

JOAN MIRÓ



CATALÒNIA

EDITORIAL

Travellers using the new Barcelona Airport will have the chance to see, in the old part of the building, a spectacular mural by Joan Miró, carried out in collaboration with the ceramist Josep Llorens in 1971. The presence of this work of art informs us that we are in the home town of the great artist and sculptor, Joan Miró i Ferrà, born in Barcelona in 1893.

On the occasion of the centenary of the artist's birth, a series of exhibitions and cultural activities will be taking place in the Països Catalans which will make 1993 Miró Year. The central event will be the Joan Miró anthological exhibition which will bring together 300 examples of the artist's work from 50 collections and which will be open to the public at the Fundació Joan Miró in Barcelona from April to August 1993. Miró Year will serve to promote one of the most universal of Catalonia's artists. There are works by Miró in the world's most important museums of contemporary art. Two of his best-known murals are in Paris, at the headquarters of UNESCO. But the greater part of his work is to be found in Catalonia and Mallorca. The foundations that carry his name in Barcelona and Mallorca are the institutions that contribute most to the study and diffusion of the work of Miró and are the driving force behind Miró Year.

Joan Miró's work has become one of the symbols of Catalan culture. Possibly no other contemporary artist has managed to make his language so popular. His mythology, with its stars, the sun and moon, the woman and bird, has become part of the heritage of all Catalans. The shapes and colours he uses correspond to shapes and colours belonging to our Mediterranean surroundings. Sensuous outlines, light and life. Miró's work reproduces the world through innocent eyes. His work is an invitation to continue being children looking at a world of wonder and colour. In Miró, sophistication does not destroy innocence. Maturity becomes compatible with simplicity. Mysteries are fun. Through imagination we discover life and joy. Miró, like all great artists, defies chaos, and, through art, announces harmony and hope.

FÈLIX MARTÍ DIRECTOR