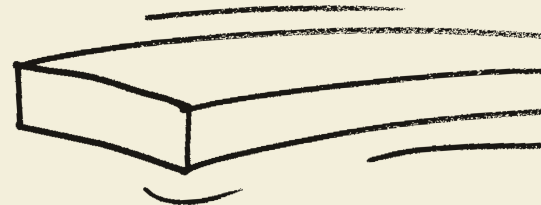


Dive



Victor Jaenada
Isabel
21.01.22 — 18.04.22

Marcel Rubio Juliana
Resurrection
29.04.22 — 03.07.22

Marria Pratts
1 Possession Drift
15.07.22 — 16.10.22

Martín Vitaliti
Silly Symphony
28.10.22 — 15.01.23

Exhibition series curated by Pere Llobera

Immersion

Fundació Joan Miró * J... Barcelona

SALTO E INMERSIÓN

*El que se arroja al agua tomado al ralenti
diseña un arabesco filiforme
y en tal cifra quizá se identifica
su vida. Quien está en el trampolín
aún está muerto, muerto quien vuelve
a nado hasta la escala tras el salto,
muerto quien lo fotografía, no nacido
quien celebra la empresa.*

*¿Está pues vivo
el espacio de que vive lo moviente?
¡Piedad por la pupila, el objetivo,
piedad por cuanto se hace manifiesto,
piedad por el que parte y el que llega,
piedad por el que alcanza o ha alcanzado,
piedad por quien no sabe que la nada y el todo
sólo son velos de lo Impronunciable,
piedad por quien lo sabe, quien lo dice,
quien lo ignora y va a tientas en la sombra
de las palabras!*

(Traducció de José Ángel Valente del poema
«Il tuffatore», d'Eugenio Montale)

DIVE AND IMMERSION

*The diver photographed au ralenti
cuts a spider arabesque
and in that figure perhaps makes his life
known. The man standing on the diving-board
goes back to being dead, the swimmer going
back to the board after diving is dead,
the photographer's dead, the man who celebrates it
was never born.*

*And so? Is it alive—
the space filled by every living thing?
Pity for the eyes, for the objective,
pity for everything made manifest,
pity for those leaving and those arriving,
pity for those who achieve or have achieved,
pity for those who know that all and nothing
are two veils concealing the Unpronounceable,
pity for those who know it, for those who say it,
for those who don't know it and grope
in the darkness of words!*

(“The Diver”, a translation by William Arrowsmith
of Eugenio Montale’s poem “Il tuffatore”)

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Dive and Immersion

Espai 13 Exhibition Series at the Fundació Joan Miró

20 January 2022 to 15 January 2023

Series curated by Pere Llobera, in collaboration with Martina Millà, head of exhibitions at the Fundació Joan Miró

Calendar of exhibitions:

VICTOR JAENADA, *Isabel*

21 January to 18 April 2022

Opening: Thursday 20 January 2022, at 7 pm

MARCEL RUBIO JULIANA, *Resurrection*

29 April to 3 July 2022

Opening: Thursday 28 April 2022, at 7 pm

MARRIA PRATTS, *1 possession Drift*

15 July to 16 October 2022

Opening: Thursday 14 July 2022, at 7 pm

MARTÍN VITALITI, *Silly Symphony*

28 October to 15 January 2023

Opening: Thursday 27 October 2022, at 7 pm

With the collaboration of

B Sabadell
Foundation

Press Release

Barcelona, 20 January 2022. *Dive and Immersion* is the series of exhibitions the Fundació Joan Miró is putting on at Espai 13 throughout 2022, with support from the Fundació Banc Sabadell. Curated by Pere Llobera (Barcelona, 1970), the project surveys the state of the art of painting over the course of four exhibitions by artists from the local scene employing a wide range of the many languages used in our context. The shows by Victor Jaenada, Marcel Rubio Juliana, Marria Pratts and Martín Vitaliti showcase the tremendous possibilities afforded by the notion of expanded painting in conjunction with methodologies and research from the world of emerging art.

The series takes its name from Galician poet José Ángel Valente's free translation of the title of the poem "Il tuffatore", by Italian writer and Nobel Prize winner Eugenio Montale, rendered in Spanish as "Salto e inmersión".¹ Montale was inspired by a fresco from a 5th-century BC tomb depicting a naked young man diving headfirst into a pool of water. Both painting and poem explore ideas of life, death and the circularity that binds them together. Jaenada, Rubio Juliana, Pratts and Vitaliti thread these same concepts through their own projects in a tragic and lucid vein. In their installations, artefacts and paintings, all four artists—dubbed "natural painters" by Pere Llobera—address the need to find their own voice in this cyclical succession. The title of the series also hints symbolically at these artists' deeply felt, radical commitment to their work.

