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Catalan Review és la primera revista internacional dedicada a tots els aspectes de la cultura catalana. Per la cultura catalana s'entén totes les manifestacions de la vida intel·lectual i artística produïda en llengua catalana o en les zones geogràfiques on es parla català. Catalan Review es publica des de 1986.

Cultural Information from catalan Speaking Lands (January-June 1991):

***History (Joan F. Cabestany Fort and Carles Santacana I torres),
Lingüistics (Mercè Lorente I Casafont),
Literature (Jaume Pérez Montaner),
Music (Xosé Aviñoa),
Visual Arts (Anna Butí).***

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CULTURAL INFORMATION
FROM CATALAN SPEAKING LANDS
(January-June 1991)

HISTORY

Three books published at the end of 1990 –beginning of 1991 are essential contributions to Catalan historiography. First, there are the two volumes of the *Llibre dels fets del rei en Jaume* (Editorial Barcino, Barcelona, 1991) edited by Jordi Bruguera. In addition to its literary value, it is valuable for students of the history of the Crown of Aragon in the 13th century. The first volume is a philological and linguistic study of the work and presents a complete vocabulary of the work, which allows the historian to make the most of the text of the Chronicle, which is presented in the second volume. *Les Corts a Catalunya. Actes del Congrés d'Història Institucional* (Generalitat de Catalunya, Barcelona, 1991) publishes most of the papers presented at this meeting, which was held March 20-22, 1988. The conference was aimed at studying the institution from its beginnings (13th century) to its disappearance (18th century), but the most salient result was the classification of the documentation preserved at the Archives of the Crown of Aragon and the Municipal Historical Archives of Barcelona, found in the article entitled «Fonts per a l'estudi de les Corts i els Parlaments de Catalunya. Catàleg dels processos de corts i parlaments» (pp. 25-61). The third contribution is a collection of works by Miquel Coll i Alentorn, *Historiografia* (Curial and Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat, Barcelona, 1991). Most of the articles refer to medieval historiography.

Two other important monographs on Catalan history have appeared recently. *Pesos, mides i mesures dels Països Catalans*, by Claudi Alsina, Gaspar Feliu and Lluís Marquet (Curial, Barcelona 1990) discusses medieval and modern systems of measurement that were used before the metric system, and which lasted until very recently, although they were not official. The book has two parts: a *Diccionari dels pesos, mides i mesures* and *Nomenclator dels pobles de Catalunya amb les mesures, els pesos i les mides de cada lloc* (1585). This will be of interest to those who study both medieval and modern economic history. Regina Sainz de la Maza Lasoli has published in Catalan *L'orde català de Sant Jordi d'Alfama* (1201-1400) (Pagès Editors, Lleida, 1991), a shorter version of her *La orden de San Jorge de Alfama. Aproximación a su historia* (C.S.I.C. Barcelona, 1990).

These are not the only monographs on Catalan history to appear, as the number of local monographs is rising all the time. It is now practically impossible to evaluate many of these publications, although in general we can state that the level of research presented has improved and many studies are written by trained historians. Below I have listed those books that go beyond a local monograph or that deal with general Catalan history:

Les famílies nobles del Pallars en els segles XI i XII, by Lydia Martínez Teixidó (Pagès Editors, Lleida, 1991).

Liber Maiolochinus. De gestis pisorum illustris, translated by Mireia Mulet i Mas (Societat Arqueològica Lul·liana, Palma de Mallorca, 1991), on the conquest of Majorca.

La comunitat rural a la Catalunya medieval: Collsacabra (s. XIII-XVI) by Assumpta Serra i Clota, a socio-economic study of a rural community in central Catalonia.

El procés dels Templers catalans. Entre el turment i la glòria by Jose M. Sans i Travé (Pagès Editors, Lleida, 1991), on the end of the order in Catalonia (in 1304).

Cavallers i ciutadans a la Catalunya del cinc-cents by Antoni Simon i Tarrés (Curial, Barcelona, 1991), on the structure of society in Catalonia and València in the 16th century.

Professió, ciència i societat a la València del segle XVI by V. L. Salavert i Fabiani and V. Graullera i Sanz (Curial, Barcelona, 1990).

