

# museo **PICASSO** Málaga

PICASSO SCULPTOR. MATTER AND BODY

9 May to 10 September 2023



Pablo Picasso (1881-1973) *Child*. Cannes, 1960. Bronze with gilt patina 115 × 98 × 54 cm  
Fundación Almine y Bernard Ruiz-Picasso, Madrid © FABA Photo: Hugard & Vanoverschelde  
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- From 9 May to 10 September the Museo Picasso Málaga is presenting *Picasso Sculptor. Matter and body*, which will also be shown at the Museo Guggenheim Bilbao this autumn.
- The body as a tool of the artist and as the ultimate goal of representation is the principal focus of the first major exhibition on Picasso's sculpture to be organised in Spain.
- Curated by Carmen Giménez, the exhibition is part of the international programme "Picasso Celebration 1973-2023" and is organised with the support of the National Committee for the Commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Pablo Picasso.

Conceived and curated by Carmen Giménez, the first director of the Museo Picasso Málaga, this selection of sculptures presents the plurality of styles employed by Pablo Picasso to expand the forms of the human body, interpreting it in a range of formats and genres and making use of every material available to him, including wood, iron, plaster, cement, steel, and bronze. For Picasso, the discipline of sculpture was not a secondary one within his output; rather he saw it as a means of expression comparable to painting, drawing, printmaking and ceramics given that, as he himself said, no art form is more or less important than any other. These languages and materials allowed him to express different aspects of his creativity.

While this facet of the artist's activities began to become both more significant and more extensive during the Cubist period, Picasso made sculptures from almost the outset of his lengthy artistic career and continued to focus on them throughout his life. He approached the medium with the freedom of a self-taught artist, prepared to break all the rules. Perhaps as a consequence of this attitude, he kept most of his sculptures throughout his life, as numerous photographs of his studios and homes show. Treating them almost like members of his household, he enjoyed the company of sculptures and relished making them in a range of materials, contexts and situations.

Carmen Giménez is a Spanish museum and exhibition curator whose roles have included adviser to the Ministry of Culture and to the Guggenheim Museum in New York. She has been responsible for the organisation of a large number of international exhibitions.

### PICASSO CELEBRATION 1973-2023

The fiftieth anniversary of the death of Spanish artist Pablo Picasso takes place on 8 April 2023. As such, this year will be a celebration of his life and artistic legacy in France, Spain and around the world. The French and Spanish governments have decided to mark this international event by means of a binational committee comprising cultural and diplomatic bodies from the two countries.

"Picasso Celebration 1973-2023" centres on approximately fifty exhibitions and events to be held in leading cultural institutions in Europe and America which will together offer an art-historical analysis of Picasso's work. Accompanied by official celebrations in France and Spain, this commemorative programme will allow for a reassessment of research and interpretation of the artist's work, particularly during the major international colloquium scheduled for the autumn of 2023, which will also coincide with the opening of the Centre d'Études Picasso in Paris.

The Musée national Picasso-Paris and the Spanish National Committee for the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Pablo Picasso are delighted to be supporting this exceptional programme, which is benefiting from Telefónica as collaborating company for the Spanish programme. Telefónica, a telecommunications company and global leader in the supply of

technological, digital and communication services, is participating in all the events celebrating the work of Spanish artist Pablo Picasso on the anniversary of his death. By doing so Telefónica is aiming to contribute to the dissemination of knowledge of the work of this great Malaga-born artist - widely regarded as one of the most prolific painters of all time - by making his art more accessible to all sectors of society. This exhibition is also sponsored by Fundación Unicaja.

2023 marks the fiftieth anniversary of Pablo Picasso's death and thus places the year under the sign of the celebration of his work in France, Spain and internationally. To celebrate Picasso's legacy today is a way to question what this major work for western modernity represents today. It is to show its living, accessible and current part.

The *Picasso Celebration 1973-2023* is initiated by the Musée national Picasso-Paris, main lender of the event and coordinator, and Bernard Picasso, grandson of the artist and president of the FABA and the Picasso Museum in Malaga. It is structured around some fifty exhibitions and events to be held in renowned cultural institutions in Europe and North America, which, together, thanks to new interpretations and approaches, will make it possible to review the state of studies and understanding of Picasso's work.

The French and Spanish governments have decided to work together on this major transnational event, and the commemoration will be punctuated by official celebrations in France and Spain and will end with a major international symposium in the autumn of 2023, at the time of the opening of the Picasso Study Centre in Paris. It is a "Picasso today" which embodies this Celebration and which lays the foundations for the Musée national Picasso-Paris of tomorrow.

museo**PICASSO**málaga



EXHIBITION ORGANIZED BY MUSEO PICASSO MÁLAGA IN COLLABORATION WITH MUSEO GUGGENHEIM BILBAO

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Picasso  
Celebración  
— 1973.2023



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