66 81

www.babeliabcn.com

★02

IT'S NOT JUST A DAY OF BOOKS HERE IN CATALONIA

UNESCO has made April 23 World Book and Copyright Day (not to be confused with World Book Day on March 5), since it was the day in 1616 when William Shakespeare died and Miguel Cervantes was buried (he died the previous day). Although there is no (known) Shakespeare connection with Barcelona, the Spanish author of *Don Quixote* certainly lived and worked here. For instance, he is said to have



BOOKS ON BCN



Uncertain Glory

Joan Sales

MacLehose Press
€14



The Gray Notebook

Josep Pla

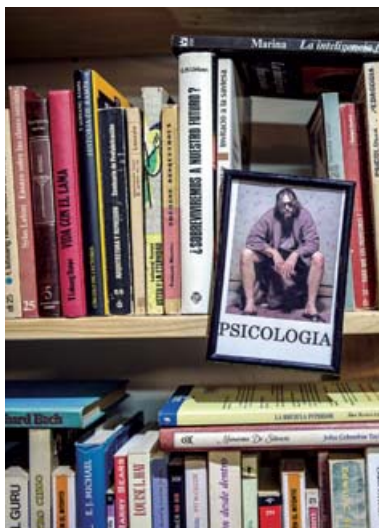
NYRB Classics
€12



Confessions

Jaume Cabré

Arcadia Books
€15



occupied the third floor of a 16th-century building close to the old port – it still stands, although the remaining original features are few.

Cervantes home. Pg. de Colom, 2

www.unesco.org

★03

ROSES ARE RED (SOMETIMES)

If you're here on April 23, you will wake to find every corner of the city (or so it seems) has been taken over by rose-sellers; not just florists but also clubs and associations, charities, students and ordinary folk(s) wanting to raise some cash – they all become street-sellers for a day. Six million of the flowers, or about 40 percent of yearly rose sales, will be bought during the day, and not only for wives, girlfriends and mistresses. Grandmothers, mothers, work colleagues, teachers – they might all be presented with a red bloom, if they're lucky. And that really is the operative word, with a single stem selling for at least €3. The great majority you'll see are red, but you can also find blue, yellow and white, as well as rose-themed sweets, jewellery and soaps. Canny romantics know that at the end of the day, roses will be half price (and probably half wilted, too), so if you want to join the tradition but will be heading home on Friday 24, you might want to buy then.

Nearly every street corner in BCN.

★04

SHOCK NEWS! PROSTITUTES KEEP CLOTHES ON

Created in New York City, the Poetry Brothel has had its hookers in Barcelona for the past six years. The original premise saw clients come to the joint for an up-close-and-personal reading from one of their international

CITY OF WRITERS

RODOREDA'S BCN

By **Andreu Gomila**

Mercè Rodoreda, one of Catalonia's leading 20th-century writers, used to invite her friends to **La Punyalada**, an iconic restaurant on the corner of Passeig de Gràcia with Rosselló, which closed down 16 years ago. This habit began when she moved to the Costa Brava after her return from exile in Switzerland. She had fled Catalonia for Europe following the arrival of Franco's troops in Barcelona. But prior to 1939, Rodoreda's world essentially covered Sant Gervasi and Gràcia, although the Raval and Gòtic areas did hold a few places special to her. La Colometa, protagonist of her 1962 book *La plaça del Diamant* (*In Diamond Square*, 2013), lived on **C/ Montseny** in Gràcia, and Teresa Valldaura, the heroine of *Mirall trencat* (1974; *A Broken Mirror*) in Sant Gervasi. The author claimed that she herself was born 'in a short, narrow street that, at the time, ran from C/Pàdua to the stream in Sant Gervasi and was called C/ de Sant Antoni. Later on, the name of the street was changed to París, and later on again, to Manuel Angelon.' Rodoreda was, in fact, born at C/ Balmes, 340, and when she arrived from Geneva, she bought a house just opposite.

She spent her childhood in the area between Ronda General Mitre and C/Guillem Tell, where *Mirall trencat* is set. At Gran de Gràcia, 25, the **Cafè Monumental** once stood, the site of one of the happier scenes in *La plaça del Diamant*, Natàlia's dance with Quimet and Mateu.

The Liceu opera house, Bagués jeweller's (located in the modernista Casa Ametller at Pg. de Gràcia, 41), and the **Ateneu Barcelonès**, where in 1937 she received the Crexells prize for *Aloma*, also form part of the Rodoreda universe. It's a place that has disappeared.

poets, although today they've expanded their repertoire to include the publication of original writing and workshops. Check their website for details of what's happening this month.

Prostibulo Poético

www.prostibulopoetico.com

★ **05**

FOR WHEN YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU WANT

We all have our little obsessions. They're nothing to be ashamed of. And if you're looking for a book, but only the right book will do, we're pleased to say that Barcelona is served by various specialised bookstores. **Altaïr** is a two-floor travel bookshop with maps, travel journals and a lot of guides, including many in English. Comic-book emporium **Llibreria Universal** will make you feel like a character in *The Big Bang Theory*, with its extensive racks of comics (including a range of international imports) to flick through. Finally, when **Loring Art** opened in 1996, it had about 100 titles in stock – today it's nearer 20,000, which includes a good number of English-language coffee table tomes.

Altaïr. Gran Via de les Corts

Catalanes, 616

☎ 93 342 71 71

www.altair.es

Llibreria Universal. Ronda Sant Antoni, 9

☎ 93 443 32 68

www.universal-comics.com

Loring Art. Gravina, 8

☎ 93 412 01 08

www.loring-art.com

★ **06**

FACTS AND FIGURES

Last year, Swedish writer Jonas Jonasson hit the big time, Sant Jordi-style, by heading the list of most sold fiction books in Catalan, and was second on the same list but for the Spanish language, with his work *The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden* (both translated versions of his book, clearly). The best-seller lists for April 23 are no small matter – the Catalan Bookseller's Association reckoned that in 2014 some 1.6 million books were bought in Catalonia, worth almost €20 million and a 5 percent rise on 2013.

★ **07**

ROSES ARE RED (PART 2)

While the day of Sant Jordi is clearly crucial to the business of local florists, it's not as if they rest on their laurels the other 364 days of the year. At the flower market of La Concepció, just off Passeig de Gràcia, the stalls are open 24 hours

BOOKS ON BCN



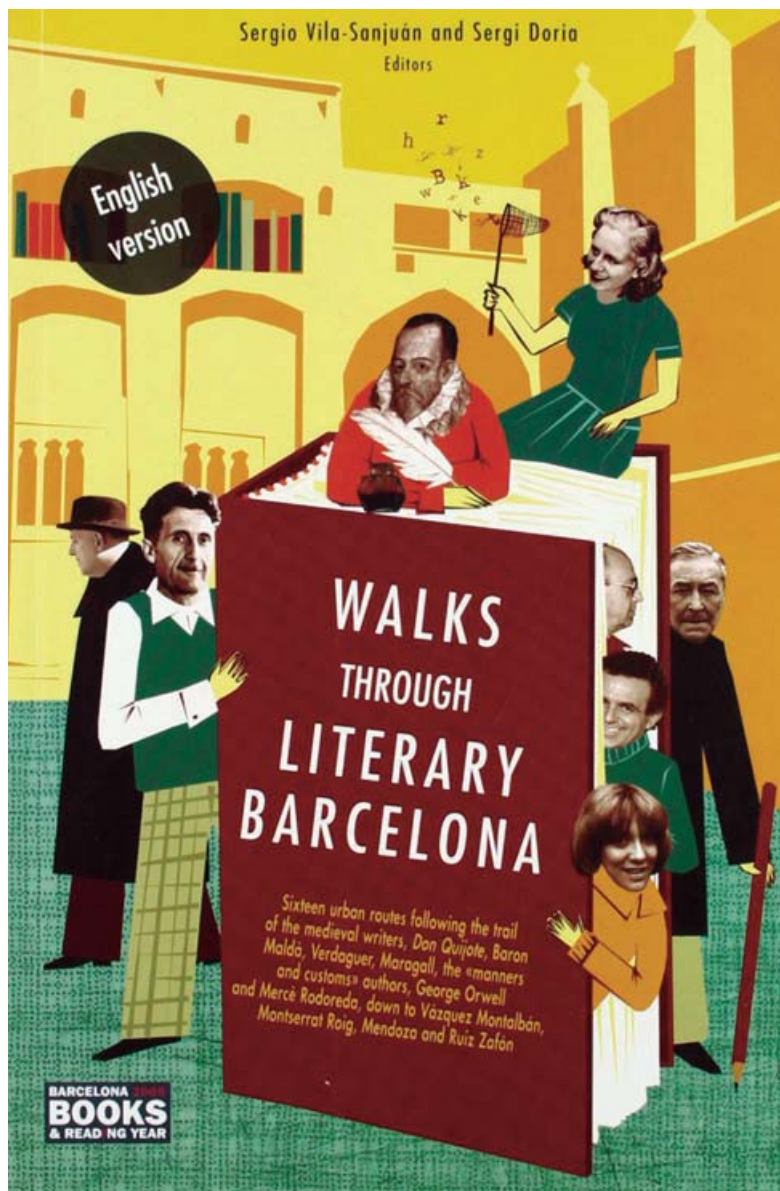
Journal du voleur
Jean Genet
Folio
€8



Don Quixote
Miguel Cervantes
Oxford World's Classics
€10



The Savage Detectives
Roberto Bolaño
Picador
€8



★

IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS

Want to find out more about Barcelona's writerly past? From the sea to the Eixample, from La Rambla to Montjuïc, this city has housed authors, poets and cultural leaders who wrote, argued, drank and read (not necessarily in that order). Choose the book *Walks Through Literary Barcelona* (2005, Ediciones Peninsula) as your Sant Jordi gift and discover some of the places that inspired, welcomed and taught them, thanks to its 16 walking tours through the city.

a day, seven days a week. Because you just never know when you might need an emergency bunch of carnations, right?

Mercat de la Concepció. València, 320

☎ 675 693 616

www.laconcepcio.cat

★ **08**

DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

Lining up to have your newly bought book signed is a Sant Jordi tradition. Any author who has a book just out will be shepherded around the city to spend an hour or so in temporary marquees set up by the local chain bookshops, greeting fans and writing a dedication to their cat or great-aunt on the inside title page. It's always poignant to see those writers who are, let's say, a little less well-known, sitting patiently, tapping their pen and trying not to throw envious glances at their neighbour's

table with the queues that run round the back of the marquee. If you're feeling charitable, you could always give them a napkin to sign for 'your friend who's a big fan'.

Rambla de Catalunya, Plaça Catalunya, in front of big bookshops.

★09

THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL

Currently showing in BCN are exhibitions dedicated to two significant writers of the 20th century who both died prematurely. German author W.G. Sebald was killed in a car crash in 2001, but the works he wrote in the years just prior to that are regarded as exemplary reflections on the 20th century, questioning its history, literature and art. Over at the MACBA, Argentinian writer Osvaldo Lamborghini, who died in Barcelona aged just 45, is the focus. He published only three books during his lifetime, but is regarded as a cult author in his home country and across Europe.

Sebald Variations – CCCB.

Montalegre, 5

☎ 93 306 41 00

www.cccb.org

Osvaldo Lamborghini – MACBA.

Pl. dels Àngels, 1

☎ 93 412 08 10

www.macba.cat

★10

FILL YOUR STOMACH AS WELL AS YOUR SPIRIT

Manuel Vázquez Montalbán created one of the most emblematic fictional Barcelona characters in Pepe Carvalho – private detective, native of Galicia and gourmand. Even though Montalbán died in 2003, many of the restaurants that he, and Carvalho, frequented are still open and are city classics.

Casa Leopoldo. Sant Rafael, 24

☎ 93 441 30 14

www.casaleopoldo.com

Senyor Parrellada. Argenteria, 37

☎ 93 310 50 94

www.senyorparellada.com

Ca l'Isidre. Flors, 12

☎ 93 441 11 39

www.calisidre.com

★11

BOOK PEOPLE

What do Marcel Duchamp, Mao Zedong and Giacomo Casanova have in common? Before they found their true calling that made them (in)famous, they all worked as librarians. It's a noble trade, this one of caring for and filing hundreds of tomes (we salute you, Melvil Dewey, for making that little task

BOOKS ON BCN



Rue des voleurs
Mathias Énard

Babel
€8.70



Lost Luggage
Jordi Puntí

Short Books Ltd
€9



Bartleby & Co.
Enrique Vila-Matas

Vintage
€9

so much easier), and now on at the Palau Robert is an exhibition paying tribute to the profession of the librarian in Catalonia.

Palau Robert. Pg. de Gràcia, 107

☎ 93 238 80 91

www.palaurobert.gencat.cat

★12

WILL THE REAL SANT JORDI PLEASE STAND UP?

Of course, we don't really believe that there was a dragon and a princess, or a rose bush that sprung up from where the creature's blood had spilled. Giorgios was a Greek-Palestinian Christian who served in the Roman army in the third century AD. He never came anywhere near Catalonia. Right – just try telling that to the people of Montblanc, a small town in the province of Tarragona, and the place, legend has it, where Jordi actually killed the dragon. Montblanc celebrates his triumph with ten days of medieval festivities, including a traditional market, jester competition and re-enactment of the monster slaying.

Montblanc, Tarragona.

www.montblancmedieval.cat

★13

ROSES ARE RED (LAST TIME!)

Why do Catalans gift red roses on April 23? Why not? Documents from the 15th century mention the custom of noblemen presenting women with the flower, with some suggesting it coincided with a Rose Fair held at the time. The concept gradually spread to other parts of society, and became 'official' in 1914. Roses given today are adorned with a Catalan flag and a wheat stalk to represent fertility in partnership with the passion symbolised by the red rose.



IVAN MORENO

CITY OF WRITERS



MARSÉ'S BCN

By Carlos Zanón and A. Gomila

The territory of Barcelona writer Juan Marsé comprises the neighbourhoods of Gràcia, Guinardó and Carmel, with such landmarks as Plaça Rovira, the **Church of Sant Miquel dels Sants** (C/Escorial, 163), the streets of Secretari Coloma and Torrent de les Flors, the Mühlberg bridge (built in 1991 over a space left by a former quarry), the tunnels of the Hospital Sant Pau, Plaça del Nord and Plaça de Sanllehy. To get into the shoes of Teresa, star of Juan Marsé's 1966 novel, *Últimas tardes con Teresa* (*Last Evenings with Teresa*), head to **Delicias** (Mühlberg, 1) and order their *patatas bravas*. Or to **Tibet** restaurant (Ramiro de Maeztu, 34), where she was treated to dinner by her lover Pijoaparte.

In Lesseps, the former Rex Cinema was the hang-out of the prostitutes who mothered the poor children in *Si te dicen que caí* (*If They Tell You I Fell*, 1973). The draper's belonging to protagonist Java is on C/Secretari Coloma. And one of Marsé's most brilliant characters, Captain Blay from *El embrujo de Shanghai* (*The Shanghai Spell*, 1993), lived at number 8 in **C/Sant Salvador**.

Teresa's mother believed that 'Monte Carmelo [Pijoaparte's neighbourhood] was something like the Congo, a remote and subhuman country with its own, different laws'. In fact, Carmel has long been a 'normal' neighbourhood in the district of Guinardó. And, it has to be said, it's never been anything like the Congo. Nowadays, it enjoys the splendour of the **El Carmel-Juan Marsé Municipal Library** (Murtra, 135), specialising in Marsé's works and Barcelona novels. Built on top of an old landfill site, it now has pride of place in an area that was already proud. As Spanish writer Enrique Vila-Matas has said, the streets of Marsé seem to exist, but actually only he really knows them.



'I LOVE YOU'

8 RESTAURANTS IN BARCELONA WHERE YOU CAN GET INTO THE ROMANTIC SPIRIT OF THE DAY WITH YOUR SWEETHEART.

BY MANEL GUIRADO

EN APARTÉ

If you associate supper à deux with a French-tinged theme, then En Aparté is an excellent place to go. Located in a small square close to the Arc de Triomf, its wines, cheeses and Parisian atmosphere will ensure a perfect night of love. And one that's considerably cheaper than going to the actual French capital. Who said romance was dead?

Lluís el Piadós, 2

☎ 93 269 13 35
www.enaparte.es

GURQUI

Imagine a place that's a mix between a restaurant in a Woody Allen movie and a Cuban *paladar* (family-run eatery). Gurqui is that place. A typically atmospheric Eixample basement decorated with antique furniture, it's an intimate venue with an intellectual air and excellent food, such as foie gras, veal fillet and fresh fish of the day. If you reserve, they'll let you stay later than the official kitchen closing time of midnight, allowing you to stretch out the romantic moment that bit longer.

Mallorca, 303 ☎ 93 458 52 16
www.gurqui.com

LE CUCINE MANDAROSSO

Lunch at Le Cucine Mandarosso with friends or family is a fine idea, but dinner can feel strange. Very strange, thanks to the intimate ambience it emanates that makes it seem suited only for a night out with your lover. But it's by no means a rose-filled premises – rather a casual spot with retro furniture, books and products on the shelves, and Italian cooking that is the epitome of sensuality.

Verdaguer i Callís, 4

☎ 93 269 07 80
www.lecucinemandarosso.com

BOHÈMIC

If Bohèmic has made a name for itself, it's thanks to its intention to revive the bistrot tradition and a way of serving food that seemed on the way out – the art nouveau air of the restaurant, the food presented *en cocotte* (casserole) and served up in front of you, the cheese trolley... This is a local, family-run restaurant that will help you remember why you fell in love in the first place. Or explain why you're about to.

Mansó, 42

☎ 93 424 06 28

PLA

Even from the outside it's clear that Pla has got the intimate restaurant vibe sorted. You get there through the narrow, humid streets of the Gòtic area, to enter a place that's dimly lit, well-decorated, informal but elegant, and with a style of cooking to match. The desserts and wines are excellent complements, and laudable in their own right.

Bellafila, 5 ☎ 93 412 65 52
www.elpla.cat

RECASENS

This one-time neighbourhood charcuterie was converted ten years ago into a place for eating with a modernista aesthetic, featuring old photos on the walls and small, softly lit spaces. Enjoy a supper of select cured meats (*embotits*), cheeses, fondues, salads (as a token gesture of health) and a lot of wine. You may need to come up with some way to burn off all those calories, if you get our meaning. Forget music, this is the true food of love.

Rbla. del Poblenou, 102

☎ 93 300 81 23
www.canrecasens.com

TORRE ALTA MAR

When it comes to seducing your other half, the surprise factor can make all the difference. Greeting your partner in your underwear and a rose between your teeth is, of course, an option. But inviting them to a restaurant situated at the top of a cable car tower is a definite game-changer. It's not the cheapest place on our list, but there's no doubt that treating your lover to dinner there will demonstrate your true feelings.

Pg. de Joan de Borbó, 88

☎ 93 221 44 60
www.torrealtamar.com

WAGOKORO

Kenia Nakamura and Anna Perayre are the duo behind this inviting restaurant where the menu is dominated by *kaiseki*, a style of Japanese cooking that sees dishes vary throughout the year, depending on what's in season. The couple have created a harmonious menu, one that is thoughtful, aesthetic, ceremonial and stripped of any pretensions. A gastronomic and a life project. An ideal choice for (re)kindling a relationship.

Regàs, 35 ☎ 93 501 93 40

www.wagokoro.es

WHERE TO EAT?

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The dishes you've got to try

The best food and drink reviews

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GROOVE IS IN THE HEART

BY MARTA SALICRÚ. PHOTOS: IVÁN MORENO



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: ADRIÀ CUAL, DANIEL SEGURA, NOKO-JEAN DAVIS, MARC BENAIRES, LALO LÓPEZ (THE EXCITEMENTS), SARA PI, RAUL PÉREZ, FRANK MONTASELL, HÉCTOR MORIAS, MARINA BFACE TORRES (MARINA BFACE & THE BEATROOTS), GULLAMING-RAPH DUMAS, JOAN VERGÉS, AVA SIMA, ADRIANA PRUNELL (THE PEPPER POTS).

SOMETIMES THE STARS COME INTO ALIGNMENT, AND A WAVE OF MUSICIANS TUNE INTO A COMMON SOUND. THAT'S WHAT'S HAPPENED WITH FOUR CATALAN GROUPS, WHICH ALL DRAW ON THE FUNK AND SOUL TRADITION.

Gual, guitarist and founding member of The Excitements, alongside bassist Dani Segura, to explain the buzz that arose around their second album compared to their debut, which came out in 2010. 'The result is it's a lot better than the first,' says Segura. When they recorded that first album they'd hardly played live, but now they're old hands at gigging. Between one album and the next they racked up almost 100 gigs a year, travelling all over Europe, and they've assembled a repertoire of their own songs that takes in 'all the different colours of rhythm & blues and soul', in the words of Koko-Jean Davis, their petite and powerfully voiced singer.

Gual and Segura set up the group after taking their previous band The Fabulous Ottomans as far as it could go. 'It's tough making a living from music. People had day jobs, which meant they couldn't always play gigs. It was holding us back,' explains Gual. And they really wanted to give it their all. 'We went into this intending to give it 100 percent commitment,' says Davis, a Mozambican with Catalan roots. And things continue to look rosy for the formation: after packing out Barcelona's Auditori in March, this month sees them play Festimad in Madrid before the summer festival seasons kicks off in earnest, including an appearance at PopArb at the end of June.

After 20 years with Girona band The Pepper Pots (which disbanded at the end of last year), Marina Torres left the group to start Marina BBface & The Beatroots. 'I wanted to start a funk and soul group with no hang-ups, somewhere we could let ourselves go, without all our musical baggage,' says Torres. 'I wanted to get away from the straitjacket of a specific genre and

just be ourselves.' The quartet she fronts was one of the headliners at the third Blackcelona Explosion!, Barcelona's festival of soul, funk and boogaloo, and at the end of this month they're on-stage at the Palau de la Música (see next page).

Guillamino has also taken a new direction, but then the Barcelona-based singer, best known for years as an electronic crooner, has made constant mutation his trademark. His most recent album, *Un altre jo* (*Another Me*), shows off his most soulful side: it was produced with the accompaniment of The Control Z's, an eight-piece that adds funky brass to Guillamino's regular band, plus backing vocals courtesy of members of The Gramophone Allstars. 'My last album (*Fang*, 2011) was very electric,' he explains, 'and since I'd already recorded a soul track, "La vida" [the first single from *Les mirives de gener* (2008)], I had unfinished business: to make a whole album in the same vein.' The group's name, referring to the Ctrl + Z 'undo' function on a computer keyboard, wasn't chosen at random. It turns out they're the only digital element on the entire album: it was recorded using strictly analogue technology at the studio of The Pepper Pots, live and on tape. 'If we're going to do it, let's do it right: the old-fashioned way.' Guillamino took the idea of making an analogue record to such an extreme that not even the disc's promotional photos were digital.

The group went into the studio after only a couple of rehearsals and a couple of gigs, one of them over the border in Roussillon, organised by French-Catalan DJ and producer Raph Dumas (the region around the Roussillon city of Perpignan was part of the Principality of Catalunya in the

Middle Ages, up until 1659; as a result some Catalans refer to it today as North Catalonia). In 2008, Dumas, who made a name for himself with his fusion of electric and traditional music on *Cobлизм* (2011), revived The Primaveras, the rhythm and soul group his grandfather had founded in the '60s, working with musicians from Perpignan and Toulouse. 'I started the project on my own, using samples,' explains Dumas: today he re-creates the samples on traditional instruments with The Primaveras of the 21st century.

