

Broken Games

Photographs by Joaquim Gomis and others

Curated by Martina Millà

7 May – 12 September 2021

Press Release

The Fundació Joan Miró presents the photography exhibition *Broken Games*

Barcelona, 7 May 2021. The exhibition *Broken Games* is a selection of 13 photographs by different authors: some were taken by Joaquim Gomis' father, others by Joaquim Gomis (1902-1991) himself, and one by Gomis' wife, Odette Cherbonnier. What prompted this exhibition was a desire to present materials from the family albums in the Gomis Archive held at the National Archive of Catalonia, which evoke summertime *joie de vivre* as well as fun vacation and leisure time.

Odette Cherbonnier *Joaquim Gomis and Friends in a Castilla Journey 1929-1930*
Gomis Archive held at the National Archive of Catalonia
Fundació Joan Miró ©
Hereus de Joaquim Gomis,
2021



The selected photographs show festive traditions and dances, beach scenes, and a variety of sports practiced during the first three decades of the twentieth century. The last photograph, taken by Joaquim Gomis in 1936, is a bathing scene at Lake Lucerne in Switzerland, where the Gomis family was staying after fleeing the outbreak of the war in Spain. The exhibition thus ends with the sudden, unexpected, unwelcome interruption of those carefree, joyous years, drawing a parallel with the current situation of fear and distress brought on by the pandemic.



Joaquim Gomis. *Swimmers at Lake Luzern, Hertenstein, Switzerland*. 1936
Gomis Archive held at the National Archive of Catalonia Fundació Joan Miró © Hereus de Joaquim Gomis, 2021

Joaquim Gomis i Serdañons (Barcelona, 1902-1991) was an entrepreneur, photographer, art promoter and the first president of the Fundació Joan Miró (1972-1975). For more than five decades, he produced a broad and powerful body of photographic work in keeping with the most avant-garde artistic expression of his time. He was a founder member of ADLAN (Friends of the New Art, 1932-1936) and of Club 49 (1949-1971), two of the groups that were most active in promoting the new art in Catalonia between 1930 and 1970.

Since 2012, the Fundació Joan Miró has organised photography exhibitions in the foyer. Through an agreement with the heirs of Joaquim Gomis and the Catalan Government, the Foundation manages the Gomis Archive and disseminates and promotes the study of this Catalan photographer's work. To this end, the Foundation organises temporary exhibitions of Gomis's work in this space, alternating with shows featuring the work of other amateur photographers.

Images available at http://bit.ly/JocsTrencats_Gomis