Victor Jaenada (Barcelona, 1977) kicks things off with *Isabel*, a performative installation piece sparked by a childhood premonition and brush with death. Turning Unamuno's "tragic sense of life" on its head, Jaenada is worried less by the thought of death than by the prospect of having to play an ongoing role in existence. The series continues in April in the hands of Marcel Rubio Juliana (Barcelona, 1991), who investigates the alchemical process at play in resurrection. In contrast to Jaenada's fatalist approach to survival, Rubio Juliana's *Resurrection* explores the possibility of rebirth and delves deeper into the concept of transmutation. In July the baton passes to Marria Pratts (Barcelona, 1988), whose painting and architectural artefact *1 possession Drift* takes a dynamic approach to time and space by decomposing the project—and its own process of preparation—into a vast archive of objects, waste, routines and obsessions. Finally, Martín Vitaliti (Buenos Aires, 1978) brings the series to a close in October with *Silly Symphony*, an immersive audiovisual installation on the exploitation of resources in the industry of the early animated cartoons. Enveloped by a strange, almost nightmarish atmosphere, the project takes its title from a series of Walt Disney musical short films from the 1930s that made repeated use of looped animations.

¹ American classicist William Arrowsmith opted for the more literal "The Diver" in his English translation.

Dive and Immersion follows on from *Turn It All Turns*, the exhibition series that ran at Espai 13 in 2019–2021 as the last in a set of programmes exploring aspects that have helped shape current artistic practice. Now, Pere Llobera opens a new chapter in the history of Espai 13 with a project shaped by historical circumstances that also point towards a new global era. He stresses the importance of using core essentials as a compass to guide a journey: “When machine logic fails and you have to hit the restart button, the first thing that appears on screen is your computer’s brand name. Here, ladies and gentlemen, all of us taking part in this project either draw or paint, from first to last (including the curator). And we are a far from innocent reminder that this Foundation bears the name of a painter, and that the name Joan Miró appears right in the middle of the screen.”

An accompanying publication will contain texts and artwork created over the course of the series, and a programme of activities will tie in with some of the main ideas explored in *Dive and Immersion*. Students taking art subjects for their baccalaureate will be invited to participate in the fifth edition of *Gravitations*, an annual education project linked to the Espai 13 exhibition series run by artist Serafín Álvarez. After taking tours of the four shows in the series and making direct contact with the artists and curator, the students will organise an exhibition of their own work at the Fundació. The aim is to engage students in contemporary art by giving them firsthand contact with professional work processes they can add to their own skill set. This year, 34 students from Moisès Broggi secondary school will be invited to take part.

Espai 13: Over Forty Years of Emerging Art

Espai 13 is a space devoted to emerging artistic and curatorial endeavours. It was created in 1978 in Espai 10, a room off the foyer at the Fundació Joan Miró, for young artists based in Barcelona.

It moved to its present location following the late-1980s extension to Josep Lluís Sert’s original building. Over the past forty years, this pioneering space has held exhibitions showcasing the work of over 500 artists and offered young professionals a unique opportunity to hone their newly acquired curatorial skills. Espai 13 has played a key role in launching the careers of many successful artists, curators and cultural managers.

Its continuous programming over the course of more than four decades has made Espai 13 an unparalleled platform within the museum world. Its own history mirrors the evolution of emerging artistic and curatorial practices from the last quarter of the twentieth century up until the present day.

Curator



Pere Llobera (Barcelona, 1970) combines his own artistic practice, which brings figuration into a conceptual realm, with his role as exhibition curator and collaborator on several art projects. As a painter, he explores the limits of representation and the liberating, dysfunctional power of painting, while engaging spectators by experimenting with new narrative possibilities.

He has an impressively varied set of qualifications: after graduating in fine arts from the Universitat de Barcelona and studying film history and aesthetics in Valladolid, he was in residence at the prestigious Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten in Amsterdam between 2006 and 2007.