'We've ended up with ten musicians.' Their second LP, *Catalunya Soul*, came out in January 2014. 'For us, in the south of France, it's really important to stand up for our Catalan identity,' says Dumas. His band includes a *tibla* and a *tenora*, traditional Catalan woodwind instruments that are more commonly used in *cobles* – these are groups of musicians who accompany dancers of the *sardana*, Catalonia's circular folk dance.

And while Dumas fuses soul and the Catalan *cobla*, Sara Pi does the same with contemporary R&B and the Brazilian tradition. 'We find this fusion of Brazilian music and nu-soul the most natural thing in the world,' says Pi – the sound juxtaposes her interest in soul with the musical background of her co-writer, Brazilian producer Érico Moreira. Together they composed all the songs on her most recent album *Wake Up*, which premiered at the Liceu opera house in November 2013 as part of the *Músiques Sensibles* cycle, with an eight-piece backing band for the occasion. That's right: the sounds of home-grown funk and soul have reached the foyer of the Liceu, Barcelona's most exclusive venue. And this is only the beginning.

BLACKCELONA

Ferran Amado, who founded Blackcelona as a platform for the city's funk and soul music, got involved in order to raise the groups' visibility. 'This is Barcelona's real underground,' he says.

THE SCENE

'We needed to put groups in touch with each other, create a scene,' says Amado. And the cross-fertilisation typical of any scene happens in Barcelona too: the photo above also features members of funk groups Cardova and Chocadella Internacional.

TRADITION

The featured musicians are old-school purists who use vintage equipment, revisionists who want to update tradition, and others who believe in total freedom, without labels.

HEAR THEM SING

BY MARTA SALICRÚ



GUILLAMINO

Un altre jo (2013)

With a profile similar to that of Mayer Hawthorne and Jamie Lidell, white 'soulmen' who emerged from electronica and hip hop, the versatile Catalan artist Pau 'Guillamino' Guillamet is now showing off his most funky self. He's employed the services of a brass section and the singer Judit Neddermann (members of The Gramophone Allstars), doubling the size of his band in the process. A great move in these times of crisis. 'I got myself into trouble,' he admits. But when you listen to the album, it's clear that the trouble was totally worth it.



SARA PI

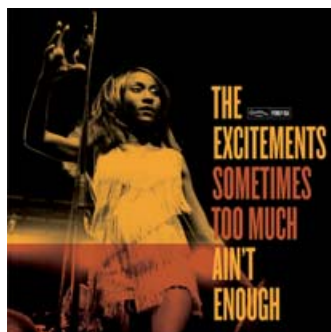
Wake Up (2013)

Although her last album came out in 2013, it was actually recorded at Pi's home and self-produced in 2011 under the title *Burning*. However, two years later, it was re-released

with three new songs added, which showed a new maturity and attention to detail, thanks in no small part to a bigger budget available to Pi following a signing with Sony Music.

THE EXCITEMENTS

Sometimes Too Much Ain't Enough (2013)



'Early soul' is how this band's music is generally described – R&B combined with the energy of gospel and channelled through the vocal cords of Koko-Jean Davis, whose sound is pure '50s. The Excitements are old-school and proud of it. This is their second album, but the first that features their own original material, with songs by the group and Enric Bosser, a master craftsman from Penniman Records, the renowned soul label that produces them. It was this material that truly established them on the scene.

MARINA BBFACE & THE BEATROOTS

Time to Begin (2014)

As the youngest group on this particular roll call, it wasn't until last year that they released any recorded material when *Time to Begin* came out. The eponymous Marina began her career as a soloist with The Pepper Pots (see below), and her Beatroot bandmates had similarly established CVs with local groups (Cardova, Cocadelia Internacional and Sol Lagarto) when they all

MORE!

MARULA CAFÉ

It was no accident that the group photo at the start of this report was taken in this Gòtic area venue. Marula, now open five years, has become Barcelona's temple of blues, soul and funk thanks to its concerts and DJ sessions.

Escudellers, 49
www.marulacafe.com

JAMBOREE

Beneath Plaça Reial you'll find this, the best place in the city to hear live jazz. But it's also a dance club for R&B and hip hop from residents Flavio Rodríguez and DJ Yoda.

Plaça Reial, 17
www.maslmas.com/jamboree

BOILER/MOVIN' ON

Cristina Alonso, together with Jordi Duró at Boiler, and Eduardo Domingo and Marcos Juandó at Movin' On, are behind two of the oldest soul clubs in BCN, which have regular visits from international DJs.

Jazz Room (Pl. Adrià s/n)
www.theboilerclub.com
www.facebook.com/MovinOnBarcelona

BLACKCELONA

This group has been promoting soul, funk and groove in BCN since 2012, and organising concerts and festivals featuring local musicians.
www.blackcelona.cat

came together. These collective backgrounds bring with them not only experience but also a tremendous range of sounds and influences such as funk, soul, rock and psychedelia. See them play this month at Palau de la Música on Saturday 25 (9pm, €12).

THE PRIMAVERAS

Catalunya Soul (2014)

From the youngest to the oldest. This band was originally formed in 1952, but in its present form has been around since 2008, when DJ and producer Ralph Dumas, who comes from the French town of Perpignan just over the border, resurrected the project – he's the grandson of The Primavera's original founder, Jo Dejuan. The new Primavera's are notable for their inclusion of classic Catalan wind instruments, the *tibla* and the *tenora*. Hear the result on their second album, *Catalunya Soul*.

THE PEPPER POTS

We Must Fight (2013)

Although they disbanded in December 2014, this Girona group forged itself a place in Catalan musical history, with their successful decade making soul music, resulting in six albums. Motown trios of the '60s were an early influence, but they later renewed themselves to have a more '70s-like vibe, with a harder look and sound, witnessed on their farewell record.



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LET YOUR HAIR DOWN!



MARIA DIAS

BARCELONA'S BEST SALONS FOR A WASH, TRIM OR TOTAL RETHINK

By Eugènia Sendra

Fresh ideas

Hairdressing in Spain was hit hard by the VAT hike on their services in September 2012 – up from 8 to 21 percent – but despite the negative impact across the sector, new salons are still opening. **Room 28** (Llibertat, 28) offers wall space to emerging artists looking for an audience. Owners Nerea Vázquez and Vanessa Pérez argue that art, beauty and creativity are inextricably linked. They have clients of all ages who are fans of their organic products – they work with Italian brand Davines – including many devotees of their imaginative experiments with colour. Another new arrival is **D-tox** (Tallers, 77). Carolina Suasi and Jesús Prados have set up shop on the first floor of the splendidly named Luminor building, a relic of the '50s with industrial details and floor-to-ceiling windows, a place where you can escape the city noise and browse cutting-edge style magazines like *Purple* or *F***** Young*. As well as basic treatments and designer products such as label.m, they also organise pop-up events with local artists and designers. The borders between beauty, fashion and art are also blurred at **The Secret Room** (Consell de Cent, 254). This salon and social club recently moved to a new location with a large garden, where owner Salva G hosts events, exhibitions, tastings and fashion shows.

Style supremos

It's hard not to venerate the figure of Vidal Sassoon, but closer to home there's a long list of Barcelona-based master hairdressers who have left their mark on the city – names like Cebado, Irazo, Lluís Llongueras and Raffel Pages, among others. But instead of one of their many branches, we prefer the mezzanine salon of **Marcelpel** (València, 247), where Marcel Montlleó has chalked up more than 50 years in the profession. He's no stranger to fashion shows – as well as BCN's ModaFAD he worked on Delpozó's most recent catwalk shows in New York – and when he's not styling Spanish celebrities, he and his team take care of their customers in his romantic and theatrical salon in the Eixample. Among the younger generation, one up-and-coming name is José Juan Guzman, the driving force behind **Bot** (Bot, 4). His hairstyles have been featured in fashion spreads and big-name campaigns, and his lookbook for 2014 – shot by Outumuro – is full of romantically waved tresses, with names inspired by the tracks he listens to while he works. The salon, in the Gòtic, is easy on the eye: minimalist, with clean lines, it radiates elegance and glamour. If you want to order yourself a treatment, you should know that keratin is the order of the day here.



MARIA DIAS

Statement cuts

They're trendsetters who take risks with cuts and styles, but also work with ideas that transcend aesthetics, and attempt to bring hairdressing closer to the average punter. If you want to buck trends and make a statement, there's always **La Pelu** (Tallers, 35). They offer styles and colours that work for you as an individual without slavishly following fashion. They're closely involved in charities and local initiatives, as are **Pòdame** (Robador, 5), run by Sergi Coloma and company. After years of campaigns to revitalise the Raval Sud area, comb and scissors in hand (plus hairdressing skills and a knack for understanding their customers' needs), they've opened a branch in Gràcia (Bonavista, 25). Gràcia is also where **Anthony Lobet** first opened (Ros de Olano, 19). The eponymous Catalan-British stylist came up with the idea of hair salons for English speakers in the city who didn't want their language skills (or lack of them) to get in the way of their haircut. He now has three other branches across the city, in Born (Carders, 34), the Gòtic area (Avinyò, 34) and Barceloneta (Almirall Churruca, 8). The vibe in them all is retro, often due to the fact that Lobet takes over classic salons and barbershops, and barely touches the existing aesthetic – indeed he seems to relish it.

Healthy hair

We visit them on an irregular basis to get our unruly locks in line, but once there, why not make the hairdresser's a place to unwind and refresh your head inside and out? Following the philosophy that well-being begins (and ends) with healthy hair, there's been a proliferation of hair spas offering all kinds of treatments. You'll find the real deal at **Tòn Vanguard** (Diputació, 191), but if you can't afford the whole ritual and are happy with just the preamble, drop in at **Creatival** (Venezuela, 3). Located in the Poblenou neighbourhood, they have one of the latest hits in salon furniture, designer Karim Rashid's minimalist chairs, in which, while your hair is being shampooed and caressed, you can enjoy a shiatsu air massage and a chromotherapy session, with the playlist on your phone as a soundtrack – you take the chance of falling asleep in public at your own risk. You'll find the last word in luxury at **Le Salon** (Mallorca, 230). A peaceful private garden in which to wait, a hand massage while your colour takes, and a range of exclusive hair and skin products are the hallmarks of this French-style salon, which has its own collection of styles, that favour natural cuts and colours.

Just for men

It's a good time to be a barber: beards and moustaches are in, and customers are once more settling in to a classic Triumph barber's chair to take advice from the professionals on the subject of razors, fades and quiffs. At **Vicenç Moretó** (Joaquin Costa, 51), the third generation of the Moretó family snips in style while dispensing wisdom: he discusses hair products – they use beard-specific ones from Catalan brand V7 and Paul Mitchell – and the role of the apprentice in the recent revival of the barber's trade, praising initiatives like **Barberias con Encanto** (Barbers with Charm), a platform designed to raise the visibility of the surviving men's salons. **The Barberia de Gràcia** (Torrent de l'Olla, 198) prides itself on old-school haircuts based on scissors, comb and traditional techniques. Jordi Pérez, named best new hairdresser at *Cosmabelleza* 2014, runs the barbershop he inherited from his father, where you can still enjoy a proper wet shave. He talks about the prestige of the profession, and the boom. 'Maybe while we're in fashion we can re-educate all these people who've rediscovered the barbershop.' Fades, fine lines, flat-top boogies and executive contours are just some of the specialities at **Krispy Cuts** (Basses de Sant Pere, 1), where Alexis Ariza puts the principles of contemporary American barbering into practice. How about a haircut over a glass of wine? Wine expert and barber Andrea Varini has joined the team at **One O Nine** (Mare de Deu del Pilar, 15 bis), an art gallery, tattoo parlour and barbershop, all in one.



HAVE A TASTE



1.

Tickets
Paral·lel, 164 (Poble-sec)
606 225 545



2.

Gilda by Belgious
Ample, 34 (Gòtic)
93 310 34 92



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La Patisserie

YOUTHFUL CREATIVITY

You can't talk about chocolate in Barcelona without mentioning Josep Maria Rodríguez, the talented young pastry chef whose credentials include first place in 2011's Coupe du Monde de la Pâtisserie. Three years ago he opened his first shop in Barcelona, La Patisserie, recently joined by a sister site on Via Augusta.

The speciality: Although they also make one of the meanest croissants in the city, which you can order with chocolate sauce, milk foam and powdered chocolate, La Patisserie is a little universe of delicacy, sensuality and creativity focused entirely on the art of cake-making. Superlative technique and elegance go hand in hand, giving rise to creations such as their pure chocolate cake or the spectacular I Love Xoco.

Aragó, 228 (Eixample)

☎ 93 451 84 01

www.lapatisseriebarcelona.com

Oriol Balaguer

THE CLASSIC

If there's one outstanding name in Barcelona when it comes to chocolate, it's Oriol Balaguer, a master chocolatier who has made the dark stuff his life's work, winning prestigious prizes along the way. Both his stores in Les Corts and Sarrià and his new venture in the Born (La Xocolateria by Oriol Balaguer, on Carrer de la Fusina) pay homage to chocolate in the form of sophisticated creations that could well have inspired the person (whoever it was) who invented the term *food porn* – or maybe the even-less-inhibited *foodgasm*.

The speciality: At the shops, try the bonbons. At La Xocolateria, ask for a personalised chocolate bar.

Pl. de Sant Gregori Taumaturg, 2 (Sarrià)

☎ 93 201 18 46

www.oriolbalaguer.com

Chok

CUSTOMISED DOUGHNUTS

This Raval shop has a bit of everything: from truffles to *neules* (rolled wafers), *chòkanias* (Marcona almonds, toasted, caramelised, then dipped in chocolate) and even an olive oil with chocolate that has legions of fans. They also run workshops on the different uses of cocoa, in sweet and savoury recipes: from a *marmitako* (Basque tuna pot) to a French omelette – all with chocolate as a key ingredient.

The speciality: The eponymous choks are a customised chocolate doughnut (less sugary and less greasy) that represent a sublimation of this food of the gods. There are over 30 types, all with a layer of chocolate as a base, topped with oodles of creativity. Fillings include Nutella, freeze-dried strawberry and chilli.

Carme, 3 (Raval)

☎ 93 304 23 60

www.chokbarcelona.com

3

Due Spaghi

Sepúlveda, 151 (St Antoni)
93 503 19 30



1. Airy churros with creamy stone-ground hot chocolate.

Always pushing the dessert envelope, one of the latest treats to be unveiled at Tickets are these unusual churros, made from dry meringue and served with a cup of thick, creamy stone-ground hot chocolate. You won't forget them.

2. Chocolate and goat's cheese ice cream.

Don't be a chocolate purist: this delicacy combines a mild chocolate flavour with the subtle and perfectly calibrated taste of goat's cheese.

3. Bread with oil and chocolate

At Due Spaghi nothing is what it seems. Their bread with olive oil and chocolate, in which the oil is formed into tiny spheres and the bread into delicate, crispy threads, is just another example of their playful creativity.

**Chocoholics,
Barcelona loves you:
the city is brimming
with dark temptations**

By **Laura Conde**
Photos **Ivan Giménez**

chocolate

Dismon Pastissos i Xocolata

ADDITIVE-FREE

At Dismon, as well as a spectacular selection of bonbons and cakes, you can always find unusual creations that, if nothing else, will bring a smile to your face. This pastry shop, where all the products are made using traditional techniques and without additives, is a family business that has been sweetening the lives of Gràcia residents for years.

The speciality: They make all kinds of cookies, viennoiserie and canapés for their buffet dining service, but we love their decorated chocolates – they feature the Barça shield, scenes from the Kama Sutra, and even the Sagrada Família.

Ramón y Cajal, 108 (Gràcia)

☎ 93 284 32 91

www.dismonpastissos.com

Bubó

PURE BEAUTY

Step into Bubó and all your senses spring into life. Their creations, as well as being delicious and original, are a feast for the eyes, as befits one of the city's coolest cake shops, located in the Born area, just opposite the church of Santa Maria del Mar.

The speciality: They have bonbons, chocolate bars, macaroons and cakes, and they also make delicious treats called meteorites (chocolate mixed with almonds, pistachio and sunflower seeds). But our top pick at Bubó has always been the delicious Xocoxups, lollipops with *gianduja* (chocolate spread with hazelnut paste) that come in two varieties: pistachio with raspberry and coconut, or milk and dark chocolate. Pure indulgence.

Caputxes, 10 (Born)

☎ 93 268 72 24

www.bubo.es

Xococake

PUNK PASTRIES

With chocolate at centre stage, Xococake, a paradise of fine cake-making in Gràcia, is the brainchild of Albert Badia Roca, who has patisseries in Sants and Sant Gervasi. Xococake is the punkier cousin of his other outlets, a place where chocolate takes on the most unexpected forms.

The speciality: Biscuits, bonbons, cakes, ice cream – at Xococake you'll find it all, but we'll settle for the magnificent *xocolatines*, which remind us of the days when a small disc of chocolate accompanied by a piece of bread was a traditional teatime snack for many Catalan children. If vermouth has made a comeback, can't we bring chocolates at teatime back into fashion too? Pretty please?

Gran de Gràcia, 17 (Gràcia)

☎ 93 315 41 29

www.xococake.es

▶ FREE FOR ALL!

Save your euros and take advantage of the times when Barcelona's museums let you in for nothing.

By **Jan Fleischer**

▶ 01

TWO MILLION YEARS OF HISTORY

With exhibits ranging from the Lower Paleolithic era right up to Jordi Pujol's proclamation as President of the Generalitat in 1980, the Catalan History Museum offers a virtual chronology of the region's past. There are two floors of text, film, animated models and reproductions of everything from a medieval shoemaker's shop to a 1960s bar. Hands-on activities add a little pizzazz to the rather dry early history, while the huge rooftop café terrace has unbeatable views over the city and marina.

Museu d'Història de Catalunya
Palau de Mar, Plaça de Pau Vila, 3
www.mhcat.cat

Admission is free the first Sunday of every month and this month on Thu 23 as well.

▶ 02

THE ART CONNECTION

The Palau Nacional, which dates from the 1929 World's Fair, houses the Catalan National Museum of Art and its collection of works, from sculpture, painting and drawings to prints, posters and photography, and with the objective of explaining the importance of Catalan art from the Romanesque period to the mid-20th century. It's also home to some of the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection, formerly at the Convent de Pedralbes, and the legacy of Francesc Cambó.

MNAC: Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya
Parc de Montjuïc, s/n
www.museunacional.cat

Admission is free every Saturday from 3pm, and on the first Sunday of every month.



▶ 03

AN INSTRUMENTAL VISIT

Finally rehoused at L'Auditori in 2007 after six years in hibernation, the Music Museum has over 1,600 instruments, displayed like precious jewels on red velvet and in glass cases, along with multimedia displays and interactive exhibits. With pieces spanning the ancient world to the modern day, and from all parts of the globe, the high note is the world-class collection of 17th-century guitars.

Museu de la Música
Lepant, 150
www.museumusica.bcn.es

Admission is free every Sunday from 3pm, and the first Sunday of every month.

▶ 04

PRETTY, SHINY THINGS

Kleptomaniac and general magpie Frederic Marès (1893-1991) 'collected' everything he laid his hands on, from hairbrushes to gargoyles. Marès wasn't wealthy, but spent all he earned as a sculptor on extending his

hoard. Even when the Council gave him this palace in which to display his collection (and live), it wasn't enough; the overflow eventually spread to two other Marès museums.

Museu Frederic Marès
Plaça de Santiu, 5-6
www.museumares.bcn.cat

Admission is free every Sunday from 3pm, and the first Sunday of every month.

BOTANIC GARDEN

On Montjuïc, between the castle and the Olympic Stadium, this 14-hectare garden has a shape reminiscent of an amphitheatre. Its collections of plants come from the Mediterranean and more distant places, and the amazing views stretch over the city and beyond.

Jardí Botànic
Doctor Font i Quer s/n
Admission is free every Sunday from 3pm and the first Sunday each month.



WHERE DO THEY
MAKE THE BEST
GIN AND TONICS IN
BARCELONA?



DO YOU KNOW
OF A JAPANESE
RESTAURANT THAT
DOESN'T COST AN
ARM AND A LEG?



WHERE DO THEY MAKE THE
BEST BURGERS IN THE CITY?



WHAT EXHIBITIONS ARE
ON AT THE PICASSO
MUSEUM?



ARE THERE ANY
OPEN-AIR FAIRS OR
FESTIVALS?



CAN YOU
RECOMMEND
THINGS TO DO
WITH THE KIDS?

**If you're coming to Barcelona, you'll
find all this information and more at**
WWW.TIMEOUT.COM/BARCELONA

ALSO IN SPANISH AND CATALAN



WHERE DO THE
LOCALS GO TO DRINK
VERMOUTH?



WHAT ARE
THE COOLEST
NIGHTCLUBS?



WHAT CONCERTS
ARE ON THIS
WEEKEND?



WHERE DO THEY MAKE
THE BEST COCKTAILS IN
BARCELONA?



WHERE CAN I BUY
CLOTHES MADE BY
LOCAL DESIGNERS?



Time Out
Barcelona

Shopping & Style

Urban chic masterclass

Want to get ahead in the style stakes? **Eugènia Sendra** reveals a range of Barcelona's fashion talents



ALBERT RUSO

KRIZIA ROBUSTELLA

Who? Amsterdam native who grew up in BCN, she regularly shows (and is one of the most daring) at the city's 080 Fashion event.
What? Robustella does sport deluxe, giving sophisticated touches to more classic sportswear styles.
Where? In her KR Store (Sant Pere Més Alt, 50), you'll find clothes from similar designers such as Ahida Aguirre and David Méndez.



MANUEL BOLAÑO

Who? Born in BCN and raised in Galicia, he often travels to Japan and Anvers seeking inspiration.
What? Intrepid clients, artisanal details (such as hand-made lace) and beautiful materials are the basis of his collections for men and women, which often have a biographical element.
Where? Colmado Shop (Mirallers, 5) or take a visit to his showroom-studio in the Eixample (Aragó, 344. www.manuelbolano.com).



RITA ROW

Who? Imma Serra and Xènia Semis launched the label in 2012, and in no time they won a fan base that's been growing ever since. They've featured as emerging talents at Madrid's Fashion Week and Who's Next in Paris.
What? Versatile clothing. They work with prints a lot, and the autumn-winter 2015 collection will include knitwear and a footwear range.
Where? Ivori (Mirallers, 7) and online at www.ritarow.com.



ISOMETRIC

Who? Collaboration between Joan Ros – finalist in the local ModaFAD Fashion Awards in 2014 – and Jessica Montes, who were workshop comrades at Barcelona's Martin Lamothe design label.
What? Earlier this year, they presented their first men's collection, inspired by Freud and psychoanalysis, and referencing film-makers, including Hitchcock and Buñuel.
Where? Stay up-to-date with the duo and their creations on [facebook.com/isometricpress](https://www.facebook.com/isometricpress).



GEORGINA VENDRELL

Who? Debuted at ModaFAD in 2007, where she won the award for best collection. Vendrell returned to the 080 catwalks in February this year following several years of absence, confirming her as a name to watch.

What? A menswear specialist, she is now exploring what's new in the sector and delving into more technical fabrics.

Where? www.georginavendrell.com

SITA MURT

Who? This label was created in the '80s by the eponymous Murt, who died in December last year. Her children are now in charge of the company.

What? Knitwear specialists, they create utilitarian, minimalist pieces – for the coming winter, the designs have a clear masculine edge.

Where? Sita Murt (València, 242) or www.sitamurt.com.