Els bandolers (s. XVI-XVII) by Xavier Torres i Sans (Eumo Editorial, Vic, 1991).

Exili de Barcelona i viatge a Vic (1808) by the Baró de Maldà (Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat, 1991).

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Translated by Albert Muth

The first half of 1991 was not especially abundant in studies on contemporary Catalan history. Perhaps the most notable trend is the appearance of new works on Catalan nationalism. In the series «Biblioteca dels Clàssics del Nacionalisme» three works were published: *El catalanisme regeneracionista* by Francesc Cambó, *Política i cultura* by Josep Pijoan, and *Escrips polítics i culturals, 1875-1922* by Lluís Domènech i Montaner. Jordi Casassas has brought together a selection of materials under the title *Discursos parlamentaris (1907-1935)* by Francesc Cambó. The *Obres completes* of Bishop Torras i Bages have now reached the ninth volume.

We would like to make mention of certain works on the 1930's and 1940's. The Majorcan journal *Randa* devoted its issue no. 28 to the «Guerra civil i postguerra a les Illes Balears». Josep Massot has published a new book, *El bisbe José Miralles i l'Església de Mallorca. De la dictadura a la Guerra Civil*. The new field of research comprising the Franco period has also brought us new works: *Els catalans de Churchill* by Daniel Arasa, *El catalanisme polític a l'exili (1939-1959)* by Daniel Díaz, and *L'edició catalana i la censura franquista*

by Maria Josepa Gallofré, which refers to official sources from the Franco administration.

A number of monographs on local history have also appeared. This type of research was consolidated at the I Congrés de Centres d'Estudis de Parla Catalana, held in Lleida in April, 1991, in order to coordinate efforts. Finally, and although it appeared at the end of 1990, we would like to mention the book *La historiografia catalana avui*, which is a collection of papers presented at a conference in Girona by well-known historians such as Josep Termes, Joaquim Nadal, Jaume Sobrequés, Enric Ucelay and Borja de Riquer.

CARLES SANTACANA I TORRES

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Translated by Albert Muth

LINGUISTICS

This six-month period has seen much activity in linguistics publications. Perhaps there has been more variety in topics covered than last year, which was dominated by the controversy on models of language. In fact, there is a text which summarizes the history of the debate on the model of standard language and proposes a compromise, *Ni «heavy», ni «light»: català modern!* by Ernest Sabater (Barcelona, Editorial Empúries, 1991, Biblioteca Universal Empúries no. 48).

Sociolinguistics is one of the most treated topics here, and three books stand out above the rest. The first is by Albert Bastardas, *Fer el futur. Sociolingüística, planificació i normalització del català* (Barcelona, Editorial Empúries, 1991 Biblioteca Universal Empúries no. 49). It includes a series of studies in which the current sociolinguistic situation of Catalan is compared with that of other countries. Bastardas discusses the presence of Spanish in this context, and suggests changes in language policy. Jordi Solé i Camaradons' work *Text i context. Lectures des de la sociolingüística* (Barcelona, Edicions de la Magrana, 1991, Col·lecció l'Esparver Llegir no. 27) proposes reading literary texts from different periods from a sociolinguistic point of view, with a guide for reading and exercises for each text. *Una llengua és un mercat* by Jesús Royo (Barcelona, Edicions 62, 1991, Llibres a l'abast no. 260) is a personal opinion on the communicative function and future of Catalan in Catalonia.

In dialectology, there is a new manual, *Dialectologia catalana* by Montserrat Alegre (Barcelona, Editorial Teide, 1991, Col·lecció El Blau Marí no. 9). It is divided into two main parts: the first discusses general and methodological issues, and the other is a description of the dialects and subdialects of the language, with a chart that summarizes the main differentiating traits and a selection of literary texts. In the field of dialect monographs, Pep Coll has published *El parlar del Pallars* (Barcelona, Editorial Empúries, 1991).

People interested in dialectology will be pleased that A. Griera's *Tresor de la llengua, de les tradicions i de la cultura popular catalana* (Barcelona, Polígrafa, 1991) has been reedited (it was first published between 1935 and 1947). We can also mention here the book by Margarida Bassols, *Endevinalles catalanes* (València, Universitat de València, 1991), Col·lecció de cultura universitària popular).

