



Specials > FONS ÀUDIO

The *Specials* podcasts focus on projects by artists and curators who have some kind of connection to the Museum's programming and the MACBA Collection. Conceived as an audiovisual project, FONS is a documentary series in which artists from the MACBA Collection talk about their work. This series also includes a specific montage devised for radio, entitled FONS ÀUDIO, created from conversations with the artists.

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Produced by Lucrecia Dalt and Ricardo Duque. Interview and documentation: Dolores Acebal.

# FONS ÀUDIO #13

## Àngels Ribé

Àngels Ribé creates works in which space, nature and the body become the articulating elements of a poetics of fragility based on de-emphasising the artistic object, the use of unconventional materials, and a defense of the ephemeral. In FONS ÀUDIO #13 Àngels Ribé reflects on some key moments of her career and talks about her works that form part of the MACBA Collection.

### 01. Summary

Àngels Ribé (Barcelona, 1943) is part of a generation of artists who embarked on their careers in the late sixties, in the midst of profound political and social changes that had a direct impact on the way artistic practice is conceived. Shedding the status of autonomous aesthetic entity that it had laid claim to during modernity, the work of art opened up to a process of dematerialisation and socialisation that brought about new relationships with the spectator, the art institution and the market.

In 1967, stifled by the oppressive atmosphere of Barcelona, Àngels Ribé left for France to study sociology. Settling in Paris, she participated in the May 1968 movements and soon began working in the studio of the sculptor Piotr Kowalski. By this time, she had discovered her artistic vocation. In 1969, she publicly presented her first installation, *Laberint*: a circular labyrinth made of transparent yellow plastic that turned the exhibition space into a flowing stage of paths improvised by the spectators.

In the seventies, Ribé moved to the United States (Chicago and New York) and came into contact with a series of alternative art spaces that reflected the emerging art scene. It was then that she consolidated the basic elements of the artistic grammar which had started to take shape in her Parisian period, and that her de-emphasising of the object became apparent. Ribé created ephemeral installations and performances, which she documented poetically through photography. Her body was the nexus of extremely meditated actions, in which natural processes and elements played a key role. Ribé essentially engages with nature through two paths: one more immediate and sensorial, linked to physical expressions – *Intersecció de llum*, *Intersecció de pluja*, *Intersecció d'onada*, all from 1969 –, and another more abstract path in which geometry is the organising principle. Here, the artist uses the triangle as the basic underlying shape in relation to her own body, as can be seen in the works from the series *3 punts* (created between 1970 and 1973) and in *Invisible Geometry 3* (1973).

In the eighties, Ribé returned to Spain and revived her interest in the objectual nature of the artwork and its sculptural embodiment. She began working with iron and –from 2000 on– with neon lights – which re-connected her to the incorporeal nature of light and space –, and at the same time produced an extensive body of graphic work.

### 02. Works by Àngels Ribé in the MACBA Collection

*Intersecció de llum*, 1969  
MACBA Collection. Fundació Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona. Dinath de Grandi de Grijalbo donation.  
[www.macba.cat/es/1492-](http://www.macba.cat/es/1492-)

*Intersecció de pluja*, 1969  
MACBA Collection. Fundació Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona. Dinath de Grandi de Grijalbo donation.  
[www.macba.cat/es/1492-](http://www.macba.cat/es/1492-)



[Àngels Ribé during the filming of *Fons #03: Àngels Ribé* at the MACBA, 2011]

*Intersecció de d'onada*, 1969

MACBA Collection. Fundació Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona. Dinath de Grandi de Grijalbo donation.

[www.macba.cat/es/1492-](http://www.macba.cat/es/1492-)

*3 punts (1)*, 1970

MACBA Collection. MACBA Foundation. Dinath de Grandi de Grijalbo donation.

[www.macba.cat/es/1493-](http://www.macba.cat/es/1493-)

*3 punts (2)*, 1972

MACBA Collection. MACBA Foundation. Dinath de Grandi de Grijalbo donation.

[www.macba.cat/es/1491-](http://www.macba.cat/es/1491-)

*Invisible Geometry (3)*, 1973

MACBA Collection. MACBA Foundation. Dinath de Grandi de Grijalbo donation.

[www.macba.cat/es/invisible-geometry-3](http://www.macba.cat/es/invisible-geometry-3)

*3 punts (3)*

1973

MACBA Collection. MACBA Foundation. Dinath de Grandi de Grijalbo donation.

[www.macba.cat/es/1489-](http://www.macba.cat/es/1489-)

*Six Possibilities of Occupying a Given Space*, 1973

MACBA Collection. Government of Catalonia Art Fund.

[www.macba.cat/es/0514-](http://www.macba.cat/es/0514-)

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### 03. Related links

*Cap al lluny* (2002) by Àngels Ribé at the Fundació Vila Casas.

[www.fundaciovilacasas.com/es/video?artista=2444](http://www.fundaciovilacasas.com/es/video?artista=2444)

Bartomeu Marí, Teresa Grandas and Àngels Ribé talk about the exhibition *In the Labyrinth. Àngels Ribé, 1969-1984*, MACBA, 2011.

[http://rwm.macba.cat/ca/sonia/angels\\_ribe/capsula](http://rwm.macba.cat/ca/sonia/angels_ribe/capsula)

Teresa Grandas, curator of *In the Labyrinth. Àngels Ribé, 1969-1984* (MACBA, 2011) presents the exhibition.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPZvcTwEAYY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPZvcTwEAYY)

Àngels Ribé presents the exhibition *In the Labyrinth. Àngels Ribé, 1969-1984* (MACBA, 2011) on the TV3 news bulletin.

[www.tv3.cat/videos/3623811](http://www.tv3.cat/videos/3623811)

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### 04. Credits

Produced Lucrecia Dalt and Ricardo Duque. Voice: Lucrecia Dalt and Roc Jiménez de Cisneros. Documentation and interview: Dolores Acebal.

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