MIRIAM PONSÀ

Who? An established name on the Catalan design scene, last summer Ponsà proved she is still a force to be reckoned with, taking home the best collection prize at 080.

What? Ponsà, originally from the Catalan town of Manresa, is excellent at experimenting with unusual fabrics and creating oversize knits, and always aims to fill her collections with meaning.

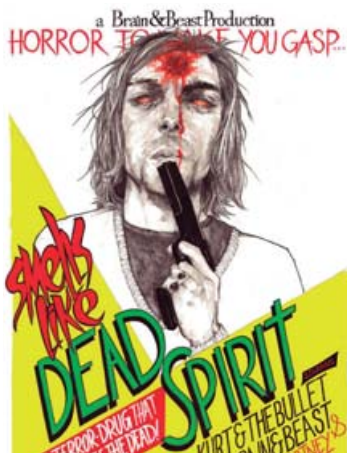
Where? As well as a Barcelona shop (Princesa, 14), Ponsà shares a Paris space with peers Josep Abril, Txell Miras and Projecte #01.

BRAIN&BEAST

Who? Troika made up of Àngel Vilda, César Olivar and Verónica Raposo.

What? Zombified pop icons feature on many of the label's graphics, a nod to the trio's dark sense of humour. For the coming winter season, they've created tailored coats, collaborated with Barcelona knitwear firm Matalafría, and designed their first ranges of clothing for kids and accessories for pets.

Where? Their Born space is a mini hub for local designers (Canvis Nous, 10).



PABLO ERROZ

Who? Trained at Saint Martins in London, among other places, he combines his own-label design work with commissions for companies such as Inditex.

What? Leather is a recurrent element in his outfits for both men and women; his latest collections featured pieces created using wam, rustic materials. And he recommends never ignoring accessories when putting together a look.

Where? Buy his jackets, dresses, trousers and skirts online: pabloerroz.bigcartel.com.



Indulge your most feminine side

Local labels and luxury accessories reign at MoiStore. By **Eugènia Sendra**

Housed in a former stationer's, which opened in 1929, multi-label clothing and accessory shop MoiStore still has the wooden furniture and fittings left over from the space's previous incarnation. The people behind this new creative venture are musical empresario Jorge Morgé and designer Jean-Yves Terrón. Their interest doesn't just lie in fashion, however – the pair want MoiStore to become a reference point in the Born neighbourhood, where customers come to find clothes, music – jazz in particular – and art.

MoiStore is a haven of eclecticism. On its rails you'll find local labels such as print maestros Ailanto, and Menchén Tomás with his romantic creations, as well as European designers such as Barbara Alan. Another standout is the first Moi collection, Terrón's own label that he has founded after ten years working alongside Menchén Tomás as well as time with Thierry Mugler, from whom Terrón got his initial grounding in fashion. His work is inspired by Yohji Yamamoto, Comme des Garçons, Azzedine Alaïa and Rick Owens, infused with the spirit of the '80s, and aims to flatter the female figure. 'I'm no innovator,' says the designer, whose first

collection is marked by the use of quality materials, hidden and sealed seams, and monochrome tones.

Accessories are just as important as the clothes at MoiStore, ideal for those clients who want to find a head-to-toe look, whatever their style. So lovers of both Pertini Oxfords and the super feminine footwear of Zinda (the two labels are produced in

“**Organic leather bags by Veja contrast with the Baroque luxe of Maison du Posh**

Alicante) will be happy here. Veja's organic leather bags, with their pure lines, contrast with the extreme Baroque luxury of Maison du Posh. And the necklace range includes the metallic creations of Elena Estaún, chunky pieces by Mireia Fusté and feather-adorned products from 2dós.

MOISTORE
Rera Palau, 2 (Born).
www.storemoi.com



PHOTOGRAPHY: MARIA DJAS



SPRING TONES Seasonal looks

SIMPLY GORGEOUS

Nude and rose are the Moi shades for this season; this cotton and silk dress (€150) is accessorised with a Mireia Fusté necklace.

IN-HOUSE EXTRAS

Moi creates its own small range of accessories; the clutches, made from python skin, come in a range of colours (€159).



PARTY ON

If we had to choose just one pair from Zinda's footwear range, we'd have to go with these white perforated peep-toes (€215).

Your style

Feminine creativity for those who appreciate good design and execution. By **Eugènia Sendra**



MINIMALIST

Finnish-Swede Ann-Sofi Storbacka is behind Vaska leather bags, such as this Helmi Box (€180), mixing Scandi style with Mediterranean craftsmanship. Colmado Shop (Mirallers, 5). vaskabags.com



DELICATE

Berta Riera, whose jewellery has been shown across Europe, has created a new collection where the emphasis is on simplicity and the use of quality materials. www.berteriera.com

VERSATILE

Dos Ocho Cinco clothing is striking, pretty and, if you have time, made to measure by Blanca and Cristina at their studio. Find them at Palo Alto Design Market (Apr 4-5). dosochocinco.com

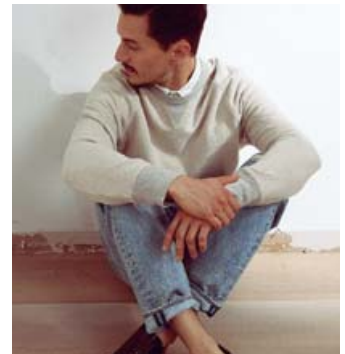


Re-creating a classic

Nothing is completely sacred, totally untouchable. Not even the design of Levi's 501s, an iconic piece of clothing created at the end of the 1800s and designated 'product of the century' by *Time* magazine in 1999. Coming at the start of a spring-summer season noteworthy for its fashion revivals and denim adoration, Levi's brings us a new version of its boyfriend design – a move that brings to mind the launch of its Engineered jeans line, its twisted product made for both men and women.

The new arrivals are called Levi's 501 CT – the initials stand for *custom* and *tapered* – and were inspired by the way many clients choose to change their trousers.

'After hemming, tapering the leg of 501 jeans is the most requested alteration in Levi's stores and tailor shops around the world,' according



to the company's SVP of global design, so they decided to cut out the middleman and make a range with the ankle pre-narrowed. Check the Levi's website for ways to wear this instant classic. –E.S.

LEVI'S

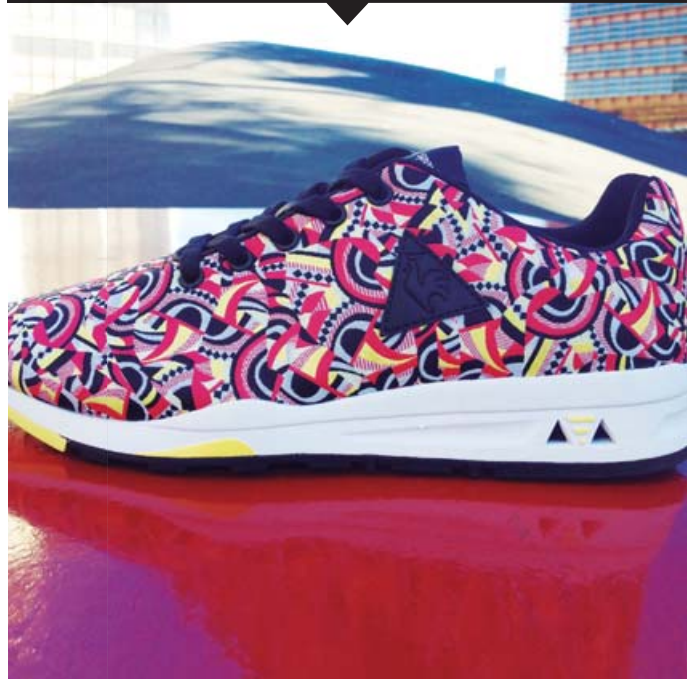
Passeig de Gràcia, 37.

www.levi.com

Object of desire

RUNAWAY STYLE

The fantasy designs and materials that are the signature of Jazmin Berakha can now be found on Le Coq trainers, converting the wearer's steps into moments of art. LCS R950 (€120). Odd Barcelona (Mallorca, 279).



Things to Do

Edited by
Maria Junyent
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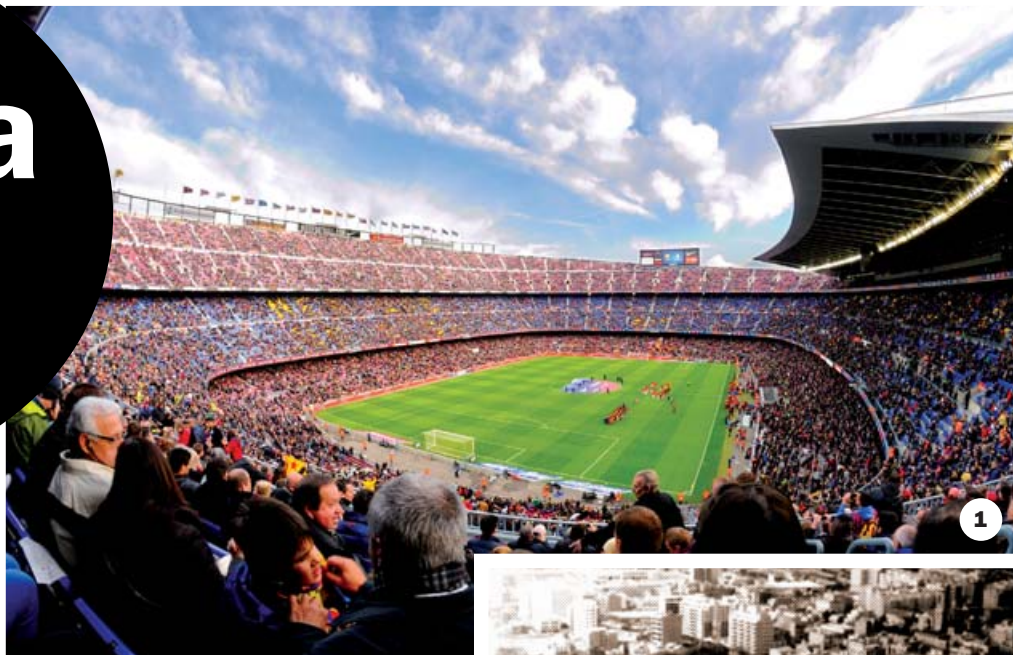
Barça & BCN

The city and the club share a common history dating back over 100 years.

Braden Phillips takes a tour of the key landmarks

1 CAMP NOU Most visited museum in Catalonia last year? That's right – the FC Barcelona one (aka the ground zero of any Barça pilgrimage), which received over 1.5 million fans in 2014. Europe's largest stadium with capacity for over 99,000, Camp Nou will get a facelift in 2017, including covered seating for 105,000 spectators. The museum is state of the art, with giant interactive touch screens, a vast collection of football memorabilia and a new-ish space dedicated to the team's diminutive star, Leo Messi.

2 PLAÇA SANT JAUME Canaletes (see 4) is the place for popular fetes of Barça triumphs, but this square – the city's political



heart – once held the official event. Players gave

the trophy to Catalonia's political leaders on the Town Hall balcony. Very moving for all, but crowds forced a change to Camp Nou.

3 CAMP DE LES CORTS Barça's stadium from 1922 to 1957. Soon after it opened, on Travessera de Les Corts between C/Vallespir and C/Numancia, Barça fans jeered the Spanish national anthem, resulting in a six-month closure. Les Corts held a special place in Catalan hearts, but it was razed after the construction of Camp Nou.

4 CANALETES FOUNTAIN Barça fans converge here, at the top of La Rambla, to celebrate titles. The tradition began in 1930, when Catalan newspaper *La Rambla* posted football results in the window of its office (where Bar Nuria is today). Fans came to find out – and celebrate – if Barça had won. They've been coming ever since.

5 SOLÉ GYMNASIUM Over a century ago, on November 29, 1899, a dozen men gathered here (half Catalans and half foreigners), at C/Montjuïc del Carme, 5, on the corner of Pintor Fortuny, to create FC Barcelona. Today you can visit the spot and admire the plaque that commemorates the historic event.



Building castles in the air

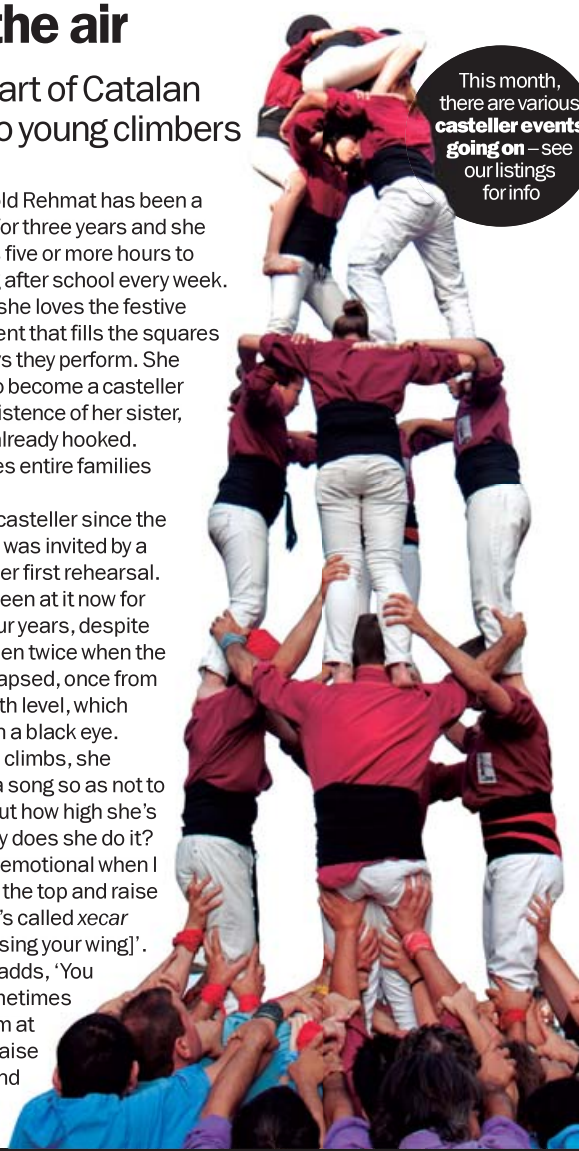
Human towers are an iconic part of Catalan culture. **Lynn Baiori** talks to two young climbers

It is impossible to watch without becoming emotionally involved. The musicians prepare as young and old, dressed in the emblematic uniform of the *casteller*, lock to form the *pinya* (base), while dozens more castellers encircle the group, offering support. Over the shoulders of the *pinya* climb the men and women who will form the next level, and they, in turn, are followed by the next set. All the while the *cap de colla* (leader of the group) is shouting directions from the ground. Then the music begins, signalling the ascent of the tower's top three levels made up of the youngest members, *el pom de dalt*, and the breathless climb of children over the trembling human pillar begins. At that moment, your neck arched back, your heart accompanies each small child as they climb several stories above the square towards the summit – and you're there with the *enxaneta* as she arrives at the top, throwing one arm to the sky and completing the *castell* to euphoric cries and applause from below.

This is not child's play. The youngsters involved take it very seriously. The *pom de dalt* wear specially designed helmets, and an ambulance is always standing by.

Ten-year-old Rehmat has been a *casteller* for three years and she dedicates five or more hours to practising after school every week. She says she loves the festive environment that fills the squares on the days they perform. She decided to become a *casteller* on the insistence of her sister, who was already hooked. Sometimes entire families sign up.

Maia, a *casteller* since the age of six, was invited by a friend to her first rehearsal. She has been at it now for almost four years, despite having fallen twice when the tower collapsed, once from the seventh level, which resulted in a black eye. When she climbs, she thinks of a song so as not to worry about how high she's going. Why does she do it? 'I get very emotional when I make it to the top and raise my arm. It's called *xecar l'aleta* [raising your wing]'. Then she adds, 'You know, sometimes I dream I'm at the top, I raise my wing and I can fly.'



FAMILIES AL FRESCO

CULTURAL HAVEN



GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA

PALAU ROBERT

At the top of Passeig de Gràcia, this one-time aristocratic residence is excellent for all ages – shady gardens for playing or picnicking on the benches (there are no lawns), tourist information and free exhibitions. ► Pg. de Gràcia, 107. www.gencat.cat/palaurobert

ON THE LOW SEAS



MARIA DIAS

LAS GOLONDRINAS

See Barcelona's watery side with a trip on one of these boats that have been touring the port since 1888. Choose between a 40-minute local ride or a 90-minute voyage further up the coast. ► Portal de la Pau (end of La Rambla). 10am-8pm. €7 adults, €2.75 children

URBAN OASIS



AJUNTAMENT DE BARCELONA

TURÓ PARK

A lovely park in Sant Gervasi with a great children's play area, a pond full of fish, and an outdoor café perfect for parents wanting to recharge their batteries. ► Av. Pau Casals, 19 (off Pl. Francesc Macià)

Anyone for Nadal?

While FC Barcelona is 'more than a club', Barcelona itself is also about more than one sport. Tennis, for instance, is much-loved here – many past and present stars have honed their skills at local training facilities – and the city's annual tournament is a highlight for aficionados of all levels. The Barcelona Open Banc Sabadell Trofeu Conde Godó, apart from surely being the contest with the longest name in the world, gives fans a chance to see top players in more intimate surroundings than, say, Wimbledon or Roland Garros.



NATUERSPORTS

The crowd favourite is Rafa Nadal, who triumphed every year from 2005 to 2013, except 2010 when he didn't actually play, so fair enough. Last year Nadal went out in the quarter-finals, despite being the favourite. Kei Nishikori ultimately triumphed, the first non-Spaniard to win the title in 12 years. All eyes will be on the Reial Club de Tennis this month to see whether the local darling can recover his crown.

Barcelona Open Banc Sabadell takes place from April 18-26.
barcelonaopenbancsabadell.com

Things to Do

Day by day

► **Information and sales:**
Tourist Information Points and
www.visitbarcelona.com

FREE This activity is free

* **The dates of league matches may be moved forward or back one day, depending on TV broadcast schedules**

Wednesday 1

Kids

Chocolate workshop

Recreate sweet treats from 300 years ago, using tools of city's 18th-century chocolate makers. *Born Cultural Centre (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I + Barceloneta (L4) & Arc de Triomf (L1). 10am-1pm. €5. For 6 to 12 year olds.*

Pixar: One-Man Band and Finding Nemo

Family cinema with comic short *One Man Band* and heartwarming undersea epic *Finding Nemo*. *CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 5.30pm. €4.*

Easter at CosmoCaixa

Natural history illustrator Carles Puçhe shares techniques for using your iPad as a drawing tool. (*Isaac Newton, 26*). *M: Avinguda Tibidabo (FGC). Until Apr 6. 11am. €4. From 6 years.*

Miró alphabet

Tour based on the book *Miró's Alphabet*, observing shapes, drawing pictures and creating stories. *Fundació Joan Miró (Parc de Montjuïc, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). www.fundacionmiro-bcn.org*

Thursday 2

Kids

Pixar: Monsters, Inc. and Mike's New Car

Pixar's things-that-go-bump-in-the-night smash *Monsters Inc.* with the

tie-in short *Mike's New Car*. *CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 5pm. €4.*

Tour

► Santa Maria del Mar rooftop

Guided tours to the top of this historic church for great city views. (*Plaça de Santa Maria, 1*). *M: Jaume I (L4). Mon-Fri 12pm to 5pm (every hour, last entry 4pm). Sat, Sun, public holidays 11am to 5pm (every hour, last entry 4pm). €10 (general). €8 (reduced). Booking: Itinera Plus - tel. 93 342 83 33.*

Regatta

Salt route: BCN-Formentera

The most popular sea navigation regatta in the Mediterranean has been held since 1989, with a colourful fleet of over 2000 ships sailing from BCN to Formentera. *Apr 2-5. More info: larutadelasal.com; ananbcn.org*

Friday 3

Kids

Pixar: Cars and For the Birds

Classic Pixar short *For the Birds* is paired with every fledgling petrol-head's favourite, *Cars*. *CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 5.30pm. €4.*

Rolf & Flor, peace ambassadors

Live music show from pop group The Pinker Tones in Spanish and English. *CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). Noon. €2.*

Saturday 4

Cinema

Film cycle: 'Big in Japan'

Cinema season featuring the best of recent Japanese cinema. *Casa Asia, Sant Pau modernista monument (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau-Dos de Maig (L5). Tel. 93 368 08 36.*

Tour

► Secret Basilica del Pi

Night-time visits to the 14th-century Basilica of Santa Maria del Pi. *Santa Maria del Pi Church (Plaça del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Thu, Fri 9.20pm (English). Sat 9.50pm (English). €22 (general). €9 (in advance). www.adsentiabarcelona.com, www.bcnshop.com.*

House-museum Casa Bloc

Workers' apartment block, built between 1932 and 1936, that is an icon of rationalist architecture. The museum captures the original's revolutionary spirit. (*C/ d'Almirall Pròixida, 1-3-5*). *M: Torras i Bages (L1). Sat 11am, 12.30pm. €3 (advance booking necessary). Info and booking: www.museudeldisseny.cat*

► Tour of Liceu opera house

Discover Barcelona's glorious opera house, restored after a devastating fire in 1994. (*La Rambla 51-59*). *M: Liceu (L3). Mon-Fri 9.30am, 10.30am. €14.*

FREE Funeral carriage tour

Unique collection of hearses and other funerary paraphernalia. (*Mare de Déu del Port, 56-58*). *M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). Every Sat noon.*

Kids

Bookmark workshop

Design your own bookmark. *Poble Espanyol (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). Apr 5, 12, 19 and 26 10.30am. Included in admission price.*

Story time!

Two travellers roll into town with a cart full of stories. *Poble Espanyol (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). Apr 5, 12, 19 and 26 10.30am. €13. €8 kids.*

Sunday 5

Human towers

FREE Castellers at Maremagnum
Human towers and pillars at

waterside shopping centre. (*Moll d'Espanya, 5*). *M: Drassanes (L3) & Barceloneta (L4). Every Sun in Apr. Noon.*

Tour

FREE Baluard Gardens

Visit the newly renovated gardens, tucked behind the only remaining gateway of the city's medieval walls. (*Av. de les Drassanes, s/n*). *M: Drassanes (L3). 1st and 3rd Sun 11am-2pm.*

FREE Guided tour of Poblenou Cemetery

Visit one of Barcelona's historical cemeteries. (*Av. Icària, s/n*). *M: Llacuna (L4). 1st and 3rd Sun 10.30am (Catalan) & 12.30pm (Spanish).*

FREE Visit CCCB rooftop terrace

See Barcelona from the top of this city centre building. (*Montalegre, 5*). *M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Catalunya (L1, L3).*

► Torre Bellesguard

Tours of Gaudí's modernista castle on the slopes of Tibidabo. (*Bellesguard, 6-9*). *M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC). English: Wed, Sun 11am. €16. €12.80 (reduced).*

Football

► * League fixture. RCD Espanyol - Elche CF

Espanyol face Valencia team. *Date and time TBC. More info: www.rcdespanyol.com. Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100. Cornellà de Llobregat). FGC: Cornellà Riera.*

Monday 6

Tour

► The Secret Pedrera

Delve into the corners of Gaudí's building with this night-time tour. (*Provença, 261-265*). *M: Diagonal (L3, L5) and Provença (FGC). Wed-Sat 7pm-10.30pm. €30.*

► Palau de la Música

Tour this emblematic building of Catalan modernisme, a UNESCO

Things to Do

World Heritage Site since 1997. (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). Daily tours 10am-3.30pm. €18. €11 (reduced).