The history of the language was the focus of several works. Barcanova has published *El català, llengua romànica* by Lluís López del Castillo (Barcelona, 1991, Biblioteca cultural Barcanova, no. 4), which is a book for the public at large about Catalan within the Romance languages. A book long out-of-print, the *Gramàtica històrica catalana* by Francesc de B. Moll (València, 1991, Universitat de València, Col·lecció Honoris Causa no. 8) has appeared in a new edition—it is the Catalan translation of Moll's 1952 grammar in Spanish.

Barcanova, to celebrate its anniversary, has published a commemorative book directly related to Catalan philological studies: *31 cartes* by Pompeu Fabra, edited by Albert Manent (Barcelona, 1991).

In the field of teaching methodology, Anna Camps et al. have published *Text i ensenyament. Una aproximació interdisciplinària* (Barcelona, Editorial Barcanova, 1990, Col·lecció Educació), the summary of an interdisciplinary seminar on the general topic of the text was begun in 1987 by a group of professors at the Education School of the Autonomous University of Barcelona. There is also a new manual for students and teachers, *Mètode per aprendre a accentuar bé* (Barcelona, Editorial Empúries, 1991 Línia de suport no. 1).

Two theoretical works on Catalan linguistics have appeared. *Les oracions adversatives* by M. Josep Cuenca Ordinyana (València-Barcelona, 1991, Institut Universitari de Filologia Valenciana i Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat, Biblioteca Sanchis Guarner, no. 22. is a summary of the author's dissertation, and it discusses the topic from syntactic, semantic and pragmatic points of view. Also in syntax, C. Hernández has published *L'oració simple* (València, 1990, Universtiy of València, Biblioteca de Lingüística Catalana).

Three very different books can be grouped together under applied linguistics: *Llengua de tribu, llengua de polis: Bases d'una traducció literària* by Joaquim Mallafré (Barcelona, Quaderns Crema, 1990), a revised version of his doctoral dissertation; *Llibre d'estil* by a group under the direction of Joan Solà

(Barcelona, 1991, Caixa de Pensions i d'Estalvis de Barcelona); and, a new *Manual del llenguatge administratiu* by C. Duarte, S. Sibina and A. Alsina (Barcelona, 1991, Generalitat de Catalunya, Escola d'Administració Pública).

Lexicography continues to be one of the most productive fields here. A large number of specialized vocabularies continue to appear: *Vocabulari de la microinformàtica* and *Vocabulari de la terminologia* (Barcelona, 1991, Servei de Llengua Catalana, University of Barcelona); *Diccionari de basquetbol* and *Diccionari del voleibol*, the first two in a series of 29 vocabulary lists on Olympic sports (Barcelona, 1991, Generalitat de Catalunya & Enciclopèdia Catalana); *Diccionari del taller mecànic* by R. Castellanos et al., with entries in Catalan, definitions and equivalents in Spanish, English and French (Barcelona, 1991, Llar del Llibre); *Vocabulari bàsic per als jutjats* by Pilar de Broto i Ribas (Barcelona, 1991, Generalitat de Catalunya, Departament de Justícia), which provides both Spanish-Catalan and Catalan-Spanish lists.

Enciclopèdia Catalana has published a bilingual German-Catalan and Catalan-German dictionary as a complement to its German-Catalan dictionary of 1981 (*Diccionari alemany-català, català-alemany* (Barcelona, 1991).

Els diccionaris catalans de 1940 a 1988 by M. Teresa Cabré and Mercè Lorente (Barcelona, Publicacions de la Universitat de Barcelona, 1991) covers all dictionaries and vocabulary lists with entries in Catalan published during that time. It includes references to 257 dictionaries, and discusses the theoretical and methodological aspects of classification.

Several festschrifts appeared in the first half of 1991: *Miscel·lània Josep Roca-Pons* (Barcelona, Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat and Indiana University, Col·lecció Abat Oliva, 1991); the first volume of the *Miscel·lània Jordi Carbonell* (Barcelona, Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat, Estudis de llengua i literatura catalanes, 1991); and, volumes III and IV of the *Miscel·lània Joan Fuster* (Barcelona, Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat, Col·lecció Abat Oliva, 1991). We can also make mention here of the *Actes de les primeres jornades sobre llengua i creació literària, Barcelona: 19/20-1-1990* (Barcelona, Generalitat de Catalunya i Institució de les Lletres Catalanes, 1991).