He has participated in a number of solo and group exhibitions in Spain and further afield. Recent solo shows include *Una perfección más pequeña* (F2 Galería, Madrid), *Faula rodona* (La Capella, Barcelona), *Do the Opposite* (Material Art Fair, Mexico City), *Pere Llobera* (Museum Voorlinden, Amsterdam), *Acció* (Bombon Projects, Barcelona) and *Supuració etílica de la pedra* (MNAC, Barcelona).

He has taken part in group exhibitions at the Fundació Joan Miró, CaixaForum Barcelona, HVW8 Gallery (Berlin), KölnShow2 (Cologne), L21 Gallery (Palma), Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Fernando Centeno (Málaga), Museum Kranenburg (Bergen, Norway), Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art and PARK, Platform for Visual Art (Tilburg), among others.

Artists

Victor Jaenada, *Isabel*

21 January to 18 April 2022



Victor Jaenada (Esplugues de Llobregat, Barcelona, 1977) is a Barcelona visual artist forged and tempered on the periphery. He enrolled at the Escola d'Art i Superior de Disseny Llotja in 1994, before going on to study fine arts at the Universitat de Barcelona, where he honed his painting and drawing skills while experimenting with other artistic languages, such as

installations. In 2004 he won a scholarship to study in Granada, and after graduating he set up a studio in his hometown to create his first mural installations. In 2013 he began dividing his time between Hangar and a studio at the Fidel Balaguer gallery. He currently lives and works in L'Hospitalet de Llobregat.

Rich in intuition and poetry, his work delves into the deep meaning of life and explores existential issues such as the passage of time and the inevitability of death. His work has been exhibited at museums and art centres in Spain and further afield, including MNAC (Barcelona), CCEMX (Mexico City), Casal Solleric (Palma), Centro Párraga (Murcia) and the Fundació Antoni Tàpies (Barcelona), among others. He also regularly exhibits in solo and group shows at a number of galleries and art fairs across Spain. Some of his pieces form part of the MACBA archives and the Grisart and DKV collections, among others.

Victor Jaenada opens the new Espai 13 exhibition series with *Isabel*, based on a real-life childhood incident that nearly brought his life to an extremely premature end. The project turns Unamuno's "tragic sense of life" on its head to focus not so much on what follows death as on the frightening prospect that life springs into existence out of nothing. By recreating the physical components and atmosphere of the event in question, his installation takes us back to his 1978 brush with fate, which has left an indelible mark on his life and work. Running through this project on the world of recurring childhood memories, created using his trademark hybrid methodology, is the *duende* spirit of Flamenco music, for him an endless source of fascination.

Marcel Rubio Juliana, *Resurrection*

29 April to 3 July 2022

**Marcel Rubio Juliana**

(Badalona, Barcelona, 1991) expresses himself chiefly through drawing and figurative art, although his creative practice also incorporates narratives from the world of film and literature. He graduated from the Escola d'Art i Superior de Disseny Pau Gargallo in 2007, before going on to earn a fine art degree from the Universitat de Barcelona in 2013.

Since then, Rubio Juliana has presented his work at shows and venues such as *El retorn a Ripollet* (Espai Poblenou Joan Prats, 2020; Premi Art Nou 2020), *Surfeit* (Fundació Arranz-Bravo, L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, 2018), *Swab* (Barcelona, represented by Passatge Studio gallery, 2016), *Els músculs de Zarathustra* (with writer Víctor Balcells Matas, Passatge Studio, Barcelona, 2016), *La Puntual de Mercantic* (Sant Cugat, 2016), *Tom Carr. Ecos de Carles Buigas*, amb la col·laboració de TCTeamWork (Badalona, 2014), Facultat de Belles Arts (Barcelona, 2014), *Dibuixant la nit* (group exhibition at Anquin gallery, Reus, 2014).

Marcel Rubio Juliana's piece for *Dive and Immersion* is *Resurrection*, which brings the ancient alchemical concept of transmutation into the present day. For the artist, resurrection is an essentially spiritual action that belongs to the vast field of sacred traditions that make recurring use of the notion of coming back into being from a state of nonexistence. Rubio Juliana employs the metaphor of alchemy to evoke a transit that is by nature irrepresentable. He uses the approach of this ancient science because it draws no line between the spiritual nature of matter and the material nature of the spiritual world. Marcel Rubio Juliana illustrates the process of resurrection through life drawings of human and animal models.