Kids

Pixar: The Incredibles and Jack-Jack Attack

Pixar's definitive take on the superhero genre, with tie-in *Jack-Jack Attack*, featuring the youngest member of the *Incredibles* family. CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). Noon. €4.

Strategies for living beings

Games and models help kids discover how shapes, colours and behaviour are strategies that help living creatures survive. CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). M: Avinguda Tibidabo (FGC). Until Apr 26. See web for times: cosmocaixa.com/agenda. €4. From 5 years.

Tour

Sant Pau modernista monument

Once a working hospital, this network of pavilions was designed by Lluís Domenech i Montaner. (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau - Dos de Maig (L5). Tours in various languages; consult for schedule. Mon-Fri 10.30am-1pm. Sat, Sun, public holidays 10.30am-1.30pm. €14. €9.80 (reduced).

Tuesday 7

Human towers

► **Castellers practice session**
Barcelona's Colla Castellerà rehearse their spectacular skills. (Bilbao, 212). M: Clot (L1, L2); 7pm.

Wednesday 8

Football

► *** League fixture. FC Barcelona - U.D. Almería**
Barça take on Andalusian team. Date and time TBC. Info: www.fcbarcelona.cat. Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Kids

Feet on the ground

Miró felt most free in the countryside, in direct contact with earth. Learn how natural materials are used to create art. Fundació Joan Miró (Parc de Montjuïc, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 11am. fundacionmiro-bcn.org

Tour

Drassanes, history of life

A dramatised tour brings to life the city's medieval Royal Shipyards, with tales of kings, sea captains, stone masons and soldiers. Maritime Museu (Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3). 11am. €10, €7 children.

Thursday 9

Human towers

► **Castellers practice session**
See Tue 7. (Bilbao, 212). M: Clot (L1, L2); 7pm.

Tour

► **Secret Basilica del Pi**
See Sat 4. Santa Maria del Pi (Plaça del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Sant Pau modernista monument

See Mon 6. Hospital Sant Pau (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau-Dos de Maig (L5).

Festival

Mecal 17
BCN's International Short Film and Animation Festival marks 17th edition. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Catalunya (L1, L3). Until Apr 19. More info: www.cccb.org.

Friday 10

Human towers

► **Castellers practice session**

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Things to Do

See Tue 7. (Bilbao, 212). M: Clot (L1, L2);. 7pm.

Tour

FREE Fossar de la Pedrera tour

English guide Nick Lloyd takes you round this part of Montjuïc cemetery dedicated to victims of Spain's fascist regime. (Mare de Déu del Port, 56-58). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 4pm. Also Apr 26 11am.

Saturday 11

Kids

Adventures of the Intrepid Oldies

Puppet show for the whole family. Born Cultural Centre (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4). Apr 11-12. Sat 6pm. Sun noon. Adults €5. Under-8s free.

Puppet show: The Shoe Tree

Tim has lost his left shoe. Mrs Gris tells him it might be on a special tree, so Tim hops off to find it. Fundació Joan Miró (Parc de Montjuïc, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 5pm. fundacionmiro-bcn.org

Indiana Stones: let's explore!

Daring explorers discover the hidden corners of La Pedrera in an architectural adventure. (Provença, 261). M: Diagonal (L3, L5) and Provença (FGC). 10am. €8.50. For children from 5-13.

Bitxo Bot

Use motors, LEDs and recycled materials to build simple robots. MIBA (Ciutat, 7). M: Jaume I (L4). 11.30am. €15. Recommended for children 8-12 years. Info and booking: tickets@mibamuseum.com or call 93 332 79 30.

Festival

Lapsus

Avant-garde electronic music event with artists including Mouse on Mars, Moiré and Lost Twin. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Catalunya

(L1, L3). Apr. 11-12. More info: www.cccb.org.

Sunday 12

Human towers

FREE Castellars day in Sants

Watch them go up – but hold your breath until they're all safely down. (Badalona, 38-40). M: Sants-Estació (L3, L5). Noon.

FREE Castellars: the Can Jorba trophy

Human towers in competition. (Avda. Portal de l'Angel). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 10am.

Kids

The Balinese gamelan. Stories and musical experiences

Discover the haunting music of the gamelan, an ensemble of gongs, metallophones and drums, and try your hand at playing it. Museu de la Música (Lepant, 150) M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2) and Marina (L4). 5.30pm.

Sundays at the theatre: Paper bubbles

Dance, live music and multimedia projections create an imaginative world in which the audience is invited to participate. Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). Noon. In Catalan. T. 93 317 75 99. www.teatrepoliorama.com. From 3 years.

Interactive visit to 'Toca, Toca'

Find out how to protect the different ecosystems of our planet, from deserts to tropical rainforests. CosmoCaixa (Isaac Newton, 26). M: Avinguda Tibidabo (FGC). Sat, Sun 11am, noon, 1pm, 4pm and 6pm. €4. €2 reduced. From 3 years.

Football

►* League fixture. RCD Espanyol – Athletic Club

Espanyol meet the Bilbao team. Date and time TBC. More info: www.rcdespanyol.com. Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av. del Baix Llobregat, 100. Cornellà de Llobregat). FGC: Cornellà Riera.

Tour

FREE Guided tour of Montjuïc Cemetery

Visit Barcelona's hillside cemetery. Cementiri de Montjuïc (Mare de Déu del Port, 56-58). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 2nd & 4th Sun 11am (Catalan) and 11.15am (Spanish).

Monday 13

Tour

► Palau de la Música

See Mon 6. (Palau de la Música, 4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

► The Secret Pedrera

See Mon 6. (Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L5) & Provença (FGC).

Tuesday 14

Human towers

► Castellars practice session

See Tue 7. (Bilbao, 212). M: Clot (L1, L2);. 7pm.

Tour

► Santa Maria del Mar rooftop

See Thu 2. (Plaça de Santa Maria, 1). M: Jaume I (L4).

Wednesday 15

Tour

Drassanes, history of life

See Wed 8. Maritime Museu (Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3).

Thursday 16

Tour

► Secret Basilica del Pi

See Sat 4. Santa Maria del Pi Church (Plaça del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Sant Pau modernista monument

See Mon 6.

Hospital Sant Pau (Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: Sant Pau-Dos de Maig (L5).

Cinema

Film screening: Bouchra Khalili

MACBA director Bartomeu Mari presents Khalili's work Garden Conversation (2014), in a dialogue with the artist. (Pl. dels Àngels, 1). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). www.macba.cat

Friday 17

Sport

Spirit of Montjuïc

Classic car revival, with a packed programme of races. Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya (Camí Mas Moreneta, Montmeló). Montmeló (RENFE). Apr 17-19. www.circuitcat.com

Tour

► Tour of Liceu opera house

See Sat 4. (La Rambla 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

► Secret Basilica del Pi

See Sat 4. Santa Maria del Pi (Plaça del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Saturday 18

Tennis

Barcelona Open Banc Sabadell - 62nd Conde de Godó Trophy

Top names from the international tennis circuit hit town for BCN's biggest clay-court tournament. See page 35. Reial Club de Tennis Barcelona 1899 (Bosch i Gimpera, 5-13). M: Maria Cristina (L3). Apr 18-26. Find time and price info at www.barcelonaopenbancsabadell.com.

Dance-swing

FREE Want to dance?

Grab your partners for this swing session at the MNAC.

Things to Do

(Parc de Montjuïc). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 4pm-5.45pm.

Kids

Born detectives

Get your camera ready to investigate an archaeological site. Find clues and solve the mystery!

Born Cultural Centre (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I + Barceloneta (L4) & Arc de Triomf (L1). 10am-1pm. €5. For 6 to 12 year olds.

Guided visit to MIBA museum and family workshop

Can you build an invention that will allow an egg to fall 1.70m without breaking?

MIBA (Ciutat, 7). M: Jaume I (L4). 5pm. €10. Recommended for children 10-14 years. Info and booking: tickets@mibamuseum.com or 93 332 79 30.

Puppet show: The Shoe Tree

See Sat 11. Fundació Joan Miró (Parc de Montjuïc, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

Món Llibre

A festival of children's literature. CCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Catalunya (L1, L3). Apr 18-19. More info: www.cccb.org.

Tour

MNAC viewing-point

Take advantage of this rooftop vantage-point to observe the city. (Parc de Montjuïc). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). T. 93 622 03 60. Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-3pm. Mondays closed. €12. Sat from 3pm, free. Included in museum entry-fee.

► Torre Bellesguard

See Thu 2. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC)

Sunday 19

Football

► * League fixture. FC Barcelona – UD Almería

Prepare for goals as Barça face the Andalusian club. Date and time TBC. More info: www.fcbarcelona.cat. Camp Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les Corts (L3).

Traditions

FREE Sagrada Família Festa Major

Concerts, theatre, art shows, kids' activities, sports, street fairs and more.

Various venues. Apr 19-28. M: Sagrada Família (L2, L5).

FREE Human towers at the Sagrada Família

As part of the neighbourhood

festival, see local and guest castellers in actions. (Pl. Sagrada Família). M: Sagrada Família (L2, L5). Noon.

Tour

FREE Baluard Gardens

See Sun 5. (Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3).

FREE Guided tour of Poblenou Cemetery

See Sun 5. (Av. Icària, s/n). M: Lacuna (L4).

Kids

See and touch sound

Find out about Reactable, the interactive digital instrument created in Barcelona in 2003. Museu de la Música (Lepant, 150) M: Glòries (L1), Monumental (L2 and Marina (L4). 5.30pm. €2.50.



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Things to Do

Mateu's whistle

Story time for the kids.
Born CC (Pl. Comercial, 12). M:
Jaume I & Barceloneta (L4). Apr 11-
12. Noon.

Sundays at the theatre: Paper bubbles

See Sun 12. Teatre Poliorama (La
Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1,
L3; FGC).

Let's experiment!

Combined family concert and
workshop.
(Palau de la Música, 4-6) M:
Urquinaona (L1, L4). 10.30am. €3
adults, €11 children. For kids aged
5-10 years old.

Music of the world

Family concert at historic venue.
(Palau de la Música, 4-6) M:
Urquinaona (L1, L4). Noon. €11. For
children 6 and above.

Monday 20

Tour

► **Palau de la Música**
See Mon 6. (Palau de la Música,
4-6) M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

► **The Secret Pedrera**
See Mon 6. (Provença, 261-265).
M: Diagonal (L3, L5) and Provença
(FGC).

Tuesday 21

Tour

► **Torre Bellesguard**
See Thu 2. (Bellesguard, 6-9). M: Av.
Tibidabo (FGC).

Wednesday 22

Al fresco

FREE Roman festival of Badalona

Historical re-enactments from
when this was a Roman city.
Museu de Badalona (Pl.
Assemblea de Catalunya, 1,
Badalona). M: Badalona-Pompeu
Fabra (L2). www.magnacelebratió.
cat. Apr 24-27.

Kids

Feet on the ground

See Wed 8. Fundació Joan Miró
(Parc de Montjuïc, s/n). M:
Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

Thursday 23

Traditions

FREE Sant Jordi

The streets fill with books and
roses to celebrate love and Saint
George, Catalonia's patron saint.
Various venues, including La
Rambla. www.bcn.cat.

Tour

► **Secret Basilica del Pi**
See Sat 4. Santa Maria del Pi
Church (Pl. del Pi, 7). M: Liceu (L3).

Sant Pau modernista monument

See Mon 6. Hospital Sant Pau
(Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M:
Sant Pau-Dos de Maig (L5).

Friday 24

Human towers

► **Castellers practice session**
See Tue 7. (Bilbao, 212). M: Clot
(L1, L2); 7pm.

Cinema

D'A International Festival

Annual event dedicated to auteur
cinema from around the world.
Includes retrospective of French
director Bertrand Bonello.
CCCCB (Montalegre, 5). M: Universitat
(L1, L2) & Catalunya (L1, L3). Until
May 3. www.cinemadautor.cat

Sport

47th International Polo Tournament, BCN Polo Clàssic

Teams compete in one of the
world's oldest sports.
Reial Club de Polo de Barcelona (Av.
Dr. Gregorio Marañón, 19-31). M:

Zona Universitària (L3). Apr 24-26.
www.rcpolo.com

Saturday 25

Tour

► Santa Maria del Mar rooftop

See Thu 2. (Plaça de
Santa Maria, 1). M:
Jaume I (L4).

Kids

Guided visit to MIBA museum and family invention workshop

Kids unleash their inner inventor to
find five solutions for five problems
in a creative workshop.
MIBA (Ciutat, 7). M: Jaume I (L4).
5pm. €10. Recommended for
children 6-12 years. More info and
booking: tickets@mibamuseum.
com or call 93 332 79 30.

Indiana Stones: let's explore!

See Sat 11. La Pedrera
(Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal
(L3, L5) & Provença (FGC)

Sunday 26

Football

► *** League fixture. RCD
Espanyol - FC Barcelona**
Confrontation between the two
biggest local sides. Date and time
TBC. More info: www.rcdespanyol.
com. Estadi Cornellà - El Prat (Av.
del Baix Llobregat, 100. Cornellà
de Llobregat). FGC: Cornellà Riera.

Kids

Pirate academy

Iron Fist the pirate is setting sail in
search of treasure, but he can't do
it alone! Barcelona Maritime
Museum (Av. de les Drassanes,
s/n). M: Drassanes (L3).
12pm. €4.50. For children
from 6-12 years.

Trip on the Beagle

Charles Darwin's voyage
recreated in an immersive film
projected inside the MMB's
planetarium.

Barcelona Maritime Museum (Av.
de les Drassanes, s/n). M:
Drassanes (L3). 11.30am and
12.45pm. €4 adults, €2.50 kids.

Monday 27

Tour

► **Tour of Liceu
opera house**
See Sat 4. (La Rambla
51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Tuesday 28

Kids

Bitxo Bot

See Sat 11. MIBA (Ciutat, 7). M:
Jaume I (L4). 11.30am. €15.

Tour

► **The Secret Pedrera**
See Mon 6. (Provença, 261-265).
M: Diagonal (L3, L5) and Provença
(FGC).

Wednesday 29

Football

► *** League fixture. FC
Barcelona - Getafe CF**
Barça take on another Madrid
club. Date and time TBC. More
info: www.fcbarcelona.cat. Camp
Nou (Aristides Maillol, s/n). M: Les
Corts (L3).

Thursday 30

Human towers

► **Castellers practice session**
See Tue 7. (Bilbao, 212). M: Clot
(L1, L2); 7pm.

Sailing

Set sail on the Santa Eulàlia

Take a trip on a beautifully-
restored three-masted schooner.
Maritime Museum (Av. de les
Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3).
Sat 9.30am. €12 adults. €6 kids.

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Sights

Architecture

Basilica de la Sagrada Família

(Mallorca, 401). M: *Sagrada Família* (L2, L5). T. 93 513 20 60. Apr-Sep: 9am-8pm. Guided tour/with audio guide: €19.50. Barcelona's most famous landmark, begun by Antoni Gaudí in 1891 and unfinished to this day. Ticket sales help fund the ongoing construction of Spain's most popular tourist attraction.

► **Basilica de Santa Maria del Pi**

(Plaça del Pi, 7). M: *Liceu* (L3) + *Jaume I* (L4). T. 93 318 47 43. Until Apr 7: Mon-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 5pm-7pm. Apr 8-Nov 10: Mon-Fri 10am-7pm; Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 5pm-8pm. €4. €3 (reduced). Guided tour (including belltower): €12. €8 (reduced). One of Barcelona's grandest Gothic churches, with great views from its belltower.

► **Casa Batlló**

(Pg. de Gràcia, 43). M: *Passeig de Gràcia* (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 216 03 06. 9am-9pm. €21.50. €18.50 (reduced). Last admission: 8pm. More info: www.casabatllo.cat. The sensuality and harmony of its interior, combined with Gaudí's use of colours, shapes and light make this a must-see for admirers of the architect's work.

► **Gaudí Crypt at Colònia Güell**

(Claudi Güell, 6 – Santa Coloma de Cervelló). M: *Espanya* (L1, L3) & FGC (S4, S8, S33): *Colònia Güell*. T. 93 630 58 07. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat, Sun, public hols 10am-3pm. €9 (incl. audio guide). €7.50 (reduced).

Gaudí's hidden treasure is a UNESCO World Heritage Site inside Colònia Güell, a planned textile factory and residential area 20 mins from Barcelona.

► **Gran Teatre del Liceu**

(La Rambla, 51–59). M: *Liceu* (L3). T. 93 485 99 14. Guided tour: Mon-Fri 9.30am, 10.30am. €14. 30-minute tour: €6. www.liceubarcelona.cat. Visit one of the world's great

opera houses: discover the impressive concert hall and exclusive private rooms that make this one of Barcelona's most emblematic buildings.

► **La Pedrera**

(Provença, 261–265). M: *Diagonal* (L3, L5). T. 902 202 138. 9am-8.30pm. Last admission: 8pm. €20.50. €16.50 (reduced). Many Barcelona residents regard this as Gaudí's true masterpiece. The roof terrace represents modernista architecture at its finest.

► **Palau Güell**

(Nou de la Rambla, 3-5). M: *Drassanes & Liceu* (L3). T. 93 472 57 75. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Last admission: 7pm. Closed Mon except public hols. €12. €8 (reduced). Built by Gaudí in the late 19th century, this palace belonged to his principal patron. The roof terrace shouldn't be missed.

► **Palau de la Música Catalana**

(Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: *Urquinaona* (L1, L4). T. 93 295 72 00. 10am-3.30pm. Apr 2: 2.30pm-5pm. €18. €11 (reduced). Under 10s free. Step inside one of the most beautiful modernista buildings in the city, today a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

► **Sant Pau, modernista monument**

(Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 167). M: *Sant Pau* (L5). T. 93 553 78 01. Mon-Sat 10am-6.30pm; Sun, public hols 10am-2.30pm. Self-guided tour: €8. €5.60 (reduced). Guided tour: €14. €9.80 (reduced). First Sunday of month, Apr 23 and under 16s free. More info: www.santpaubarcelona.org. Tour the buildings and grounds of Hospital Sant Pau, one of the world's largest Art Nouveau monuments, recently restored and opened to the public.

► **Torre Bellesguard**

(Bellesguard, 6-9). M: *Av. Tibidabo* (FGC). T. 93 250 40 93. Tue-Sun 10am-3pm. Closed Mon.

Panoramic tour: €7 (audio guide to exterior + remains of Martin the Humane's palace + audiovisual centre). Guided tour: €16 (tower exterior and interior + roof terrace access). English: Mon-Sat 11am. Spanish: Mon, Wed, Fri noon. Catalan: Tue, Thu, Sat noon. Discover the modernista castle that Antoni Gaudí built at the foot of Tibidabo mountain.

Leisure

► **Aire de Barcelona, Arab Baths**

(Pg. de Picasso, 22). M: *Barceloneta* (L4) & *Jaume I* (L4). T. 93 295 57 43. Mon-Fri: first entry 10am; last entry between 10pm and midnight; Sat, Sun and days before public holidays: last entry between midnight and 2am. www.airedebarcelona.com. These Arab baths revive the ancient tradition of bathing as a form of relaxation, in a gorgeous setting.

► **Barcelona Urban Forest**

(Plaça del Fòrum, s/n). M: *El Maresme/Fòrum* (L4). T. 93 117 34 26. Apr: Sat, Sun 10am-3pm, 4pm-7pm. Easter week (Mar 28-Apr 6): daily 10am-7pm. Apr 18: 10am-3pm. €11-€27 (prices vary depending on age and circuit). Get some high-adrenaline exercise in an urban adventure park with over 30 attractions, including zip lines, bungee jumping, trampolines and more.

► **Poble Espanyol**

(Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13). M: *Espanya* (L1, L3). T. 93 508 63 00. Tue-Thu Sun 9am-midnight; Fri 9am-3am; Sat 9am-4am. €12. €7, €8.40 (reduced). Built for the 1929 Barcelona Expo by modernista architect Puig i Cadafach, Poble Espanyol is an open-air museum on Montjuïc with replicas of streets, squares and buildings from all over Spain. Regularly hosts live music events.

► **Gaudí Experience**

(Larrard, 41). M: *Lesseps* (L3). T. 93 285 44 40. 10am-7pm. €9. €7.50 (reduced).

A fascinating interactive journey that uses 4-D technology to take you inside Gaudí's creative universe. A new way to discover the architect and his world.

► **Tibidabo Amusement Park**

(Plaça del Tibidabo, 3-4). Bus *Tibibus* (T2A) from Plaça Catalunya. M: *Av. Tibidabo* (FGC) + *Tramvia Blau* or *Bus 196 + Funicular del Tibidabo*. T. 93 211 79 42. More info: www.tibidabo.cat. Sky Walk: Mon-Fri 11am-5pm; Sat, Sun: 11am-8pm. €12.70. Children measuring less than 120cm: €7.80. Amusement park: Sat-Sun noon-8pm. Please note that opening hours for both vary during Easter week – check website for details. €28.50. Children under 120cm: €10.30. With over 100 years of history, Tibidabo is one of the oldest theme parks in the world, featuring classic rides, old favourites and brand-new attractions with spectacular views over the city.

► **PortAventura**

(Av. Alcalde Pere Molas. Km. 2. Vila Seca, Tarragona). Train: *Port Aventura*. T. 902 20 22 20. For prices and times contact tourist offices or visit portaventura.es. PortAventura is a theme park located one hour south of Barcelona. Its six themed zones (Mediterranean, Far West, Sesame Adventure, Mexico, China and Polynesia) cover 119 hectares, with 30 attractions, 100 processions every day, 75 restaurants and snack bars, and 27 craft and gift shops.

► **Barcelona Zoo**

(Parc de la Ciutadella, s/n). M: *Arc de Triomf* (L1) & *Ciutadella/Vila Olímpica* (L4). T. 902 45 75 45. Until May 15: 10am-7pm. €19.90. Children (ages 3-12): €11.95. One of the city's best-loved attractions, which has been open for more than 100 years. Nowadays it's home to more than 2,000 animals representing some 315 species, and the dolphin and sealion shows draw big crowds.

The diva's eye

Sophie Calle is a legend of contemporary art, a revolutionary, a pioneer... Ahead of a new retrospective at La Virreina Image Centre, **Eugènia Sendra** talks with the artist



"L'AUTRE" / "THE OTHER" - 1992 @SOPHIE CALLE / ADAGAP, PARIS, 2015. COURTESY GALERIE FERROTIN AND PAULA COOPER GALLERY

Known for her conceptual experiments and rituals, French artist Sophie Calle's past projects include inviting a group of strangers to sleep in her bed for eight hours ('Les Dormeurs'), asking a group of women to re-create the moment they received a break-up letter ('Take Care of Yourself'), and recording her mother's final breath to be able to hear her last words ('Rachel, Monique'). Currently on a break from creating, the artist presents a collection of her works that combine photography, live action and essays with a marked autobiographical tone, at Barcelona's La Virreina.

Labelling Calle as just a photographer would be a mistake, even if that genre has been a constant in the work of the artist who, in 2010, won the Hasselblad Award for 'Les Autobiographies/

Histoires Vraies', in which she recalls her disastrous beginnings with a camera. Calle prefers to vindicate herself as an artist: 'I'm not a great photographer, it's not the aspect of a project that most interests me. There are projects

“
They looked at the camera with those eyes that had seen the sea for the first time

where it's really important to me, and others where the idea has more weight.'