The Facultat de Filologia of the University of Barcelona is publishing the *Anuari de Filologia* again, this time with a new format consisting of seven separate volumes (each volume covers a different section). The volume on Catalan language and literature (*Anuari de Filologia*, Volum XIII, 1990, secció C, núm. 1, Barcelona, 1991) contains an article by Lluís M. Sol entitled «L'obertura de les vocals medials en paraules extreïtes de gramàtiques generals i articles de lingüística sobre la llengua catalana.» *Els Marges. Revista de llengua i literatura*, no. 43 has an article by Max W. Wheeler on quantifiers («Dels quantitatius i altres elements especificadors»). *Caplleira. Revista de Filologia*, published under the auspices of the Institut de Filologia Valenciana, Universitat de

València (Barcelona, Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat, 1991), devoted its eighth issue (spring, 1990) entirely to generative grammar. *Límits. Revista d'assaig i d'informació sobre les ciències del llenguatge* (Barcelona, Editorial Empúries, 1990) has articles on discourse analysis, neology, phonology and computational linguistics in issue 9. A. M. Badia i Margarit published «Defensa i il·lustració de la llengua catalana a la fi del segle XV» in the *Revista de Catalunya*, no. 48 (Barcelona, January 1991). The «Societat d'Onomàstica», in nos. 43, 44, and 45 of its *Butlletí Interior*, has published the proceedings of the XIV Col·loqui d'Onomàstica, held in Alacant on April 13-15, 1989. Issue no. 28 of *Randa* (Barcelona, Curial Edicions Catalanes, 1991) contains articles on the Spanish Civil War and the post-war period in the Balearic Islands, and issue no. 29 discusses the medieval period in Majorca. The bimonthly journal *Lluc* devoted its issue no. 763 (Majorca, July-August, 1991) to Francesc de B. Moll, with several articles about his life and work.

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LITERATURE

As I write this summary about literary activity in the first six months of 1991, it is impossible to forget the unfortunate passing of the Majorcan writer Jaume Vidal Alcover in the last days of 1990. With him disappears a life devoted to literature, narrative and especially poetry, and a critical and nonconformist voice that had brought a personal vision to the study of Catalan letters based on his wide readings. His views were often controversial, but they were always innovative and suggestive of new and different perspectives. Some months later his companion, the novelist Maria Aurèlia Capmany, would also die. She was so full of humanity and so devoted to people, and especially to the claims of Catalan women and feminism. Both were symbols and a part of an important part of our recent memory, of the rebirth of our literature, poetry and particularly narrative, in one of the most difficult periods for Catalan culture. The voices of Maria Aurèlia Capmany and Jaume Vidal Alcover began to be heard in the first decade after the Civil War.

Also as I write this summary, the unfair —like all deaths of admired and loved ones— passing of Montserrat Roig is still very recent. It will not be easy to get used to the absence of one of the novelists with most character and who had a brilliant future ahead of her in the new Catalan literature. We still have her works: her passionate view of Barcelona through her characters, and her non-

narrative works, especially her fascinating reflections on the act of writing and the passion for life, in her last work just published by Edicions 62, *Digues que m'estimes, encara que sigui mentida*.

As far as literary works during these six months are concerned, in the field of narrative the following publication stand out: *Línia trencada* by Ferran Cremades (Sant Jordi Prize), *Ofidi* by Josep Lozano (Prudenci Bertrana Prize), *Carn a les bèsties* by Jordi Arbonès (Documenta Prize), *Matèria obscura* by Valenti Puig and *Enterraments lleugers* by Olga Xirinacs (Sant Joan Prize), the unedited novel by Manuel de Pedrolo *Obres públiques* and his *Darrers diaris inèdits. Blocs 1988-1990*, all published by Edicions 62. Tres i Quatre published four novels: *Perfum romanial* by Antoni Lluç Ferrer, *Discurs sobre la matèria sensual* by Francesc Pané, *Els penitents*, the third volume of narrative by Tomàs Belaire, and *Guarden-vos de la nit del cel encès* by Josep A. Chauvell. Editorial Proa came out with *Senyoria*, a magnificent novel by Jaume Cabré, and Editorial Pòrtic published *Estiu a Pineda* by Vicenç Riera Llorca. *Palmira* by Valerià Pujol, *Llibre de família* by Antoni Serra, *Anestèsia* by Joaquim Ferrer, and the last volume of the trilogy of memoirs by Avel·lí Artís-Gener, *Viure i veure*. Empúries publishers seemed to lean towards authors from Girona, with *Tres tríptics* by Josep Pujol i Coll, *Interior de balena* by Josep Maria Fenolleras, and the first work by a very young author, *Breu*, by Astrid Magrans.

