



MUSEU
D'ART CONTEMPORANI
DE BARCELONA

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The birth of the group Pet Shop Boys attracts little interest.

Publication of Jean Baudrillard's influential essay *Simulacres et simulation* (Simulacra and Simulation).

Publication of Simone de Beauvoir's final book, *The Cérémonie des adieux* (Adieux: A Farewell to Sartre).

1982

At Documenta VII Joseph Beuys presents one of the key works of the eighties: *7000 Eichen* (7,000 Oaks).

Norman Rosenthal and his Berlin exhibition *Zeitgeist* open new artistic debates, which continue at least until 1988, when Harald Szeemann curates *Zeitlos*.

Published for the first time, *Livro do Desassossego* (Book of Disquiet) by Fernando Pessoa is translated into the major languages of the world.

¿Cult cinema or the cult of mainstream cinema? This year sees the release of Peter Greenaway's *The Draughtsman's Contract* and John Carpenter's *The Thing*.

The first ARCO art fair is held in Madrid.

Spain joins NATO.

Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner* is released.

Publication of Rosa Chacel's diaries, *Alcancía. Ida y vuelta* (Alcancía. Round trip).

Publication of Montserrat Roig's *L'òpera quotidiana*.

1983

Legendary editor Mario Lacroix (following in the footsteps of Josep Vergés and Carlos Barral) takes over the publishing house Seix Barral in collaboration with Pere Gimferrer.

First titles in the collection 'Narrativas Hispánicas' by Anagrama, which had already launched the 'Contraseñas' collection in 1977.

The publishing house Siruela launches two collections of key contemporary fantasy literature, one of which ('Biblioteca de Babel', created by the Italian publisher Franco Maria Ricci) is edited by Jorge Luis Borges.

In the United States, Microsoft announces that its first version of Windows will be available 1985.

Publication of Angela Davis's *Women, Race, & Class*.

1984

Rave reviews for the MoMA exhibition *'Primitivism' in 20th Century Art: Affinity of the Tribal and the Modern*, with the notable exception of one by Thomas McEvilley in *Artforum*.

Art and Ideology at the New Museum in New York, an exhibition fundamental to the understanding of the context of the time.

The Ethiopian famine begins, which will see the deaths of one million people before the year is out.

UNESCO grants World Heritage status to the city of Byblos in the Lebanon.

The civil disobedience platform Mili KK, opposed to compulsory military service, is created in Catalonia.

1985

Jean-François Lyotard, considered by many to be the creator of the 'concept' of postmodernism, curates *Les immatériaux* for the Centre Pompidou, Paris.

The Sandinista Daniel Ortega takes office as President of Nicaragua.

Nintendo releases the videogame *Super Mario Bros.*

The Soviet Garry Kasparov, 22, becomes world chess champion after defeating fellow countryman Anatoly Karpov in Moscow.

Publication of Biel Mesquida's *El bell país on els homes desitgen els homes*.

1986

Death of Madrid-based art dealer Fernando Vijande, a key figure in Spanish art of the late seventies and early eighties.

In Palermo the Mafia trials begin. Leonardo Sciascia reflects at length on this in a series of fundamental articles.

The Smiths release one of the most important albums of the twentieth century, *The Queen Is Dead*.

Death of Czech writer Jaroslav Seifert.

Publication of Juan Carlos Onetti's collection of stories *Presencia y otros cuentos*.

El Jueves begins publishing cartoonist Ivà's critique of military service, 'Historias de la puta mili'.

Publication of the Romanian novelist Herta Müller's *Der Mensch ist ein großer Fasan auf der Welt* (The Passport, Serpent's Tail).

The Barcelona-based group El Último de la Fila releases *Enemigos de lo ajeno*.

1987

Aretha Franklin becomes the first woman to enter the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

American President Ronald Reagan and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev meet at the Berlin Wall.

A red-letter year for exiled Russian poet Joseph Brodsky, who is awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Publication of Julia Kristeva's *Soleil noir. Dépression et mélancolie* (Black Sun: Depression and Melancholia).

1988

Martin Kippenberger resident in Carmona (Seville).

Death of the Mexican architect Luis Barragán.

The Spanish publishing industry, with its capital in Barcelona, starts to establish itself in Latin America.

In Costa Rica a peace agreement is signed by the five Central American presidents: Vinicio Cerezo (Guatemala), José Napoleón Duarte (El Salvador), José Azcona del Hoyo (Honduras), Daniel Ortega (Nicaragua) and Óscar Arias (Costa Rica).

Publication of Marta Pessarrodona's *Homenatge a Walter Benjamin* (Homage to Walter Benjamin).

1989

Magiciens de la Terre, curated by Jean-Hubert Martin for the Centre Pompidou, 'closes' the eighties in many ways.

In Kosovo, Slobodan Milošević delivers the famous Gazimestan speech, which largely triggers the war in Yugoslavia.

Death of artist and eighties media icon Robert Mapplethorpe.

Military invasion of Panama by the United States.

During the first six months, 160 people die from heroin abuse in Spain, a 70% increase on the previous year.

Ayatollah Khomeini issues a public fatwa condemning Salman Rushdie to death for his book *The Satanic Verses*.

1990

The Supreme Soviet adopts the laws governing the secession of the republics of the USSR.

Death of French writer Philippe Soupault.

South African President Frederik W. de Klerk announces the release of Nelson Mandela.

Publication of Judith Butler's *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*.

Publication of Camille Paglia's *Sexual Personae: Art and Decadence from Nefertiti to Emily Dickinson*.

1991

The United States begins the First Gulf War (also known as Operation Desert Storm) in Iraq.

In Russia, Boris Yeltsin is elected President of the Russian Federation.

Brazilian Eduardo Coutinho premieres *O Fio da Memória*, a documentary about Gabriel Joaquim dos Santos, a worker in the salt mines who built the Casa da Flor (Flower House) with found items reclaimed from the rubbish.

Publication of Sarah Kofman's *Don Juan, ou, Le refus de la dette*.

The militant Catalan separatist organisation Terra Lliure disbands.

Death of Maria Aurèlia Capmany, playwright, writer and women's rights activist.

1992

In a single year Catherine David curates two of the most important international exhibitions of the moment, both for the Museo Reina Sofía in Madrid: retrospectives devoted to Marcel Broodthaers and Robert Gober.

The European Union is established by the Treaty of Maastricht.

Death of flamenco singer Camarón de la Isla.

Ratification of the treaty of non-aggression and denuclearisation between North and South Korea, officially at war since 1950.

The Straight Mind and Other Essays, a compilation of various texts on feminism by Monique Wittig, is published in English.

1993

Death of the writer Juan Benet.

Mario Conde pacts with U.S. bank JP Morgan to increase the capital holdings of the Banesto bank.

British mathematician Andrew Wiles revolutionises his field by presenting a proof for Fermat's Last Theorem.

Publication of Adrienne Rich's essay *What Is Found There: Notebooks on Poetry and Politics*.