Calle often incorporates text with the photos and videos that explore people's daily lives. However, in 'Take Care of Yourself' she did

without it. 'It was the women who spoke and wrote for me – I had to find my place. I think that's why I gave so much significance to the photography,' says Calle. The same goes for 'Voir la Mer' (2011), a project carried out in Istanbul with local residents who had never seen the sea before, despite having it on their doorsteps. 'I had them look at the sea with their backs to me, I didn't want to get in between them and the sea. In a subtle way, by looking at their backs, you can tell that something is happening. Afterwards, I asked them to look at the camera to show me those eyes that had seen the sea for the first time...'

Calle can spot artistic merit in the most banal act and the most transcendental, but she doesn't get obsessed with the process; the results often transmit intimacy, emptiness and, above all,

absence. 'A man who leaves, a mother who dies, a blind person... in all my work there is absence, truth, what is public and what I don't go looking for, but it is the kind of idea that appeals to me,' she admits. Circling around her projects are notions of loneliness, loss, memory, desire, truth, what is public and what private, beauty and elements captured from her own life story, which is protected under lock and key. 'If old stories about me have got out, it's because I've found a way to deal with them... if one of the thousands of rituals I have in my life is used in my work, then I will talk about my own story, but that's enough – I have to keep something back for myself.'

Sophie Calle. Modus Vivendi is running until June 7 at La Virreina (La Rambla, 99). Tel. 93 316 10 00. <http://lavirreina.bcn.cat>

Talking your language

If you fancy seeing a film, Barcelona has various alternative cinemas offering a range of original language screenings. By **Hannah Pennell**

1. PHENOMENA

After four years screening films old and new in different BCN cinemas, the organisers of Phenomena decided to take the next obvious step and open their own place. They opted for the closed-down Cine Nàpols and last year spent six months modernising its facilities. The two screens were converted into a super-size one of 15 metres, while seating and projectors were also updated. Films are shown from Wednesday to Sunday with double features, cycles dedicated to various directors such as Billy Wilder and his gem *Some Like It Hot* (right) and kids' sessions all on offer. *Sant Antoni Maria Claret*, 168. phenomena-experience.com



the beauty and music of the island (Apr 2, 8pm, €4); and *Retratos de memoria política* (*Portraits of Political Memory*), two films from Argentinian Germán Scelso looking at the lingering effects of the country's dictatorship that saw thousands killed (Apr 26, 6.30pm, €4). *Montalegre*, 5. www.cccb.org

3. ZUMZEIG

An arthouse cinema with a bar that serves food! We're not talking popcorn and Kit Kats either, but well-made French and Catalan dishes, such as goose *rillettes* (similar to pâté), quiches and *brandada de bacallà* (emulsion of salt cod and olive oil). They also pour a good craft beer and, as you might expect from a *cinema-bistrot*, have an appealing wine list. For its programming, Zumzeig looks to film-makers with a defined personal voice, whether they're talking philosophy, politics or society. Documentaries, such as 2014's *Silvered Water*, *Syria Self-Portrait* (left, shown in March), indie films and sessions for children all appear on the monthly changing line-up. Everything is subtitled except the kids' films, which are dubbed in Catalan. *Bejar*, 53. www.zumzeig-cine.eu

2. XCÈNTRIC

Now in its 14th season, Xcèntric is the CCCB's 'cinema series', running each year from September to June, and featuring visionary films from around the world. Currently in the middle of the March-May section of the 2015 programme, this month's agenda includes: *Soy Cuba* (*I am Cuba*, shown right), a 1964 Soviet propaganda film, and although its intentions are clear, it still captures



SPIRITUALISED Cultural activities in churches



BACH IN BARCELONA

Dutch cellist Jurgen van Win gives lunchtime (Mon, Wed) concerts of works by JS Bach in the 12th-century Sant Pau del Camp church. www.bachinbarcelona.com



SECRET BASILICA DEL PI

Explore one of Barcelona's oldest churches without the daytime crowds, by taking an evening candlelight tour (Thu-Sat) of this Gothic gem. www.adsentiabarcelona.com



STA MARIA DEL MAR ROOFTOP

Not only is this one of the loveliest churches in the city, but by visiting its roof, you'll get a fantastic view across Barcelona and its surrounds. www.itineraplus.com



GUITAR STARS IN SANTA ANNA

Hidden just behind Plaça Catalunya, this beautiful, cloistered church hosts regular concerts of Spanish guitar, performed by various local musicians. www.spanishguitarbarcelona.com

The Arts

Music

Wednesday 1

Classical

► **Bach in Barcelona**

Twice a week, cellist Jurgen van Win performs Bach's Suites in an 11th-century monastery. *Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101)*. M: *Paral·lel (L2,L3)*. Mon & Wed 1pm. €16. reservas@bachinbarcelona.com. T. 679 305 718.

► **Spanish Guitar Maestros**

Barcelona Guitar Trio perform. *Església de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7)*. 9pm. €19 (discount at tourist offices).

Flamenco

► **Palacio del Flamenco Show**

Guitarists, singers and dancers, and the rhythms of the *cajón*, heels and palms. (*Balmes, 139*). M: *Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC)*. Daily 6.25pm, 8.15pm, 10.30pm. Show only; show + one drink; show + different menu options. €45-€160 (discount at tourist offices). palaciodelflamenco.com

► **45th Anniversary Tablao Cordobés**

The Tabalao Cordobes celebrates its 45th anniversary with the passion of José Maya, the creative genius of Amador Rojas and the power of Karime Amaya (until Apr 10), and the elegance of Belen López and María Juncal (from Apr 10). (*Rambla, 35*). M: *Drassanes/Liceu (L3)*. Daily 8.15pm, 10pm. €42.50.

► **Gran Gala de Flamenc**

Special show featuring *bailaor* Nacho Blanco. *Palau de la Música Catalana, (Palau de la Música 4-6)*. M: *Urquinaona (L1-L4)*. 9.30 pm. €20-€49.

Jazz

VII Festival Jazz & Blues at Milano Cocktail Bar

Jazz trumpeter David Pastor

leads his quartet. (*Ronda Universitat, 35*). M: *Catalunya (L1, L3)*. 8.30pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Thursday 2

Catalan pop

FREE Born de Cançons 2015

Up-and-coming flamenco talent Pere Martínez sings his own version of Salvador Espriu's poem 'Pell del Brau', a critical allegory of post-war Spain. *Born Cultural Centre (Pl. Comercial, 12)*. M: *Jaume I, Barceloneta (L4)*. 8pm.

Classical

Mozart's Requiem

The Russian State Symphony Orchestra performs Mozart's Requiem and his Symphony No. 40, the 'Great G Minor Symphony'. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: *Urquinaona (L1, L4)*. 7pm. €22-€49

► **Spanish Guitar Maestros**

Performance of traditional music from Barcelona 4 Guitars. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: *Urquinaona (L1, L4)*. 9pm. €30-€35.

Experimental

Tiger Menja Zebra

Tiger menja zebra's second album super ego made many best-of lists for 2014. the three ex-members of camping continue to push the limits of musical experimentation. *Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113)*. M: *Paral·lel (L2, L3)*. 9.30pm. €12 (on the door). €10 (in advance).

Friday 3

Opera

Famous opera arias and choruses

With some of the best-known arias, preludes and choruses from great composers including Verdi, Bizet, Puccini and Wagner. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau*

de la Música, 4-6). M: *Urquinaona (L1, L4)*. 5pm. €24-€51.

Blues & Jazz

► **Blues and more at the MEAM**

Pianist and vocalist Julio Lobos plays the blues. *MEAM (Barra de Ferro, 5)*. M: *Jaume I (L4)*. 6pm.

VII Festival Jazz & Blues at Milano Cocktail Bar

Serbian double bass player Ivan Kovacevic is one of the hardest-working figures on the Catalan jazz scene. (*Ronda Universitat, 35*). M: *Catalunya (L1, L3)*. 8.30pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Flamenco

► **Opera&Flamenco 'A LoveStory'**

A full cast performs the traditions of opera, zarzuela and flamenco. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: *Urquinaona (L1, L4)*. 9.30pm. €35-€49.

Saturday 4

Classical

► **Teatime classical music**

'Promenade romantique' with music by Frank, Debussy and Fauré. *MEAM (Barra de Ferro, 5)*. M: *Jaume I (L4)*. 6pm.

► **Spanish Guitar Maestros**

Performance by Manuel González. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: *Urquinaona (L1, L4)*. 9pm. €20-€40.

Swing-Blues

VII Festival Jazz & Blues at Milano Cocktail Bar

Live blues and swing from Barcelona's nattiest band, led by charismatic Argentinean guitarist 'Chino', Hernán Senra. (*Ronda Universitat, 35*). M: *Catalunya (L1, L3)*. 8.30pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Kids

Peter and the Wolf

Prokofiev's classic piece for children, adapted for wind quintet and narrator, with each instrumentalist playing a character in the story. *CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8)*. M: *Espanya (L1, L3; FGC)*. Sat 4 5.30pm; Sun 5 noon. €6.

Flamenco

Live Flamenco

Dancers Yasaray Rodriguez and Eva Santiago, backed by cantaores, guitar and the *cajón*. *Sala Tarantos (Plaça Reial, 17)*. M: *Liceu (L3)*. 8.30pm, 9.30pm, 10.30 pm. €10 (on the door). €8 (web).

Sunday 5

Classical

Raval's Bolero

The Russian State Symphony perform popular classics, with Ravel's Bolero, Rimski Korsakov's Scheherazade and Dukas' Sorcerer's Apprentice. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6)*. M: *Urquinaona (L1, L4)*. 7pm. €22-€49.

► **Spanish Guitar Maestros**

Barcelona Guitar Trio perform. *Església de Santa Maria del Pi (Pl. del Pi, 7)*. 9.30pm. €19 (discount at tourist offices).

Flamenco

► **The most authentic contemporary flamenco at Tablao Cordobés**

Live flamenco in one of Barcelona's most emblematic *tablaos*, with performances from some exciting new names on the scene. (*La Rambla, 35*). M: *Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3)*. Daily 6.30pm, 8.15pm, 10pm and 11.30pm. €44-€78.50.

► **Opera & Flamenco 'A Love Story'**

See Fri 3. *Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115)*. M: *Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC)*. 9.30pm. €20-€49.

The Arts

Monday 6

Classical

Hollywood's Greatest Soundtracks

The Cinema Symphony Orchestra plays music from *E.T.*, *Titanic*, *Grease*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *West Side Story*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *Jurassic Park*, among other films. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. €23-€50.

▶ Spanish Guitar Maestros

Barcelona Guitar Trio perform. *Església de Santa Maria del Pi* (Pl. del Pi, 7). 9pm. €19 (discount at tourist offices).

▶ Bach in Barcelona

See Wed 1. *Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp* (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3).

Flamenco

▶ Grand Flamenco Gala

Passionate performance that takes in some of the key styles of the classic Spanish music genre, including *fandango* and *bulería*. *Teatre Poliorama* (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). 7pm. €20-€49.

Tuesday 7

Havaneras

Port-Bo, 50 years of havaneras

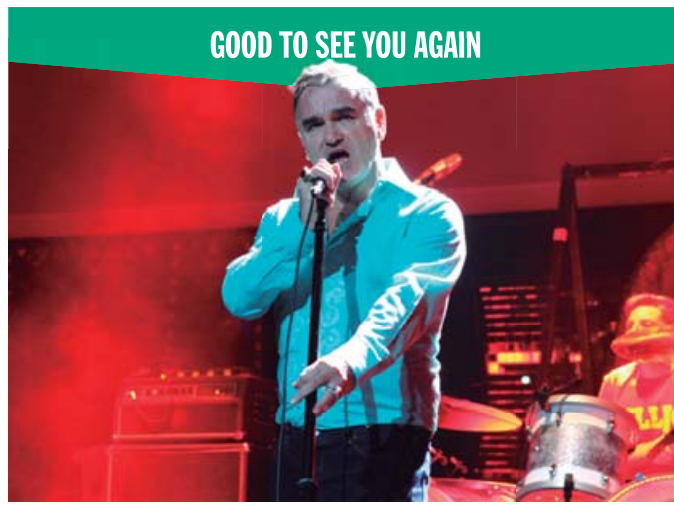
Male vocal trio Port-Bo sing Habaneras, the folk songs imported from Cuba that became popular up and down the Catalan coast. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. €12, €15.

Wednesday 8

Classical

▶ Bach in Barcelona

See Wed 1. *Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp* (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3).



Morrissey

The former frontman for The Smiths comes to Barcelona for the second time in seven months, promoting his latest album, *World Peace Is None of Your Business* (2014). This time around, he'll perform in more intimate surroundings. Razzmatazz. Wed 29, 8pm. €55

Flamenco

▶ Opera & Flamenco 'A Love Story'

See Fri 3. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).

▶ Palacio del Flamenco Show

See Wed 1. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC).

Thursday 9

Classical

Cor Madrigal, Spiritual minimalism

Anton Serra, flute, and Jaume Torrent on guitar perform works by Locatelli, Loeillet and Molino. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €15, €25.

Flamenco

▶ Palacio del Flamenco Show

See Wed 1. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC). Daily 6.40pm, 8.30pm & 9.40pm.

Jazz

▶ Live session at Jamboree

Noted Madrid-based jazz pianist Moisés P. Sanchez performs with his trio as part of the 1906 cycle. *Jamboree* (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €12 (on the door). €10 (web). www.masimas.com

Pop-rock

Glaucs 20th anniversary Fibromyalgia benefit concert

The Catalan rock group from Begur on the Costa Brava celebrate 20 years on the road, with a concert to raise funds for the fight against fibromyalgia. *Luz de Gas* (Muntaner, 246). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). 7pm. €28.

Friday 10

Classical

▶ Spanish Guitar Maestros

Performance from Barcelona Guitar Trio. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €30-€35.

Country

Born de Cançons 2015: Tomeu Penya. Take it from a cowboy

Veteran Mallorcan country artist Tomeu Penya has more than 25 albums to his credit. Catalan country from a Balearic cowboy. *Born Cultural Centre* (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I, Barceloneta (L4). 8pm. €10.

Blues

▶ Blues and more at the MEAM

Guitarist and singer Fede Aguado, with Osi Martínez on harmonica. *MEAM* (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). 6pm.

Catalan indie

The New Raemon

Concert to mark the official launch of *Oh Rompehielos*, the latest album from the Barcelona indie outfit. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €14.

Flamenco

▶ The most authentic contemporary flamenco at Tablao Cordobés

See Sun 5. (La Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes (L3) & Liceu (L3).

▶ Grand Flamenco Gala

See Mon 6. *Teatre Poliorama* (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Jazz

Jazz at Milano Cocktail Bar

Live blues, jazz, boogie-woogie and swing in a city-centre cocktail bar. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3).

Saturday 11

Classical

Immortals of Cinema

The Valles Symphony Orchestra under Rubén Gimeno play the

The Arts

great cinema soundtracks.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 7pm. €16-€48.

► Teatime classical music

17th and 18th century masterpieces for bass tones. Works by Vivaldi, J.S. Bach, Leclair, Lully and Lupo.
MEAM (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). 6pm.

Rumba flamenca

Los Chichos

Legendary purveyors of the stripped-down, streetwise flamenco style known as the rumba since 1973, Los Chichos present their greatest hits on double album *40+1 Aniversario. Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 7.30pm. €25 (on the door). €20 (in advance).*

Pop

Núria Graham

Catalan guitarist and singer-songwriter Núria Graham has earned comparisons to St. Vincent. Her first album *Bird Eyes* is due out this May. *L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries, Marina (L1) and Monumental (L2). 9pm. €15.*

Suite Festival: Antonio Orozco

One of the most prolific and successful singer-songwriters on the Spanish pop scene, Antonio Orozco performs 'Único', a show that looks back over his entire career.
Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €15-€65.

Kids

Peter and the Wolf

See Sat 4. *CaixaForum (Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).*

Sunday 12

Pop

Suite Festival: Antonio Orozco

See Sat 11. *Gran Teatre del Liceu*

(La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €15-€65.

Classical

Gustav Mahler Jugendorchester

The Youth Orchestra plays Mahler's Symphony no. 2 in C minor, 'Resurrection', with conductor Johann Nott, Chen soprano, Christa Meyer, mezzo-soprano, the Palau de la Música Chamber Choir and the choir of the Orfeó Català.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €20-€125.

Flamenco

► Opera & Flamenco 'A Love Story'

See Fri 3. *Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).*

Monday 13

Classical

► Bach in Barcelona

See Wed 1. *Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3).*

Hector París

Organist Hector París plays J.S. Bach's Prelude and Fugue in B minor and works by Vancos, Ginastera and Liszt.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €6.

Flamenco

► 45th Anniversary Tablao Cordobés

See Wed 1. *(Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes/Liceu (L3).*

Tuesday 14

Flamenco

► Grand Flamenco Gala

See Mon 6.
Teatre Poliorama (La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC).

Classical

Reial Academia classical music

Anton Serra (flute) and the Nova Orquestra de Cambra Germans Pla conducted by Josep Maria Sauret perform 'Bach's popular and brilliant *bandinerie* sets the stage for own composers.'
Reial Academia de Belles Arts de Sant Jordi (Pg Isabel II, 1-7, 4-6). M: Jaume I and Barceloneta (L4), Drassanes (L3). 8pm. €12 (with reservation). €15 (without reservation).

Kristian Bezuidenhout, Palau 100

South African fortepianist Kristian Bezuidenhout performs the third instalment of his long-term project to interpret all of Mozart's sonatas for fortepiano.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €15.

Folk-Country-Rock

The Jayhawks

The 1997 line-up of Minneapolis alt-country rockers The Jayhawks on tour to mark the re-release of their classic albums *Sound of Lies* (1997), *Smile* (2000) and *Rainy Day Music* (2003).
Barts (Av. Paral·lel, 6). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. €22-€25.

Wednesday 15

Singer-songwriter

Banc Sabadell 16th Festival Mii-Ienni: Scott Matthew

Australian crooner Scott Matthew brings his 'quivering, otherworldly' singing style to his own melancholic songwriting on new album *This Here Defeat*, released last month.
L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries, Marina (L1) and Monumental (L2). 9pm. €20-€28.

Classical

► Bach in Barcelona

See Wed 1.

Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3).

Kristian Bezuidenhout

See Tue 14. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).*

► Spanish Guitar Maestros

Performance by Xavier Coll.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €30-€35.

Thursday 16

Classical

Elisabeth Leonskaja, Palau 100

The grande dame of the piano, Elisabeth Leonskaja, celebrates her 70th birthday with a performance of works by Schubert: his sonatas 4 and 21, and the *Wanderer Fantasy*.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 8.30pm. €30-€35.

Flamenco

► 45th Anniversary Tablao Cordobés

See Wed 1. *(Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes/Liceu (L3).*

Singer-songwriter

Ferran Palau

Palau at the Palau: Ferran Palau presents the official launch of second solo album *Santa Ferida*.
Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €10.

Pop

Christina Rosenvinge

Spanish singer-songwriter Rosenvinge plays with her band as part of the Guitarr BCN festival.
L'Auditori (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries, Marina (L1) and Monumental (L2). 9pm. €25.

The Arts

Jazz

► Jazz concerts at Jamboree

One of Spain's best-known jazz groups, led by Ignasi Terraza on piano, play a special collaboration with French saxophonist Pietro Pedron. *Jamboree* (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €12 (on the door). €10 (web). www.masimas.com

Friday 17

Opera

Carmen

The heroine of Prosper Mérimée's 1845 novel *Carmen* became the archetypal 'femme fatale': a woman who lives and loves as she wishes – but whose need for freedom dooms herself and those around her. Calixto Bieito's production, set in a car cemetery in an undefined South, strips Bizet's opera-comique of its folkloric baggage, emphasising the call for women's freedom in a male-dominated world. *Gran Teatre del Liceu* (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). Apr 17, 20, 23, 26, 29 8pm; Sun 5pm. €9-€176.

Classical

► Spanish Guitar Maestros

Performance by Manuel González. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €30-€35.

Flamenco

► Flamenco at Palau Dalmases

Live flamenco in the evocative surroundings of the courtyard of a stately 17th-century palace. (Montcada, 20). M: Jaume I (L4). Mon-Thur 7.30pm. Fri-Sun 7.30pm and 9.30pm. €20.

Swing and groove

► Blues and more at the MEAM

Vocalist Augí Burr, with Big Dani Pérez on saxophone and Marc

Ferron on piano. MEAM (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). 6pm.

Pop

Born de Cançons 2015: Sanjosez. Alegria

Carlos Sanjosé, the Catalan musician from La Bisbal better known by his stage name Sanjosex, performs songs from his upbeat new album *Festival*. *Born Cultural Centre* (Pl. Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I, Barceloneta (L4). 8pm. €10.

Singer-songwriter

Gemma Humet

Humet, one of the newest and most refreshing voices on the Catalan scene presents new album *Si Canto Enrere*. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9pm. €12.

Saturday 18

Flamenco

► Rafael Amargo and friends

Spanish choreographer, dancer and, since 2011, director of the Compañía Flamenca de Catalunya performs in luxurious surrounds. *Palau de la Música Catalana* (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 9.30pm. €20-€49.

Classical

► Teatime classical music

Music by Tosti, Cardillo, Di Capua, Puccini, Mascagni and Verdi. MEAM (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). 6pm.

Cantatas for the Ascension

J.S.Bach's cantatas BWV 43, 37 and 11, with the Palau de la Música Chamber Choir under Josep Vila i Casañas. *Església de Santa Maria del Pi* (Pl. del Pi, 7). 7.30pm. €20.



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The Arts

Jazz

VII Festival Jazz & Blues at Milano Cocktail Bar

Big Dani Pérez's Organic Trio featuring Santos Puertas. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 8.30pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Sunday 19

Classical

Percussion instruments large and small: keyboards and castanets

Using instruments from the museum's collection, Belén Cabanes and Marina Rodríguez investigate the unique sound of the castanets and its role in music and dance.

Museu de la Música (Lepant, 150). M: Glòries, Marina (L1), Monumental (L2). Noon. €7.

Musical Residencies 2014-2015: Oscar Alabau, cellist

One of Catalonia's most talented young cellists performs a solo recital, including a new piece for solo cello by Jean-Sélim Abdelmoula.

La Pedrera (Provença, 261). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). 6pm. €12.

Marcos Padmore-Paul Lewis, Palau 100

Tenor Mark Padmore performs Schubert's Die Schöne Müllerin, accompanied by pianist Paul Lewis. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). 6pm. €30, €40.*

Musical

RuPaul's Drag Race: Battle of Seasons

Drag diva RuPaul's search for the queen of the queens hits Barcelona. Be prepared for spectacular musical numbers, parodies, lip-syncing, comedy, outrageous circus tricks and more.

Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla,

113). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. €39 (on the door). €29 (in advance).