Other publications of interest include: *Nit de foc*, by Vicent Marqués and *Ribera* by Josep Lozano, published by Bromera; *Contra la mort en companyia i altres relats* by Carme Riera, published by Destino; *L'altre barri* by Joaquim Carbó, published by Columna; *Présecs i Dièsel* by David Colomer, *Berlin Zoo* by Silvia Aymerich and *Mala sort* by Josep Surroca, published by La Magrana. Edicions de l'Eixample published Helena Valentí's posthumous novel, *D'esquena al mar*, and with its collection «Espai de dones» is providing the public with some of the most interesting samples of feminist literature or literature written by women. We can cite the following works and translations: *Temporada baixa* and *La casa gran* by Maria Mercè Roca, the new edition of *El Marrroc sensual i fanàtic* by Aurora Bertrana, with an introduction by Maria Antònia Oliver, *La trompeta acústica* by Leonora Carrington, *La història del meu fill* by Nadine Gordimer, *Arbres de mongetes* by Barbara Kingsolver, and the exceptional *Ull de gat* by the Canadian writer Margaret Atwood.

Nonnarrative prose, whether it be essay, memoirs or a collection of articles has also produced some works of note. We must first mention that Edicions 62 is continuing the publication of the complete works of Joan Fuster, which is now at its sixth volume, including *Diccionari per a ociosos*, *L'home, mesura de totes les coses* and *Babels i Babilònies*. We would also like to draw attention to the following: *Llengua de tribu i llengües de polis: Bases d'una traducció literària* by Joaquim Mallafre, two volumes of articles, *Hotel intercontinental*, by

Quim Monzó (published by Quaderns Crema), *Literatura catalana dels anys 80*, which brings together previously published articles by Alex Broch (Edicions 62), *Mentre parlem. Fragments d'un diari iniciàtic (1979-1984)* by Enric Sòria, awarded the Joanot Martorell Prize (Edicions 62), and *El cortesà i el seu fantasma* by the philosopher Xavier Rubert de Ventós, published by Destino.

Poetry continues to flourish, and as a result what follows is only a small sample of what appeared in print. Edicions 62 published the first two complete volumes of poetry by Joan Brossa, entitled *Poesia rasa*, and the second volume by Miquel Martí i Pol, *Obra poètica II* as parts of the collection «Clàssics catalans del segle XX». The tenth collection of poetry by Vicent Andrés Estellés, *Sonata d'Isabel* published by Tres i Quatre at the end of 1990, was awarded the critical prize «Cavall Verd», given in Palma de Mallorca in January (1991). He also published *Estat d'excepció* in 1991 (Edicions de la Guerra). Other complete works of younger authors include *Triomf del present. Obra poètica 1965-1983* by Francesc Parcerisas (Columna) and *Dictats d'amors. Poesia 1971-1991* by Josep Piera (Edicions 62).

Two interesting anthologies of poetry are *Poetria. Antologia de la poesia catalana*, by Albert Planelles and Francesc Vernet (published by La Magrana), and *Camp de mines* by Francesc Calafat (Edicions de la Guerra), which covers poets from Valencia who appeared in the 1980's. Individual collections of poetry include: *Les quatre estacions* by Jaume Pomar, *Natures vivès* by Ramon Xirau, and *La llum* by Pere Gimferrer, *Tremp d'or* by Anton Carrera, *L'abril a Luanco* by Xulio R. Trigo and *Els dies i tu* by Emili Rosales (all published by Edicions 62); *Amb el gest de les hores* by Josep Lluís Roig, winner of the Senyoriu d'Ausiàs Marc and *Els noms insondables* by Manuel Garcia Grau, winner of the Vicent Andrés Estellés prize (both published by Tres i Quatre). Bromera publishers came out with *Els signes immutables*, also by Garcia Grau, and *Aigüestortes* by Francesc Collado, which was awarded the Ciutat de València prize.