Marria Pratts, *1 possession Drift*

15 July to 16 October 2022



Marria Pratts (Barcelona, 1988) is a multidisciplinary artist who lives and works in Hospitalet de Llobregat. She works freely and spontaneously in a wide range of media, including drawing, painting, sculpture, textile, furniture and fanzines, among others. Her work can be interpreted as a challenge to social structures and the contradictions that riddle city life.

Marria Pratts studied graphic design at the Escola Massana in Barcelona but considers herself to be self-taught. She has had solo shows at Everyday Gallery (Brussels, 2021) and SADE Gallery (Los Angeles, 2019) and taken part in group exhibitions at Tecla Sala (L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, 2021) and Costa Mesa Conceptual Art Center (Los Angeles, 2020). Her work formed part of the show *Punk: Its Traces in Contemporary Art*, which travelled to the Centro de Arte 2 de Mayo in Madrid, MACBA in Barcelona and Artium in Vitoria-Gasteiz (2015–2016). She is currently one of the artists featured in the exhibition *Notes for an Eye Fire: Panorama 21* at the MACBA.

For Pere Llobera, Marria Pratts's *1 possession Drift* conjures up the intense atmosphere that raged through the late 1970s and early 1980s—tough times that saw new attitudes burst onto the cultural scene. In common with young people from that time, Pratts also belongs to a generation on the edge that expresses itself in radical, hard-hitting style.

At Espai 13 she ventures beyond painting to explore new possibilities in her artwork by creating an installation to act as an archive of self-referential objects, obsessions and waste from her work. The result will take shape as a large, moveable artefact that will slowly make its way around the room over the course of the show.

Martín Vitaliti, *Silly Symphony*

28 October 2022 to 15 January 2023



Martín Vitaliti (Buenos Aires, 1978) is a visual artist who explores the logics of representation. His work centres on analysing the language of comics to create narratives in contemporary art. He employs a methodology akin to appropriation to examine and demystify the creative process, while addressing subjects such as citation, authorship and

reproduction. His work takes shape in a range of formats, including printed images, installation art, video and publications.

His publications include *Líneas cinéticas* (Save As... Publications, 2009), *360°* (Arts Libris/Walther König, 2016), *Action Comics (Détournement)* (ferran El Otro Editor, 2019), *Tapetum Lucidum* (ferran El Otro Editor, 2021) and *Ampo* (Barcelona Producció in collaboration with Ediciones Marmotilla, 2021). Recent exhibitions include *Es muro es mero muro es mudo mira muere* (Blueproject Foundation, Madrid, 2021), *La idea d'una imatge* (Fundació Suñol, Barcelona, 2021), *Para ser dos hay que ser diferentes* (galeria etHALL, Barcelona, 2020) and *#134*, in *If Walls Are Trembling* (Lisa Kandhofer Gallery, Vienna, 2016), among others. His work forms part of a number of public and private collections, such as the Fundació MACBA, Fundación Caja Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España, Banc Sabadell, Rucandio, ICArt, Museu d'Art Jaume Morera, Frances Reynolds, Fundació Centenera, Nion McEvoy's Collection and the Jorge Rais Collection, among others.

Martín Vitaliti presents *Silly Symphony*, a project which appropriates ideas from early American cartoons from the 1930s, the golden age of animation, which began with the arrival of the first animated pictures with synchronised sound. It takes its title from a series of short films made by Walt Disney between 1929 and 1939. The artist focuses on the artisanal production line of cartoons for these early animations, with particular interest in the sequences of repeated movements of characters in a given scene and the way digital intervention can change our perception by decoding how we read them. In this show, Vitaliti creates an installation to show the tragic and alienating side to these repetitive loops, which echo the ruthless use of the production line to maximise profits.

General Information

Opening Hours

Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday:

10 am to 6 pm (April to October, until 7 pm)

Monday to Wednesday:

Guided tours are available outside usual opening hours

Guided tours for groups and schools should be booked in advance:

reserves@fmirobcn.org

Admission

Permanent collection and temporary exhibition: €13

Concessions*: €7

* Students aged 15 to 30, over-65s and Barcelona Public Library cardholders

Under-15s and accredited unemployed: free admission

[Download a free multimedia guide to the Collection](#)

Accessibility



The Fundació Joan Miró complies with all current public health regulations to ensure [visitor's safety](#).

Press pictures and material at <https://www.fmirobcn.org/en/foundation/press/> and through the link bit.ly/ImmersióEspai13. Follow Espai 13 activities on social networks with the tag [#ImmersióEspai13](#)

#ImmersióEspai13

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