Monday 20

Opera

Carmen

See Fri 17. *Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).*

Classical

► Bach in Barcelona

See Wed 1. *Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3).*

Electronic

Matthew Herbert

Starting out as an electronic musician, Matthew Herbert's subsequent career defies classification. This tour marks the release of new album *Shake* and the 20th anniversary of his debut *Letsallmakemistakes*. *Barts (Av. Paral·lel, 6). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. €25-€35.*

Tuesday 21

Classical

Stroll through the world of the trio

Selection of works written for trios with piano. *Reial Acadèmia de Belles Arts de Sant Jordi (Pg Isabel II, 1-7, 4-6). M: Jaume I and Barceloneta (L4), Drassanes (L3). 8pm. €12 (with reservation). €15 (without reservation).*

► Spanish Guitar Maestros

See Thu 2. *Palau de la Música Catalana (Palau de la Música, 4-6). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4).*

Wednesday 22

Singer-songwriter

Joaquín Sabina

Poet and singer-songwriter Sabina is a living legend, Spain's answer to Bob Dylan, Tom Waits and Leonard

Cohen all rolled into one. The closing concert of his tour of the Latin world is guaranteed a rapturous, sell-out audience. *Palau Sant Jordi (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 9.30pm. €30-€185.*

Electronic

Suite Festival: Kraftwerk

Legendary electronic pioneers Kraftwerk, whose career has fused the pop melodies of the Beach Boys with the avant-garde electronic experiments of Karlheinz Stockhausen. *Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 9pm. €15-€135.*

Thursday 23

Opera

Carmen

See Fri 17. *Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).*

Pop-folk

Els Catarres

Catalan pop-folk group Els Catarres soared to fame in 2011 with their YouTube hit 'Jenifer' about the love of a proud Catalan for a girl from Castelldefels. *Sant Jordi Club (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. €14.*

Flamenco

► 45th Anniversary Tablao Cordobés

See Wed 1. (Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes/Liceu (L3).

Friday 24

Jazz

Jazz Moustache

Bernat Guarné on the clarinet, Jacob Marcé and Diego Mena, manouche guitar and Brady Lynch, double bass. *MEAM (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). 6pm.*

VII Festival Jazz & Blues at Milano Cocktail Bar

Johanna Jari Quartet. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 8.30pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Flamenco

► Palacio del Flamenco Show

See Sun 1. (Balmes, 139). M: Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC). Daily 6.25pm, 8.15pm & 10.30pm.

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Pop-Rock

La Unión

Few Spanish groups have survived the vagaries of fashion as well as La Unión, the Spanish new wave three-piece whose recent album *Hip.Gnosis Vol.2* reworks '80s hits such as 'Lobo Hombre en París,' and 'Sildavia'. *Barts (Av. Paral·lel, 6). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 9pm. €18, €25.*

Alternative rock

Banc Sabadell 16th Millennium Festival: Vetusta Morla

The alternative rockers from Madrid have added this second date to the Barcelona leg of their tour, having sold out Saturday's concert months in advance. Presenting recent album *A la deriva*, they're a band at the height of their powers, exploring the possibilities of their unique, emotionally charged style. *Sant Jordi Club (Pg. Olímpic, 5-7). M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC). 9pm. €28*

Saturday 25

Classical

► Teatime classical music

Excerpts from the zarzuelas of Sorozábal, Barbieri and Millán in memory of Marcos Redondo. *MEAM (Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). 6pm.*

The Arts

Jazz

VII Festival Jazz & Blues at Milano Cocktail Bar

A Contrablues.
(Ronda Universitat, 35). M:
Catalunya (L1, L3). 8.30pm
(double session). Cover charge €8.

Sunday 26

Flamenco

► Palacio del Flamenco Show

See Wed 1. (Balmes, 139). M:
Diagonal (L3, L5, FGC).

Jazz-Swing

Jazz and swing with the Barcelona Jazz Orchestra

One Sunday per month, Apolo puts on its Sunday best for the popular and lively Jazz & Swing soirées with the Orquestra. Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). 7.30pm. €18 (on the door).

Monday 27

Classical

► Bach in Barcelona

See Wed 1. Monestir de Sant Pau del Camp (Sant Pau, 101). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3).

Tuesday 28

Classical

Reial Academia classical music

Two high-voltage quartets. Reial Academia de Belles Arts de Sant Jordi (Pg Isabel II, 1-7, 4-6). M: Jaume I and Barceloneta (L4), Drassanes (L3). 8pm. €12 (with reservation). €15 (without reservation).

Flamenco

► 45th Anniversary Tablao Cordobés

See Wed 1. (Rambla, 35). M: Drassanes/Liceu (L3).

Wednesday 29

Opera

Carmen

See Fri 17. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Jazz

► Jazz concerts at Jamboree

Considered a true enfant terrible of his generation, saxophonist James Carter has daring, boldness and intensity to match the jazz greats he reveres. His trio, with Hammond organ and drums, has lit up stages all over the world. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €35 (on the door). €30 (web). www.masimas.com

Thursday 30

Opera

I Due Foscari

Concert version of Verdi's sixth opera I due Foscari, based on Byron's play about a dying Doge of Venice. With the Symphony of the Gran Teatre del Liceu under Massimo Zanetti and Plácido Domingo as Francesco. Gran Teatre del Liceu (La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm. €9-€199.

Jazz

VII Festival Jazz & Blues at Milano Cocktail Bar

Chino and the Big Bet. (Ronda Universitat, 35). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). 8.30pm (double session). Cover charge €8.

Jazz concerts at Jamboree

A hugely influential figure in psychedelic rock and folk since the late seventies, Robyn Hitchcock combines melodic mastery with lyrical eccentricity in his most recent solo album The Man Upstairs. Jamboree (Pl. Reial, 17). M: Liceu (L3). 8pm, 10pm. €18 (on the door). €15 (web). www.masimas.com



• Tuesday to Saturday: 10am-6pm
• Sunday: 10am-8pm • Monday closed

→ Five minutes away from the Encants Market and the Agbar Tower, by J. Nouvel



VISITORS' COMMENTS:
"One of Barcelona's hidden treasures"
"Beautiful museum, beautiful collection"
"The guitar collection is superb"

Photo → © Rafael Vargas

www.museumusica.bcn.cat

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Consorci de Catalunya
Departament de Cultura

Exhibitions

Arxiu fotogràfic de Barcelona

(Pl. Pons & Clerch, 2). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 34 20. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm. Closed Sun and public holidays.

Antoni Capella, society

photographer Until Oct 3. Catalan snapper whose subjects included the Liceu and Ràdio Barcelona.

Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona

(Santa Llúcia, 1). M: Jaume I (L4) & Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 256 22 55. Mon-Fri 9am-8.45pm; Sat 9am-1pm. Closed Sun & public holidays.

FREE Eating in Barcelona. A century of menus from the Archive (1880-1980) Until Apr 30. The socialisation of eating out in the city.

Blue Project Foundation

(Princesa, 57). M: Arc de Triomf (L1) & Jaume I (L4). T. 93 182 43 71. Tue-Sun, 10am-8pm. Mon, closed. €3.

Un nuage sur mes épaules Until Jun 7. First solo exhibition in Barcelona for French artist Lionel Esteve.

Luz Broto Apr 15-May 24.

CaixaForum

(Av. Francesc Ferrer & Guàrdia, 6-8). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 476 86 00. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm. Adults €4. Under 16s free.

► **Pixar: 25 years of animation** Until May 3. A behind-the-computer look at the mega-successful animation company.

► **Moche culture from ancient Peru. Gold, myths and rituals** Until Jun 7. Artworks created almost 2,000 years ago by the Moche people from northern Peru, revealing how they saw the world.

► **Three narratives. Memory** Until Jun 21. Works from the "la Caixa" contemporary art collection.

FREE I see what you can't Until May 24. The creative world of people diagnosed with autism.

FREE Windows of the world Until Aug 31. Short films portraying life in Africa, Asia and South America.

Can Framis. Fundació Vila Casas

(Roc Boronat, 116-126). M: Glòries (L1), Poblenou (L4) & Llacuna (L4). T. 93 320 87 36. Tue-Sat 11am-6pm; Sun 11am-2pm. Closed Mon, public holidays and Easter weekend. €5. Reduced: €2.

The Art of Collecting

Until Jul 19. Paintings, photos and sculpture from collection of Ventura Garcés.

Painted in 2014 Until Jul 19. Works by Manolo Ballesteros.

Castell de Montjuïc

(Ctra. de Montjuïc, 66). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 256 44 45. Oct-Mar: Mon-Sun and public holidays 10am-6pm. €5. Reduced: €3.

Montjuïc, the construction of a castle

Permanent exhibition.

Doble Creu Sculpture by Carles Berga. Permanent exhibition.

Montjuïc Stone Barcelona Until Jun 15. Exploration of how the city was built using this local material.

CCCB

(Montalegre, 5). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 306 41 00. Tue-Sun & public holidays 11am-8pm. 5-6 Jan 11am-3pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €6. Reduced entry for pensioners and students on Wed (except public holidays): €4. Under-16s & unemployed: free.

Arissa. The shadow and the photographer, 1922-1936 Until Apr 12. See page 53.

Shadowland by Kazuhiro Goshima Until Apr 12. Film installation projected in 3-D.

Sebald Variations Until Jul 26. Author W.G. Sebald is acclaimed for his turn-of-millennium works.

CosmoCaixa

(Isaac Newton, 26). M: Av. Tibidabo (FGC). T. 93 212 60 50. Tue-Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €4 (permanent and temporary exhibitions). Under 16s free. First Sun of month free.

► Permanent exhibition

Barcelona's science museum that covers more than 50,000m².

► **Sputnik. The Soyuz 2 Odyssey** Until May 31. Delving into the mystery of what happened to cosmonaut Colonel Ivan

Istotnikov, who disappeared from his spacecraft in October 1968.

► **Year 2100 experiment** No end date. What might life be like in the year 2100 and the 22nd century?

Centre Comercial Las Arenas

(Cúpula del Centre Comercial Las Arenas. Plaça d'Espanya, s/n). M: Espanya (L2-L3-FGC). Mon-Sun and public holidays, 10am-9pm. (Last admission 8pm). €12. Reduced: €7. Under 7s free. www.humanbodies.eu

Human Bodies

Until April. An exhilarating journey inside the human body.

El Born Centre Cultural

(Plaça Comercial, 12). M: Jaume I (L4) & Barceloneta (L4). T. 93 256 68 51. Tue-Sun and public holidays, 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €6. Reduced: €4. Under-16s free. Sun 3pm-8pm free. First Sun every month free, 10am-8pm.

El Born Centre Cultural Under the cast-iron structure of one of the city's 19th-century markets lie extensive remains from the 1700s.

Barcelona 1700. From stones to people. Permanent exhibition

18th-century Barcelona was dynamic and forward-looking, but marked by the wars that affected the city from 1691 to 1714.

Until it is done! The siege of 1714 No end date. Examining the 14-month siege of Barcelona that ended with capitulation to Bourbon troops on September 11, 1714.

Futbolnet. Values through football Until Apr 12. FC Barcelona initiative to encourage debate and understanding amongst teens.

The Reaper's Revolt Apr 14-Mar 31, 2016.

Espai VolART-Fundació Vila Casas

(Ausiàs March, 22). M: Urquinaona (L1, L4). T. 93 481 79 85. Tue-Fri 5pm-8.30pm; Sat 11am-2pm, 5pm-8.30pm; Sun 11am-2pm. Closed Mon and public holidays. €1. Reduced: 50¢.

Jordi Fornàs / Joan Pedragosa

Until Apr 26

Subirà-Puig, son of the trees Until Apr 26

Fundació Antoni Tàpies

(Aragò, 255). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 487 03 15. Tue-Sun 10am-7pm. Closed Mon. €7. Students and pensioners, €5.60.

Maria Lassnig Until May 31. Work by the Austrian artist, who passed away last year.

Antoni Tàpies. Collection # 10 Until May 31. Another range of works by the late Catalan artist.

Fundació Francisco Godia

(Diputació, 250). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4) & Provença (FGC). T. 93 272 31 80. Mon-Sat 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-3pm. Closed Tue. €7. Reduced: €4.

Permanent exhibition Works by Ramon Casas, Santiago Rusiñol, Joan Miró and Miquel Barceló.

Fundació Joan Miró

(Parc de Montjuïc, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 443 94 70. Oct-Jun: Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Thu 10am-9.30pm; Sun & public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €11. Temporary exhibition: €7. Espai 13: €2.50.

Prophetia Until May 4. Various artists look at the development of the European project.

In Cycling: The Wilson Exercises Until Jun 21. Collaborative project between US artist Anna Craycroft and Spaniard Marc Vives.

La notte, 1961 Until May 24. Photos by art critic and curator Frederic Montornès with the night as a recurring theme.

Fundació Suñol

(Passeig de Gràcia, 98). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 93 496 10 32. Mon-Fri 11am-2pm & 4-8pm; Sat 4-8pm. Closed Sun and public holidays. €4. Reduced: €2.

► **Italia. I Sei Sensi** Until Jan 9, 2016. Re-examination of late 20th-century Italian works held in the collection of the Suñol Foundation.

► **Miquel Mont. Never is enough** Until Apr 25. Barcelona-born artist now based in Paris exhibits his simple, striking paintings.

► **Acte 31: Thibault Brunet. From 0 to 1. From 1 to 0** Until Apr 25. Show from French photographer.

The Arts

Hash Marihuana & Hemp Museum

(Ample, 35). M: Drassanes (L3). T. 93 319 75 39. Every day 10am-10pm. €7.50. Under-13s free.

Permanent exhibition The past, present and future of the cannabis plant and its various uses.

Jardí Botànic

(Doctor Font i Quer, s/n). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 256 41 60. Apr-Sep: daily, 10am-7pm. €3.50. Reduced: €1.70.

Jardí Botànic (MCNB) Plants from Mediterranean climate zones all over the world.

Salvadoriana. Barcelona's cabinet of curiosities Until Feb 2016.

Reconstruction of one of BCN's earliest natural history collections. **Bonsai** Until Jun Mini tree display.

La Pedrera – Fundació Catalunya

(Provença, 261-265). M: Diagonal (L3, L4; FGC). T. 902 202 138. 9am-8.30pm. €3.50. Reduced: €1.70.

► **Leopold Pomés. Flashback** Until Jul 12. See page 53.

La Virreina Centre de la Imatge

(La Rambla, 99). M: Liceu (L3). T. 93 316 10 00. Tue-Sun and public holidays, 12pm-8pm.

FREE **Jordi Socías. Found photographs** Until Apr 26. See page 53.

FREE **Sophie Calle. Modus Vivendi** Until Jun 7. French photographer known for her insight into concepts of privacy and human vulnerability. See page 42.

MACBA. Museu d'Art Contemporani

(Plaça dels Àngels, 1). M: Universitat (L1, L2) & Sant Antoni (L2). T. 93 412 08 10. Mon-Fri 11am-7.30pm; Sat 10am-9pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-3pm. Closed Tues (except public holidays). Whole museum ticket: €10. Reduced: €8.

► **Art & Language: Uncompleted. The Philippe Meaille collection** Until Apr 12. Conceptual works from the Art & Language movement.

► **Collection 2014: The Immaterial Legacy** Until Jun.

Changes in art and society between the late '70s and early '80s.

► **Car je est un autre. Pep Dardanyà** Until May 24.

Questioning the touching-up of photos, used so often in advertising.

► **Osvaldo Lamborghini** Until Sept 6. Looking back on the life and work of this Argentinian writer.

► **Past inquiet** Until May 18. Re-examination of the international art show held in 1978 in support of Palestine.

MEAM: Museu Europeu d'Art Modern

(Barra de Ferro, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 319 56 93. Tue-Sun, 10am-8pm. €7. Reduced: €5.

► **21st-century art.** Permanent exhibition from the museum's collection with almost 300 paintings and 80 sculptures.

► **Golucho. An anthropological exhibition.** Until Apr 12. Madrid artist Miquel Àngel Mayo, 'Goluchó', is a self-taught painter who learnt his trade studying works at the Prado and Retiro.

MIBA. Museu d'Idees i Invents de Barcelona

(Ciutat, 7). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 332 79 30. Tue-Fri 10am-2pm, 4pm-7pm; Sat 11am-8pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €8. Reduced: €6.

► **Permanent exhibition** The fascinating world of creativity and inventing.

MUHBA Park Güell

(Olot, s/n. Casa de la Guarda). T. 93 256 21 22. Oct 27-Mar 28: daily, 8.30am-6.15pm. Mar 29-May 3: daily, 8am-8pm. The Casa de la Guarda museum in Park Güell is part of the 'monumental area' of the park, and visits are covered by general conditions for admission. Access with ticket only. More information: www.parkguell.cat.

Permanent exhibition The Casa de la Guarda, Park Güell and modernista Barcelona.

MUHBA Plaça del Rei

(Pl. del Rei). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 21 22. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm;

Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon. €7. Reduced: €5. Under-16s free. Free admission Sun from 3pm.

Permanent exhibition An archaeological tour of the Roman colony of Barcino, the origins of the city we know today. **Haggadot** Until Jul 5. 15th-century Barcelona and Catalan haggadots (illustrated Jewish Easter texts), considered the finest in the world.

Barcelona in late antiquity times Until Jul 14. Exhibition of archaeology.

MUHBA Refugi 307

(Nou de la Rambla, 169). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 256 21 22. Sun: guided visits by appointment only. 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm. Closed public holidays. €3.40.

MUHBA Refugi 307 400 metres of underground passageways bear witness to the city's suffering during the Civil War.

Barcelona during the Civil War. Revolution and bombing Until May 9.

MUHBA Santa Caterina

(Pl. de Joan Capri). T. 93 256 21 22. Mon-Sat 10am-2pm. Closed Sun and public holidays.

FREE **Permanent exhibition.**

Archaeological display among the foundations of the Santa Caterina market.

MUHBA Turó de la Rovira

(Marià Labèrnia s/n). T. 93 256 21 22. Mon-Fri 5pm-8pm; Sat, Sun 11am-8pm.

City viewpoint Revel in the bird's-eye views from this perch on top of the hill overlooking the city.

Permanent exhibition Barcelona to the limit.

Museu Blau

(Pl. de Leonardo da Vinci, 4-5, Parc del Fòrum). M: El Maresme/Fòrum (L4). T. 93 256 60 02. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm. Sun & public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €6. Reduced: €2.70. Museum & Botanical Gardens €7. Reduced €5.

Poisoned. The most venomous animals in nature

Until Dec Discover how natural poisons can both kill and save.

Museu de Badalona

(Pl. Assemblea de Catalunya, 1). Badalona. M: Pep Ventura (L2). T. 93 384 17 50. Tue-Sat 10am-2pm, 5pm-8pm; Sun & public holidays 10am-2pm. €6.48. Reduced: €2.16.

Permanent exhibition Visit the underground remains of Baetulo, a Roman City. **Intimates. History of underwear, 19th-21st century** Until Jun 14 Checking out what we've been wearing under our clothes for the past few hundred years.

Museu de Montserrat

(Abadia de Montserrat. 08199 Montserrat). Monistrol de Montserrat. T. 93 877 77 45. Mon-Sun 10am-5.30pm. €7. Reduced: €4.

Permanent Exhibition Paintings by El Greco, Caravaggio, Monet, Degas, Pissarro, Dalí and Picasso. **Something sacred from Jiménez-Balaguer** Until Jul 5.

MEB: Museu de l'Eròtica

(La Rambla, 96). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 318 98 65. Mon-Sun 10 am-12pm. Adults €9. Reduced: €8

► **Permanent exhibition** The history of eroticism.

Museu de la Moto de Barcelona

(C/ de la Palla, 10). T. 933 186 584. Until Jun 14: Tue-Sat 10.30am-2.30pm, 3.30pm-7.30pm; Sun 10.30am-2.30pm. Closed Mon.

► **The history of the motorbike in Catalonia** 36 of the most representative models.

► **Bultaco, a legendary motorbike** Until Nov. The museum pays homage to one of the greatest Spanish motorbike manufacturers.

Museu de la Música

(L'Auditori. Lepant, 150). M: Glòries (L1) & Marina (L1). T. 93 256 36 50. Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon. €5. Reduced: €3.50. Free admission Sun from 3pm.

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The Arts

▶ Phonos, 40 years of electronic music in Barceona.

Until Sep 27. The Phonos laboratory was created in 1974 and became a Spanish pioneer in electro music, through experimentation and composition.

▶ **Voices of the Mediterranean.** *Until Jul 26.* Bringing together examples of voices from countries around the Med, including Italy, Croatia, Greece, Egypt and Algeria.

Museu de la Xocolata

(Comerç, 36 - Antic Convent de Sant Agustí). M: Arc de Triomf (L1). T.93 268 78 78. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-3pm. €5. Groups: €4.

▶ Permanent exhibition

The story of chocolate, from its origins to its arrival in Europe.

Museu de les Cultures del Món

(Montcada, 12-14). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 23 00. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun and public holidays 10am-8pm. Closed Mondays (except public holidays). €5. Reduced: €3.50.

▶ **Permanent exhibition** Art, books, and other objects gathered on expeditions to Asia, Africa, Oceania and the Americas.

Museu del Disseny de Barcelona

(Edifici Disseny Hub Barcelona. Pl. de les Glòries Catalanes, 37-38). M: Glòries (L1). T. 93 256 68 00. Tue-Sun 10am-8pm. Closed Mon. More information: museuldisseny.cat

From the world to the museum. Product design, cultural heritage Permanent exhibition. Daily objects considered from a museum perspective.

Dressing the body. Silhouettes and fashion (1550-2014) Permanent exhibition. How women change their shape with clothes.

Extraordinary! Decorative and applied arts collections (3rd-20th century) Permanent exhibition. Pieces of art from across the centuries including ceramics, textiles, furniture and clocks.

Graphic design: from trade to profession Permanent exhibition. Tracing the professionalisation of graphic design.

Design for life *Until May 17.*

Looking at how design can provide the answer to everyday problems.

Museu del Futbol Club Barcelona

(Aristides Maillol, s/n. Gates 7 or 9). M: Les Corts (L3). T. 902 18 99 00. Apr-Oct: Daily 9.30am-7.30pm (some parts of tour are closed on match day). €23. Children: €17. Under 6s & FCB members, free.

▶ **Camp Nou Experience** Discover 100 years of the club's history and visit the stadium. See page 34.

Museu del Mamut

(Montcada, 1). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 268 85 20. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm. €7.50. Reduced: €5. Children (6-15): €3.50

▶ Permanent exhibition

See remains of woolly mamoths and other Ice Age animals.

Museu del Modernisme Català

(Balmes, 48). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 272 28 96. Mon-Sat 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. €10. Reduced: €7.

▶ Permanent exhibition

350 works by 42 of the most important artists of the Catalan modernisme movement.

Museu Egipci de Barcelona

(València, 284). M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 93 488 01 88. Mon-Sun 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-2pm. €11. Reduced: €8.

▶ **Permanent exhibition** Almost a thousand exhibits provide a glimpse into life in Ancient Egypt.

▶ **Tutankhamun. Story of a discovery** *No end date.* Remembering the archeological expedition of 1922 that uncovered the pharaoh's tomb.

Museu Frederic Mares

(Pl. de Sant Iu, 5). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 35 00. Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun, public holidays 11am-8pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €4.20. Reduced: €2.40.

Permanent exhibition Located in space that once housed part of the Palau Reial Major, its collection includes a range of valuable

artworks and objects.

Maillol and Greece Apr 27-Nov 22. Sculptor Aristides Maillol took a trip to Greece in 1908, a voyage that saw him inspired to develop his own artistic style.

Museu Marítim de Barcelona

(Av. de les Drassanes, s/n). M: Drassanes (L3). T. 93 342 99 20. Daily 10am-8pm. €5. Reduced: €4.

Underwater cameras. The challenges of submarine photography (Naus de les Drassanes) *Until Apr 12.* The evolution of underwater images.

Catalonia Cities *Until Apr 26.* Show inspired by the 100th anniversary in 2014 of the Catalan

Mancomunitat, which started investigating the local territory. **Barcelona World Race** *Until Apr 6.* Exhibition focused on the biennial sailing regatta that sees teams compete to be the first to return to the starting port of Barcelona.

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

(Parc de Montjuïc). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 622 03 60. Oct-Apr: Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-3pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €12. Free entry Sat afternoon, from 3pm. Temporary shows: ask at museum. Admission includes admission to the museum's roof terraces.

▶ **Permanent exhibition** World's most important collection of Romanesque art and Catalan modernisme.

▶ **Gabriel Casas** Apr 22-Aug 30. See opposite page.

▶ **Metal stories. Art and power in European medals** *Until Oct 18.* Medal-making across the continent between the 1600s and 1800s.

Museu Olímpic i de l'Esport Joan Antoni Samaranch

(Av. de l'Estadi Olímpic, 60). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC). T. 93 292 53 79. Oct-Mar: Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €5.10. Students: €3.20. Under-7s and over-65s: free.

▶ **Calcio Storico. When honour is as stake** *Until Apr 26.* Similar to football, Calcio was an Italian sport

played by the aristocracy, wealthy and even some popes.

Museu Picasso

(Montcada, 15-23). M: Jaume I (L4). T. 93 256 30 00. Tue-Sun 9am-7pm; Thu 9am-9.30pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €14 (combined ticket for museum + temporary exhibition). Collection only: €11. Temporary exhibition only: €6.50.

Permanent exhibition More than 3,800 works from different periods in Picasso's life.

Picasso/Dalí, Dalí/Picasso View works by the two great 20th-century artists in parallel.

Palau Robert

(Pg. de Gràcia, 107). M: Diagonal (L3, L5). T. 93 238 80 91. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun, public holidays 10am-2.30pm.

FREE 100 years of the professional librarian *Until May 10.* Study of the work of these indispensable bibliophiles.

FREE Catalunya Moto *Until Oct 25.* Show that looks at the history of motorcycles in Catalonia, covering themes of industry, society, competition and technology.

FREE RCR Architects. Shared creativity *Until Sep 13.*

FREE Treasures *Until Apr 26.*

Pis-museu Casa Bloc

(C. d'Almirall Pròixida, 1-3-5). M: Torras i Bages (L1). Guided visit by appt. in Catalan, Spanish and English: reservations must be made before Thu. Guided tours: Sat 11am & 12.30pm. 93 256 68 01. Information line: Tue-Fri 10am-1pm; Sat, Sun 3-5.30pm. More info: www.museuldisseny.cat.

Casa Bloc A symbol of rational social housing in Barcelona.

Reial Monestir de Santa Maria de Pedralbes

(Baixada del Monestir, 9). M: Reina Elisenda (FGC). T. 93 256 34 34. Oct-Mar: Tues-Fri, 10am-2pm; Sat & Sun, 10am-5pm. Public holidays, 10am-2pm. Closed Mon (except public holidays). €4.40. Reduced: €3.10.

Permanent exhibition Murals under

The Arts

the magnifying glass – paintings from the Sant Miquel Chapel.

Theatre

El Molino

(Vil·là i Vil·là, 99). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Tel. 93 396 71 91. www.elmolinoibcn.com. Ticket offices: Thur-Sat, 5-9pm. Tickets available via Ticketea, Atrapalo, Telentrada, Entradas.com and ticket offices.

El Molino Show-Time Wed 6.30pm. Thu 9.30pm. Fri 6.30pm. Sat 8pm. €33.

Rumba Experience Tue-Thu 6.30pm. €22.50. Rumba as you've never seen it before, where audience participation is required.

Teatre Gaudí Barcelona

(Sant Antoni Maria Claret, 120). M: Sagrada Família (L2, L5) & Sant Pau/Dos de Maig (L5). T. 93 603 51 52. www.teatregaudiibarcelona.com. Ticket offices open one hour before performances start.

Mares i Filles Apr 9-Jun 14. Wed-Sat 10pm. Sun 8pm. €20. Catalan musical.

El Viatge d'Orfeu Wed-Sat 8pm. Sun 6pm. In Catalan.

Teatre Lliure: Gràcia

(Montseny, 47). M: Fontana (L3) & Joanic (L4). T. 93 238 76 25. www.teatrelivre.com. Ticket offices open Mon-Fri 5-8pm. Weekends and

public holidays from 5pm
El curios incident del gos a mitjanit Apr 9-May 10. Wed-Sun 8.30pm; Sun 6pm. €23.20-€26. Stage play based on Mark Haddon's bestseller *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. In Catalan.

Frank V (Operata d'una banca privada) Apr 16-May 17. Wed-Fri 8.30pm; Sat 9pm; Sun 6pm. €15-€29. Catalan-language musical.

Teatre Lliure: Montjuïc

(Pg. Santa Madrona, 40-46). M: Espanya (L1, L3, FGC) & Poble Sec (L3). T. 93 289 27 70. www.teatrelivre.cat. Ticket offices open: Weekdays 9am-8pm (Plaça Margarida Xurgú) and 3 hours before shows start (Sala Fabià Puigserver).

Mammón Apr 10-26. Wed-Fri 9pm; Sat 6pm and 9.30pm; Sun 6.30pm. €15-€29. In Catalan.

Teatre Nacional de Catalunya

(Pl. de les Arts, 1). M: Glòries (L1). T. 93 306 57 00. www.tnc.cat. Ticket offices open Wed-Fri 3-7pm; Sat 3-8.30pm; Sun 3-5pm.

Ganes d'Udolar Apr 9-12. Thu-Sat 8pm; Sun 6pm. €12. Reduced €6. In Catalan.

Purga Apr 10-16, Thu-Sat 8pm; Sun 6pm. €23. Reduced €11.50. In Catalan.

Teatre Poliorama

(La Rambla, 115). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). T. 93 317 75 99. www.teatrepoliorama.com. Ticket offices Tue-

Fri from 5pm. Sat & Sun from 4pm.
Polònia, the musical Until Apr 30. Wed & Thu, 8.30pm; Fri, 9.30pm; Sat, 6pm & 9pm. Sun, 6pm. €15-€39. Musical version of satirical Catalan TV show, poking fun at Spanish and Catalan politicians and public figures.

Teatre Tivoli

(Casp, 8). M: Catalunya (L1, L3). Pg. de Gràcia (L2, L3, L4). T. 902 888 788. www.sisteractelmusical.com. Ticketmaster, Atrapalo, Grup Balanya and Teatre Tivoli's own ticket offices (on days with a programmed performance, from 5pm).

► **Sister Act, the Divine musical** Wed, Thu 8pm; Fri, Sat 5.30pm & 9.30pm; Sun 6pm. Until May. €25-€65. Comedy musical. In Spanish.

Teatre Victòria

(Av. Paral·lel, 65-67). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 329 91 89. www.teatrevictoria.com. Book office: Wed-Fri, from 5pm. Sat, Sun, from 4pm until performance starts.

Mar i Cel Thu 8.30pm; Fri 9.30pm; Sat 5.30pm & 9.30pm; Sun 6pm. Until Apr 30. €29-€46. Dagoll Dagomm's popular musical, a story of corsairs and captives. In Catalan.

Dance

Gran Teatre del Liceu

(La Rambla, 51-59). M: Liceu (L3).

Tel. 93 485 99 00. www.liceubarcelona.cat. Ticket offices: Mon-Fri, 9.30am-8pm. Sat, Sun 9.30am-6pm.

Shen Yun Apr 24 8.30pm. Apr 25 4.30pm. €40-€120. Dance company gives a performance covering 5,000 years of Chinese history.

Mercat de les Flors

(Lleida, 59). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). T. 93 329 91 89. www.mercatflors.cat. Ticket offices open one hour before performances start.

Mryiam van Imschoot/Idola Zabaleta/Itziar Okariz Apr 8-9. 8.30pm. €12. Three-part performance where different sounds play an intricate part.

Pere Faura: Sin Baile No Hay Paraíso. My Own Dance History Apr 10-12, 8.30pm; Sun 6pm. €20. Humorous take on choreography where Faura gives his own take on four emblematic dances, including 'The Dying Swan' and Travolta's moves in *Saturday Night Fever*.

Aerowaves: Spring forward Apr 17-19, 8pm; Sun 7pm. Aerowaves gives young European dance talent the chance to perform in other countries – Spring forward is its annual get-together taking place each time in a different city.

Evolucions/Dansa urbana. Catalan and international hip hop Apr 23-May 3. Celebration of different urban dance acts.

TIME FOR A CLOSE-UP Barcelona photographers in black and white



COLECCION TELEFONICA / HEREDEROS ARISSA 2014

THE SHADOW & THE PHOTOGRAPHER, 1922-1936

Over 160 images, including 'Eternal fight I' (c. 1928, above), by Antoni Arissa, a printer and adherent of the typophoto style. CCCB. Until Apr 12



STUDIO POMÉS / LEOPOLDO POMÉS

FLASHBACK

Retrospective of work from second half of 20th century, such as 'Finestra Rodona 2' (1959, above), by multifaceted creative, Leopold Pomés. La Pedrera. Until Jul 12



JORDI SOCIÀS

FOUND PHOTOGRAPHS

Images by photojournalist Jordi Socías such as this 'Self-portrait with beast' (1984). His stylistic work, which covers the past 40 years, has clear cinematic influences. La Virreina. Until Apr 26



GABRIEL CASAS / ARXIU NACIONAL DE CATALUNYA

PHOTOGRAPHY, INFORMATION AND MODERNITY

Work from the '30s by Gabriel Casas, an early proponent of the New Vision movement. Shown is 'Self-portrait' taken in 1931. MNAC. Apr 22-Aug 30

Food & Drink

Edited by
Ricard Martín
martin@timeout.cat
@RicardMartn

Who's afraid of the big bad restaurant?

Don't fight shy of Lateral: yes, it's a mega-restaurant, but the key to its success is jaw-dropping value for money. By Ricard Martín

There's nothing worse than pretending to be something you're not. When it comes to bars, your heart sinks when someone tells you you have to try a new place with these words: 'it's a total dive. With designer tapas.' So the most welcome aspect of the recently opened, king-sized Lateral is that there's no big swell. Or rather, that when you put it to the test, you find it does exactly what you expect.

El Lateral, which opened at the end of 2014 on C/Consell de Cent, just off Rambla de Catalunya – a jealously contested territory with plenty of high-end eating options – is the first Barcelona venture for the Lateral group, which boasts six successful outlets in Madrid. It's a giant space that recalls the enormous and popular bistros of Paris, and it promises top-quality *racions* (small portions) and *pinchos* (tapas on a stick) at affordable prices. And you know what? They deliver. In fact, you might say they specialise in taking classics that are too often overpriced and poorly executed, and doing them properly. For example: Jabugo ham salad with tomatoes and mozzarella (€7.65), avocado and salmon tartare (€4.70), seared tuna (€4.40).

I sample the tomatoes, the ham, the salmon and the tuna. And they're good! Mercedes Moraleda, the group's managing director, says, 'The key to being able to work with tight margins is that we've been in the business for 17 years. And since we're honest with our suppliers and our customers, people have really responded.'

One of Lateral's strengths is that there's something for



everyone. The menu is impressively comprehensive, and militant meat-eaters can fill their boots with carnivorous delicacies, such as the oxtail stew (€3.95) or a whole Burgos *morcilla* (black sausage) with spicy green Padrón peppers (€7.30 – we advise sharing it). Those who prefer something lighter will find crunchy leaves and fresh vegetables, gazpachos and ceviches (they must have the cheapest in the city, at €6.95). Their star pincho is the Spanish omelette: creamy and perfectly done, with

“
We're honest with suppliers and customers – people really respond to that

caramelised onion holding its own against the potatoes in a ratio of almost 1:1 (€2.60).

They don't have a set lunch menu, per se. 'The idea is that people can put together a meal from an extensive menu,' says Moraleda. The Lateral team have invested heavily to enable people to eat cheaply: €1,200,000 to convert a travel agency into a palatial (and attractive) eatery. They have a staff of 30 working to serve food non-stop from noon until 2 in the morning. So that's your lunch, afternoon snack, supper and post-evening-out munchies covered, then.

LATERAL
Consell de Cent, 329
(Eixample Dret).
T. 93 348 79 94. P: €15-€17.

PHOTOGRAPHY: MARIA DIAS



MARIA DIAS

Godfathers of punk

Scottish craft brewers BrewDog open a pub in BCN, their first in Spain. By **Laura Conde**

Craft beer is the new G&T. Or the new vermouth, the new gourmet hamburger, the new rock and roll, the new black. The fact is that people like me who could once take or leave beer are suddenly experts on APAs, IPAs, hops and all the paraphernalia of home brewing. The craft beer boom has

brought a spate of new bars to Barcelona. The latest, which opened earlier this year, is Scottish brand BrewDog's first pub in Spain.

BrewDog have bars all over Europe, where you can taste their specialities or try one of the guest beers, which are constantly rotated. The

Barcelona establishment has 20 crafts beers on tap, of which approximately half are guests and the rest their own – and that's before you start in on the menu, which includes around 40 bottled craft beers.

Take your choice

Our recommendation? Without a doubt, the Punk IPA (the India Pale Ale that has transcended the specialised world of craft beers and practically become a standard), which represents around 50 percent of BrewDog's output. We also like the Dead Pony Club, further proof of their talent for christening their brews, and probably the ideal beer for those who think they don't like beer. Smooth, light and fruity, it stands in stark contrast to way-out concept beers like the Abstrakt 17, an experimental limited edition of black beer infused with a triple dose of coffee.

If you feel the need for a nibble with your drink, don't fear. Among their bar snacks, there's the high-protein time bomb called the Special BDG: 200 grammes of beef, a fried egg and bacon. They also have *patatas bravas*, croquettes, ham and a range of beer-inspired tapas: from mini chorizos in beer to squid in a lager batter.

BREWDOG

Casanova, 69 (Esquerra de l'Eixample).

Mon-Thu noon-midnight; Fri & Sat noon-2am.

Limited run



Conpaillos 2012

DO Empordà. ABV 13.5%. €23.

Potent but fresh, well-balanced and full of character, this is a delightfully generous wine, delicate and delicious. Syrah, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon tint the glass with lilac highlights and a vivid, bright hue. Ageing in French oak casks for 14 months provides the toasted notes, a more voluptuous body and greater depth in the mouth. Mas Pesadita is located in Casavells, in the Baix Empordà on the Costa Brava, and it's a daring project, with a minimal, painstakingly put-together, artisanal production of only 1,200 bottles.

—*Meritxell Falgueras*



The English name of the wine company is Objective Parker – aimed at critic Robert Parker

GOOD FOOD ON A BUDGET

DANIEL CAFÉ

Based in Barcelona for seven years, French chef Daniel Brin opened this *bistrot* in 2014, with the aim of serving good-value dishes from his home country. Recommendations include the homemade *paté*, *quiche*, *cocotte* and their slow-cooked meats. Diagonal, 177. T. 93 557 98 98



MOSQUITO

Chinese dumplings in myriad forms are the speciality at this micro restaurant, but its tapas comprise a grab bag from all over the continent. The crispy duck is more than toothsome, and a steaming bowl of Vietnamese *pho* with noodles makes for a sturdy lunch on its own. Mosquito also has excellent beers, some of which are brewed just for the restaurant. Carders, 46. T. 93 268 75 69

TAVERNA BLAI TONIGHT

The Poble-sec street of Blai is a hub for quality cafés and bars – this one has won a special place in locals' hearts thanks to its cheap-but-excellent *montaditos* (bread with toppings such as quail egg with ham, or fresh cheese and tomatoes, right) and other tapas, which start at €1. Blai, 23. T. 648 73 32 00



EL KIOSKO

Brad Ainsworth, the chef who brought the gourmet burger to Barcelona with his mini Bacoa chain, is also behind El Kiosko. It's along the same lines but more spacious and comfortable, and open onto the street. Try any of the delicious recipes with special chutney sauce and home-cooked fries and you'll see what we mean. It's a popular spot, so make sure you get there ahead of the lunch crowds. Marquès de l'Argentera, 1. T. 93 310 73 13

La Xalada



★★★★

Parlament, 1 (Sant Antoni).
T. 93 129 43 31. P: around €25

Sooner or later, the city of Barcelona will have to erect a monument to the Adrià family for having revived Avinguda del Paral·lel with their gastronomic ventures. It's as a result of this revival that restaurants like La Xalada have found a niche in Sant Antoni – a district that's gradually getting its groove back after years on the sidelines.

La Xalada is owned by Isabel Cruz, of Bar Mundial fame (a classic spot in the Ciutat Vella that Cruz owned until 2013), and with a name derived from the Catalan verb *xalar* – to let yourself go – it invites customers to have fun, matching tapas with main course dishes. At La Xalada, there's something to suit all tastes, with all bases covered. For my first course I order the Limenya salad, which turns out to be a fantastic ceviche of corvina and sea urchins, fresh and powerful, with an unapologetic flavour of coriander. For those who prefer something less spicy, there's *la russa*, a version of the classic Spanish *ensaladilla rusa* (diced vegetables tossed in mayonnaise and sometimes served with tuna or other ingredients). Alternatively, try a dish from the list of appetisers such as *bunyols* (deep-fried dough balls) or, for the daring, the *milupe*, 'almost traditional tripe'.

For seconds I order the *mi*

centolla, crunchy stuck-to-the-pan, flavour-packed rice with spider crab and langoustines, served with a mild *alloli* (garlic mayo). Next time (because I'll be back), I'll order the baby octopus and cuttlefish with black olive pesto. Carnivores have great options too, such as the *pisa morena*, lamb with *migas* (a traditional dish of fried breadcrumbs with garlic and paprika) and *mojo verde* sauce, a feast for all the senses. For pudding, I plump for the *flam de torró*, a crême caramel with nougat, served with orange sponge cake. The dessert selection is interesting, although a little too heavy for my taste.

I skip coffee and finish my wine, the house red, pleased I took the advice of everyone who recommended La Xalada, a *taperia* and restaurant that reflects all the passion of Isabel Cruz and the talent of chef Gabriel González. –*Daniel Vázquez Sallés*

THE BILL

(For 1)	
1 Limenya salad.....	€8.50
1 Mi centolla.....	€12.00
1 Glass red wine.....	€3.00
1 Flam de torró.....	€6.00
TOTAL (with VAT).....	€29.50

Time Out Barcelona Food & Drink critics review anonymously and pay their own bills.

WHERE THE BAR FOOD IS FRESHEST Best places to eat in BCN's markets

LES CORTS

EL BISAURA

A tip: here they make perhaps BCN's best fried squid rings.
Parada 8-12.

SANT ANTONI

BAR CASA BLANCA

Try fresh fish, full-on breakfasts, or a fab cheese and bacon (*formatge i bacó*) sandwich. *Parada 54.*

EL
PINOTXO (LA
BOQUERIA) IS
ALWAYS CROWDED,
BUT IF YOU HAVE THE
PATIENCE TO WAIT,
IT'S WORTH IT

ELS ENCANTS

FOGÒ

Catalan cooking at good prices and in just the right amounts. Run by Albert Marimón, 2013 Chef of the Year. *Castillejos, 158.*

SANTA CATERINA

BAR JOAN

The €11 set lunch menu includes excellent local dishes.
Parada 108.

Brie encounter



Can you ever have too much of a good thing? Say, a cheese bar with over 150 varieties to be tried? That's a hell of a lot of Manchego, Sbrinz and Burrata action. I have to admit, though, that as a major dairy fan I reckon that a cheese bar is far and away the best idea for a restaurant ever. At Poncelet, opened by the eponymous Spanish cheese retailers late last year, you can choose from the lengthy list of cheeses for a straight tasting experience, or go à la carte, with starters, meat, fish and rice dishes all created with at least one cheesy ingredient. For those

who like their supper melted and gooey, there are fondues and raclettes. And don't despair if you or someone in your party doesn't like or can't eat cheese – various options on the menu are available as 'anti-queso', which essentially translates as 'cheese-free'.
–*Hannah Pennell*

PONCELET CHEESE BAR BCN
Hotel Meliá Barcelona Sarrià
Avinguda Sarrià, 50.
T. 93 410 60 60





JOAN PUIG

Thinking outside the tin

The owners of La Pepita go back to basics with La Cava: tinned delicacies and vermouth at the bar. By **Pau Arenós**

Vermouth producers are rubbing their hands: a 19th-century aperitif is suddenly the drink of the moment (see page 58), consumed with relish and conviction by bearded youth. Gin still rules the roost in the city's bars, but aromatised wines are advancing with all the elegance that befits a less alcoholic beverage. People take these crazes with a pinch of salt, associating them with vacuous style magazines and sloppy journalism. But that's a mistake: these trends are intimately linked to what makes whole groups within society tick, even when the superficiality sends your blood pressure soaring. We need writers with skill and vision to explain the rise of the hamburger, the croquette and the G&T. And vermouth.

It's a golden age for vermouth. A craftsmanlike, festive drink,

with a rustic air that sets it apart from the ruling classes. Hipsters adopted it as a viable drinking option and, at least in Barcelona, this gave it visibility. Winemakers Casa Mariol and the bloggers-turned-bar owners and vermouth producers Morro Fi may had a lot to do with the revival. It passed from grandparents to grown-up grandchildren, while their

parents were busy sipping Coca-Cola Zero.

Sofia Boixet and chef Sergio Andreu, owners of La Pepita, are determined to reinvent the ordinary. At La Pepita they did it with the sandwich, and now they've moved on to the national tradition of serving tinned delicacies as a bar snack. 'We wanted La Pepita to be a busy little bar, and it became something much bigger. So we've returned to our original intentions at La Cava.' La Pepita has established itself among the city's top-end tapas bars, so with La Cava the pair want to go back to basics, to vermouth, beer and tinned food: 'Dressed and served in our own style.' Designer-tapas-from-tins originated at the now world-renowned Quimet & Quimet, taking us back to the prehistory of the city's gastronomy.

WHAT ELSE?

Look out for: Sister bar La Pepita, found just along the street.

Recommended for: Those who can accept top-end tinned food as legitimate gastro fare.

Stay away if: You hate eating standing up.

Andreu likes discretion. Boixet, explosive drama. I prefer Boixet's vision because Andreu's ingredients deserve it. Mussels pickled in sweet potato escabeche (a classic at La Pepita), and cockles with a ginger confit and baby radish using products from Conservas de Cambados demand you pick up your fork and not stop. 'Bar service, tapas and forks only,' Boixet warned me by email. It's a good slogan – a knife would be superfluous. The razor clams are a let-down – too tough – but not the Bloody Mary sauce. Tinned vegetables by Pedro Luis: artichokes with *alloli* (garlic mayonnaise), leeks with *romesco* sauce, white asparagus with tarragon mayonnaise (outstanding), and tomatoes with smoked sardines, basil and fennel. There's a miniature kitchen, from which emerge the magnificent sweet and sour vegetables, the Andalusian-style lightly battered squid with *kimchi* (round of applause) and the dogfish with lime mayonnaise.

And the vermouth? They serve Miró, one of my favourite brands. I try three vermouth cocktails: a Negroni, an Oliver (tonic, gin, red vermouth) and a Benji (the same, with white vermouth). If anyone had passed me a football at this point, I'd have scored an own goal. Andreu is planning a partnership with the companies that supply their raw materials. They have big plans for their cans.

LA CAVA

Çòrsega, 339 (Gràcia).
T. 93 348 39 09. P: €5-€20.

Vermouth Take a break

Barcelona has fallen back in love with the vermouth hour. A drink, a snack, a chat – what could be more civilised? By **Montse Virgili**

The world's only vermouth museum is in the Catalan town of Reus

CLASS IN A GLASS



BODEGUETA CAL PEP

Open for 20 years on the corner of Sants market, this tiny bar has fabulous fishy snacks: sea snails, crab, razor clams... Canalejas, 12.

SIMPLY SIPHONED



LA PLATA

Renowned locally for their delicious, freshly fried fish, they also serve Perucchi vermouth here, one of the oldest Catalan brands. Mercè, 28.

NU-APERITIFS



SENYOR VERMUT

Open in 2013, this bar has around 40 different types of vermouth that can be accompanied by simple but delicious tapas. Provença, 85.

BAR CALDERS

Sit on the terrace of this Sant Antoni bar dedicated to writer Pere Calders and try a glass of the Falset vermouth. Parlament, 25.

LA TIETA

Chickpeas with prawns, tasty potato omelette, amazing olives – where to start? There's no secret here, just good food and drink. Blai, 1.

BALIUS

Poblenou cocktail bar specialising in vermouth mixes, plus tapas made with organic and local products where possible. Pujades, 196.

LA VERMUTERIA DEL TANO

One of BCN's hidden bodegas with marble tables, a lingering smell of long-gone cigars and a classic vermouth experience. Bruniquer, 30.

BAR MINGUS

Compared to the nearby places serving plastic tapas, Mingus is a star bar (try the meatballs). And there's great beer on tap. Ataüf, 6.

LOLITA

This crowded bar serves all kinds of edible delights with its glasses of vermouth, including treats such as squid croquettes. Tamarit, 24.

MARIA DIAS

SCOTT CHASSEROT

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Food & Drink

Catalan cuisine

7 portes

The eponymous Seven Doors open on to as many dining salons, all kitted out in elegant 19th-century décor. Long-aproned waiters bring regional dishes, including a stewy fish *zarzuela* with half a lobster, a different paella daily (shellfish, for example, or rabbit and snails), a wide array of fresh seafood, and heavier dishes such as herbed black-bean stew with pork sausage, and *rujo sorbet* to finish.

Reservations are available only for certain tables; otherwise, get there early.
Passatge Isabel II, 14.
T. 93 319 30 33.
M: *Barceloneta (L4)*

Agut

Barcelona has a wealth of eateries that have improved over the years. Many are back on the map after having been forgotten, and some have the added bonus of having modernised without going over the top, to catch up with the demand for the quality products that their clients want. One such case is Agut.

Gignàs, 16. T. 93 315 17 09.
M: *Drassanes (L3), Jaume I (L4)*

Bar Velódromo

This classic serves quality dishes from early morning until the wee hours. With Jordi Vilà (one of the city's masters in the kitchen) at the helm, they produce an endless succession of dishes and tapas that will teach you about Catalonia's gastronomic heritage. The full menu is available all day, so if you fancy some Iberian ham at 7am or a croissant for a midnight snack, just say so.

Muntaner, 213. T. 93 430 60 22.
M: *Hospital Clínic (L5)*

Freixa Tradició

The return of Josep Maria Freixa to his family home, now that Ramón has gone off to enjoy fame in Madrid, has resulted in an authentic festival of traditional cuisine: pig's trotters with prunes and pine

QUESTION OF DEGREES



Basílico Gastrobar

This former lounge bar has been reborn in the style of a modern bodega. The menu (divided up by 'cooking' temperatures, from -18°C up to 240°C) features new spins on classic Catalan dishes and a selection of creative tapas. *Paral·lel, 142 (Sant Antoni).* T. 93 423 73 76.

nuts, cuttlefish with artichokes, and perhaps the finest macaroni in Barcelona.
Sant Elies, 22. T. 93 209 75 59.
M: *Sant Gervasi (FGC)*

Restaurant Gaig

It's currently all the rage for Barna's top chefs to set up more-affordable offshoots, and this one is under the guiding hand of Carles Gaig. The chef's philosophy, as at Petit Comitè, is a return to grandmotherly Catalan basics, and the favourite dish here is the *canelons* – hearty, steaming tubes of pasta filled with shredded beef and topped with a fragrant béchamel. The various dining rooms manage to be both modern and wonderfully comfortable.
Còrsega, 200.
T. 93 453 20 20.
M: *Hospital Clínic (L5)*

Casa Lepoldo

Rosa Gil, the heart and soul of this lovely eatery, has carried out a veritable revolution here, and with excellent results. The cuisine has improved – which is really saying something. They

have two standout dishes: the *capipota* and the oxtail.
Sant Rafael, 24.
T. 93 441 30 14.
M: *Paral·lel (L2,L3)*

Wine bars

Bar Nostàlgic

Although located in the fashionable Sant Antoni market area, this bar does not mimic the Nordic aesthetic of most new local establishments. They serve a good selection of wines, particularly from Catalonia, plus they have good beer on tap and an impressive list of gins, malt whiskies and special rums. Gin and tonics, spritz... they make it all, including tapas to please even the most sybaritic palates.
Viladomat, 38. M: Sant Antoni (L2)

Can Cisa/Bar Brutal

This restored neighbourhood bar combines a classic bodega at the entrance with a wine bar at the back. They stock 300 wines, all from organic or biodynamic producers around the world, without chemicals or

additives, at accessible prices.
Princesa, 14. T. 93 319 98 81.
M: *Jaume I (L4)*

Casa Mariol

At the Casa Mariol Wine Bar, which is part of the bodega of the same name, you'll have the chance to get to know *suaú*, which is a version of a drink (a blend of soda and coffee) that was popular in the Ribera de l'Ebre region decades ago. You can also taste cask wines from the Ebre, accompanied by a nice *clotxa* (bread stuffed with herring, onions, tomatoes and garlic), and then top it all off with delicious cakes from Batea (a town also in the Ebre).

Rosselló, 442.
T. 93 436 76 28.

M: *Sagrada Família (L2,L5)*

Magatzem Escolà

It looks like a hoarder's paradise of wine bottles, but the shop's staff know exactly where everything is. You'll find a great variety of products, which is the result of a company that really knows its business and has spent more than half a century dedicated to wine distribution. Watch out for their wine tasting and cocktail events.

Comercial, 13.
T. 93 167 26 55.
M: *Barceloneta (L4)*

Monvínic

This is one of the largest information centres for wine not only in Europe but the world over. It's also a wine bar and restaurant. The latter – which focuses on traditional cuisine with a creative touch – is excellent, by the way.
Diputació, 249.
T. 93 272 61 87.
M: *Universitat (L1,L2)*

Seafood

Els pescadors

Josep Maulini and his wife have turned this into a lovely spot, combining antique furniture with modern décor, and retaining its air of a small-town bar. One delicious recommendation:

Food & Drink

grilled sardines in sauce, though they don't always have them. Rice dishes are a staple on the menu, and never disappoint.

Plaça Prim, 1.

T. 93 225 20 18. M: Poblenou (L4)

Rías de Galicia

This restaurant is the setting for the Iglesias family's wonderful relationship with the finest seafood. The menu includes Cantabrian lobster with garlic, John Dory and txangurro crab cannelloni. And when it's in season, they have the exquisite Bordeaux lamprey.

Lleida, 7. T. 93 423 45 70.

M: Espanya (L1,L3,FGC)

Tabarca Langosta's Club

Tino Martínez, sailor and chef extraordinaire, has opened an unusual restaurant in Barcelona specialising in lobster: he has recovered the recipes of the lobster fishermen from the island of Tabarca, and he does so with a menu that includes lobster and rice cooked in the lobster stock. *Comte Borrell, 160. T. 661 074 704. M: Universitat (L1,L2)*

Pizza

La Bella Napoli

There can be few Barcelona residents who haven't tried the wonderful pizzas served in this place with an authentic Italian atmosphere, with noisy, cheerful waiters. Book a table if you're going at the weekend.

Margarit, 14. T. 93 442 50 56.

M: Paral·lel (L2,L3)

La Bricciola

A real Italian trattoria with good pizzas and fantastic pasta. Features a good wine list and some great Italian grappa.

Olzinelles, 19. T. 93 432 19 33.

M: Mercat Nou (L1)

Murivecchi

This restaurant-trattoria is a direct relative of Un Posto al Sol on C/Urgell, and they both make really good pizzas.

Princesa, 59. T. 93 315 22 97.

M: Jaume I (L4)

Piazzes d'Italia

A temple of southern Italian cuisine with an innovative and provocative twist. The pizza chef makes the dough spin and dance above his fingertips before transforming it into an outstanding crust. Dare to try their sweet Nutella pizza, which is completely over the top, but not to be missed.

Casanova, 94. T. 93 323 59 77.

M: Rocafort (L1)

Don't go hungry. Book restaurants at timeout.com/barcelona

Tapas

Bar del Pla

Positioned somewhere between a French bistro and a tapas bar, the Bar del

Pla serves tapas and small plates (divine pig's trotters with foie, superb *pa amb tomàquet*). Drinks include Mahou on tap (a fine beer, often ignored here because it's from Madrid), plus some good wines by the glass.

Montcada, 2.

T. 93 268 30 03.

M: Jaume I (L4)

El Jabalí

This deli bar, which is reminiscent of Paral·lel in its heyday, is a great place to eat wonderful tapas – try the patatas bravas, the chicken salad and the cured sausage – while sipping on good wine. It's also a nice place to sit on the terrace and do some serious people watching.

Ronda Sant Pau, 15.

T. 93 441 10 82.

M: Paral·lel (L2,L3)

Tapas 24

Another nu-trad tapas bar focusing on quality produce. Among the oxtail stews, fried prawns and cod croquettes, however, fans of chef Carles Abellan will also find playful snacks more in keeping with his signature style. The McFoie Burger is an exercise in fast-food heaven, as is the *bikini*, a small version of his take on the ham and cheese toastie.

Diputació, 269.

T. 93 488 09 77.

M: Passeig de Gràcia (L2,L3,L4)

SE Asian

Bangkok Cafè

Squeezed into a matchbox-sized space, this tiny Thai restaurant serves delicious curries with a genuinely fiery kick – and cool Thai beers to quench the flames. With its few tables and high level of success, make sure you reserve (way) in advance.

Evarist Arnús, 65.

T. 93 339 32 69.

M: Plaça del Centre (L3)

Batik

A simple, unpretentious restaurant with lovely décor and a wide selection of Indonesian, Thai and Malaysian dishes. Try the €14 sampling menu and take a gastronomic tour.

València, 454.

T. 93 231 60 15.

M: Sagrada Família (L2,L5)

El Petit Bangkok

Authentic Thai specialities include nem sausages and a range of curries and wok dishes. Serious connoisseurs of Thai food consider this one of the best restaurants in the city.

Vallirana, 26. T. 616 185 196.

M: Padua (FGC)

Gado Gado

In the Gothic quarter, the long-established Betawi is a popular choice for Indonesian food, with fresh spices and dishes that balance sweetness and heat.

Their other restaurant, in Gràcia, also serves Thai specialities. Try the eponymous gado gado salad, with a rich peanut sauce, or *bakmi goreng*, traditional stir-fried noodles with egg and vegetables, or their delicious curries.

Or, 21. T. 93 179 85 58.

M: Joaníc (L4)

Mé

Delicious Vietnamese and Thai specialities fused with other world cuisines, as in their mackerel ceviche with daikon radish and sprouts. Fantastic beef tartare with sweet basil and matchstick fries.

Paris, 162. T. 93 419 49 33.

M: Diagonal (L3,L5), Provença (FGC)

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Clubs

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Back on the decks

Northern Irish indie-rockers Two Door Cinema Club exchange their live show for a DJ session at Razzmatazz. By **Javier Blázquez**



A few years back, you could hardly move for indie-pop groups DJing in clubs. It was the height of the indie-dance era, when bands such as Hot Chip, LCD Soundsystem and Franz Ferdinand were revelling in critical and public success, bringing a new wave of fun to the scene. Such was their popularity that they often performed a double session, starting with a concert of their hits before heading to the DJ decks. It was an unorthodox approach as the musicians rarely had the skill for proper mixing while the tunes they selected tended to be simply the best-sellers of the day. Still, they found their niche and a public receptive to their efforts.

Latterly, the trend has slowed. Clubs want a different kind of DJ – either pure underground or house stars with a commercial outlook – and indie-rock bands just don't do it for them. But they haven't gone

completely. And when one appears on the bill, as this month at Razzmatazz with Northern Irish group Two Door Cinema Club, there is a strikingly stimulating sense of nostalgia. The band is presumably in the process of producing a new

“**If the dance floor is slow, their secret weapon is the R. Kelly hit, 'Ignition'**”

disc, which would be their third after *Tourist History* (2010) and *Beacon* (2012). A DJ session thus makes sense – it keeps them in the public eye without having to reveal their new material. Bassist Kevin Baird usually takes the reins,

looking to get a balance between partying and creating a didactic experience – recent and classic hits, with a contagious rhythm and melody if necessary, ranging from disco to R&B. We're talking Bonobo and Trentemøller, Daft Punk and guitar-based bands such as Girl Names: intense, catchy, entertaining and appealing for the group's fans, more accustomed as they are to the structure of a pop song than to the length and abstraction of techno. The group have confessed more than once that, when the dance floor is slow, their secret weapon is the R. Kelly hit 'Ignition', which will probably ring out at Razz as a kind of end-of-night prize. While you won't hear the band's own songs, you will get a great night, with fun guaranteed.

Two Door Cinema Club are at Razzmatazz on Apr 25 at 12.30am

MORE MUSICAL GUESTS



KATE BOY

Australian singer Kate Akhurst teams up with Swedish duo Markus Dextegen and Hampus Nordgren Hemlin of Rocket Boy for this electro-pop project. Razzmatazz. Sat 4, 1am



GODFLESH

The British duo visit Barcelona once more, promoting new LP *A World Lit Only by Fire*. It's only their eighth full-length album despite a 26-year career. La [2] de Apolo. Mon 20, 8.30pm



KEN ISHII

The techno DJ has spent recent weeks going back and forth between Europe and his home country of Japan to perform, so should be well warmed up for this show. Razzmatazz. Fri 24, time tbc

INHERITANCE TRACKS



James Holden

Holden is a busy man. Currently in the throes of a European tour, he'll jump into a series of UK dates at the end of the month. The British DJ is touring a live show that features drums and sax, where he revisits works from his album *The Inheritors*. *Sala Apolo, Thursday 16, 8pm.*

Sessions

Nasty Mondays

Tattoos, sweat and rock 'n' roll: the city's wildest Monday night party. Miss it at your peril. *Sala Apolo (Nou de la Rambla, 113). M: Paral·lel (L2, L3). Mon midnight. €15 (on the door). €14 (advance).*

Raw Rebels

Dance to the best beats of the '40s, '50s and '60s, with local and international DJs, in the heart of the city. *Sidecar Factory Club (Plaça Reial, 7). M: Liceu (L3). Tue 12.30am. €5. Price includes one drink.*

Canibal Sound System

Live acts, DJs and roots music make for an underground vibe at this long-running club night. *Sala Apolo (details above). Wed 12.30am. €12 (on the door). €9 (advance). Price includes one drink.*

Anti-Karaoke

This is the hard rock version of karaoke, with dressing up and

obsessive fans, all under the watchful eye of MC, US comedian and actor, Rachel Arieff. *Sidecar Factory Club (details above). Thu 10pm. €8. Price includes one drink.*

Cupcake

Take a trip down memory lane without forgetting to live in the moment, with hits from the '70s right up to the present day. *Sala Apolo (details above). Thu 12.30am. €10 (on the door). €8 (advance). Price includes one drink.*

The Bus Music Club

Session celebrating non-commercial, non-mainstream and underground music. *Razzmatazz (Almogàvers, 122). M: Bogatell (L4). Thu midnight. €15 (on the door). €13 (advance). Price includes one drink.*

Happy Techno

The beat will get you at this weekend party dedicated to new-age and old-school dance music. *City Hall (Rbla Catalunya, 2-4). M: Catalunya (L1, L3; FGC). Sat 12.30am. €12-€18 (depends on arrival time and if you sign up on guest list). Price includes one drink.*

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Ethel Reid, *Folly or Sainfulness*, Detail, 1995. Acquisition of The Ripper Collection, 1991. Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya

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LA SUE BCN

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GIRLICIOUS

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MELON PARTY

Bloc Barcelona, Ronda de Sant Pere 19-21. www.facebook.com/GirliciouspartyBarcelona

LA MELON BCN

Though its scheduling can be on the ad hoc side, La Melon has become a fiesta with a large following. First held in the summer of 2010, after trying out a variety of venues, it is now settled in at Sala Upload in Poble Espanyol, with a party every month or so (usually the first Saturday). The organisers are committed to their cause: throwing a party for young lesbians just starting to go out and eager to have fun dancing to commercial house music with a Spanish pop hit thrown in now and then. They also do theme nights from time to time, where everyone dons costumes.

Av. Francesc Ferrer i Guàrdia, 13. M: Espanya (L1, L3; FGC).

TARANTINA

In January, this weekly party moved to a new venue on C/ Aribau, in the heart of the Eixample. Every Saturday, from 11pm, you can enjoy a lesbian cocktail party where the boys are also welcome, as long as they're accompanied by a girl or two. Drinks (especially their speciality, fresh fruit cocktails) and dancing are usually at the heart of the fun, although Tarantina also hosts occasional cabaret nights, where they welcome entertainers such as illusionists and monologists. Whether or not it's a show night, when the dance floor is open, you can shake what you've got till 3am.

Another well-known name in the local lesbian community, Martha Arroyo, is in charge of the musical selection – each week she plays a popular range of hits from the latest commercial triumphs to rock, R&B and rumba. *Aribau, 132. www.facebook.com/TarantinaParty*

Girls, get together

Looking to meet other women like you? Barcelona's lesbian scene features bars, clubs and party nights. By **Hannah Pennell**

LA SUE BCN

Since its opening in August 2012, La Sue BCN has become one of the places for women to meet women. It's a popular place for girls to meet for Barça matches with a side of sandwiches, salads and tapas. If literature is more your leaning, they also organise poetry recitals and monologues, as well as providing a comfortable, welcoming place to catch up with your reading. Art exhibitions are regularly held,

and with special activities such as fancy dress Carnival parties, this bar has lots going on throughout the year. *Villarreal, 60 (Eixample Esquerre). Tel. 93 323 61 53. Thu-Sun from 7pm. M: Urgell (L1). www.facebook.com/lasue.bcn.3*

GIRLICIOUS

Organised by Matinée Group, the people behind one of Barcelona's biggest LGBT events, the huge Circuit summer party staged here

each August, this is a slick dance club night that takes place about every six weeks. Popular both with local women and those from further afield, the night features guest DJs, as well as resident musicians such as Matinée All Star Lydia Sanz (pictured), Lady Chus and Voodoo, among others – sounds range from vocal remixes to techno and house. This month's event takes place on Saturday 4. Find all the info you'll need on Facebook.

Getaways

Festival fever hits

Around Catalonia this month you'll find festivals for children, history lovers and strawberry fans. By **Nick Chapman**



1. Hats off for kids' theatre
2. Roman crafts in Badalona
3. Pulling the right strings in Mollet
4. Vallalta strawberries, ripe for picking

1. La Mostra d'Igualada

Every year children's theatre companies from all over Catalonia come to Igualada for a four-day festival that takes over the city's theatres and streets. Traditionally, this is where productions for the upcoming season get their first airing, and the programme includes more than 50 shows for kids of all ages, representing every genre – from theatre, dance and puppet shows to magicians, clowns and musicals – as well as performing arts workshops.

lamostraiigualada.cat; April 16-19

2. Magna Celebratio 2015

The modern city of Badalona was known as Baetulo in Roman times, and the town's Magna Celebratio is Catalonia's biggest salute to its Roman past. As well as talks and presentations at the city's impressive archaeological museum, there are historically accurate reconstructions of Roman life. These include hands-on demonstrations of dozens of crafts such as ironmongery, bronze-working, glass-blowing and pottery, and re-enactments, including an upper-class wedding, and training at the gladiator school.

magnacelebratio.cat; April 22-26

3. Mostra Internacional de Titelles de Mollet del Vallès

Puppets from all over the world converge on Mollet for the town's annual puppet festival, organised by the local troupe Galiot Teatre. There are open-air shows in the town's streets and squares – even in the market – and most of them are free. As well as performances, there are all kinds of activities aimed at families, including the chance to handle different kinds of puppet, from glove puppets to marionettes and shadow puppets, and to learn the techniques used to make them come to life.

molletvalles.cat; April 3-5

4. Jornades Gastronòmiques de les Maduixes de la Vallalta

Stretching up the coast from Barcelona, the Maresme is famous for its market gardens, and boasts over 50 gastronomic festivals a year. This month the region celebrates the Maduixa de la Vallalta, a unique variety of strawberry that is grown only in five local towns, and famous for its sweetness, intense red colour and perfect shape. Visitors can taste them freshly picked, in preserves or as part of mouth-watering recipes.

costadebarcelonamaresme.cat; Apr 25-May 31

Barcelona Top Ten Unusual streets

1

Carrer A

In the industrial area of Zona Franca, between the seaport and airport, there are streets (*carrers* in Catalan, abbreviated to C/) named A, B, C, D and Number 3, Number 4, etc. Clearly NYC has nothing on the pragmatism of BCN. It's probably worth mentioning that the streets that intersect with these ones do have more inventive monikers: e.g. Passatge de Yucatán and C/ de la Mar Groga (Yellow Sea).

2

Carrer del Panorama

Found high above the city, this street could scarcely have a better name. Although the nearby C/Gran Vista (Great View) gives it a good go. Set among the hills of Barcelona, from here the Catalan capital looks calm and unsullied. You might just want to stay up there.

3

Furnaces

On the edge of Barcelona, close to neighbour L'Hospitalet, various streets have been given the names of elements from the periodic table. C/Coure (Copper) crosses Alumini (Aluminium), connects to Bronze (same!) via Plati (Platinum), and leads to Urani (Uranium).

4

Avda. Diagonal

Often a cause of local bemusement thanks to its length, geometry and parrot population, lately a new phenomenon has been witnessed on this avenue: its bike lanes have been vanishing, a result of recent extensive roadworks to widen the pavements on its lateral sections. Cue mass confusion.

5

Name the shortest street

This is a fun game for all the family to play. Which will win? It



2

MARIA DIAS



8

could be Anisadeta in the Ribera area, which has just one number, the aptly named C/Curt (Short) in Horta or C/Menor (Minor) in Sarrià.

6

Muntaner

Just pipped at the post by C/Balmes for being the longest vertical thoroughfare in the city, the view from the very top of this street, up by the park of Monterols, is both amazing and strange. On clear days, you get the feeling you could just reach



4

out and touch the Med, even though it's a fair distance away and Muntaner doesn't even stretch to the sea.

7

Carrer de les Mosques

A strikingly narrow road close to the Born and its former market, the Street of the Flies was once the place vegetable scraps were chucked, inevitably attracting the scavenger insects. A local saying goes, 'In the Street of the Flies, the shadows are filled with movement,' because it was used by prostitutes plying their trade.

8

Escalating

In Barcelona there are 55 streets with escalators, according to a Council report, proving this is a city with inclining issues. Find them in the areas of Meridiana, Montbau, Vallcarca, Carmel and Montjuïc. Locals love them, especially when they work.

9

Carrer Gran de Gràcia

Gràcia's Big Street now seems to have a somewhat outdated name, although it still dominates over many of the district's tinier roads. But it can hardly be compared to the numerous ample streets in the adjacent Eixample. And the same can be said of carrers with similarly large monikers in places such as Sarrià and Sant Andreu, all once municipalities separate from Barcelona – and still proud of the fact.

10

Carrer dels Petons

No one is quite sure where Street of the Kisses got its name. Some say it was where families bade farewell to loved ones facing execution in the old Ciutadella fortress. But we prefer the notion that couples headed to its dark corners for some privacy.

By Ada Castells



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