We would also like to mention the following: *Nova York* by Blai Bonet, *Fira desolada* by Marc Granell, and *Vida terrenal* by Lluís Calvo (all published by Columna), *La suprema noblesa del món* by Manuel Castañó and *La sang dels homes* by Jordi Sala (Quaderns Crema); *Quadern de magranes* by Jacint Sala i Codony (Editorial Moll); *Les anelles dels anys* by Alex Susanna (Proa); *Intromissió* by Arnau Pons (Empúries); and, two volumes in the collection of poetry of the Institució Alfons el Magnànim, *Esculls al dic sec de la memòria* by Víctor Sunyol and *Les cambres vora la pluja* by Manuel Claudi Santos.

There was also activity in poetry translation. Edicions 62 published *D'amor. Trenta poemes* by Robert Graves, well translated by Josep M. Jaumà, *Ostinato rigore* by Eugénio de Andrade, translated by Manuel Guerrero i

Brullet, and the anthology *Poesia russa contemporània*, edited by Ricard San Vicente. Erich Fried's work has been translated into Catalan by Marc Granell and Gustau Muñoz, *Exercis preparatoris per a un miracle*. The Institute of North American Studies of Barcelona should be congratulated for its publishing of two translations by Sam Abrams: *North from Nostalgia* by Joan Teixidor and *Survivors*, a collection of poems by Maria Antònia Salvà, Clementina Arderiu, Rosa Leveroni, Montserrat Abelló, Felicia Fuster, Maria Àngels Anglada, Marta Pessarrodona, Margarita Ballester and Maria Mercè Marçal.

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MUSIC

Writing about the musical activity of a community is nothing more than singling out the most important points of a process that, on first blush, is quite homogeneous and repetitive. Nevertheless, music in Catalonia is very much alive and evolving all the time.

In Barcelona the set concert series continue. This was the last year the City of Barcelona Orchestra series was directed by Franz Paul-Decker, who deserves the credit of raising the level of this orchestra and the willingness to leave an orchestra that is capable of competing with the most prestigious European and American orchestras. Next season Luis Antonio García Navarro, a Valencian who has primarily worked in Germany, will take over.

The Ibercàmera series also continues. This was its seventh year, and as always the series concentrated on the great artists, major orchestras and a repertoire from Romanticism and post-Romanticism. The sixth season of Euroconcert, in which chamber music and classic repertoire and early Romanticism dominate. Euroconcert also sponsored the I Cicle de Música per Orgue at the Barcelona Cathedral, and the concert series of contemporary music at the Fundació Miró.

The Fundació Caixa de Pensions, which has undergone significant change in its business structure due to the merger of the two savings banks La Caixa de Pensions and La Caixa de Barcelona, continues with its regular musical activity at the Palau Macaya and the Palau de la Música, as well as in several cities all over Catalonia. These activities mainly concentrate on series of Early Music, Romantic Music (this year, especially on Chamber music), the Flamenco Festival and the promotion of new values arising from the Stage Internacional de Torrebónica.

We would also like to make mention of the regular activities of the Orquestra Simfònica del Vallès, which gives concerts in Sabadell and other cities in Catalonia as well as its regular collaboration with the Sabadell Opera. Other regular concert series in Catalonia include Soloists of the City Orchestra of Barcelona at the Saló de Cent of the Barcelona City Government, the series at the University of Barcelona, now in its fourth year, the series of young artists at the Casa Elizalde, sponsored by Joventuts Musicals of Barcelona, the concert series at the Caixa de Madrid, and the Sunday morning concerts by the Barcelona Municipal Band.

What seems to be doing best, strangely enough, is 20th century music, which has so many problems in gaining acceptance around the world. The Associació Catalana de Compositors is a farsighted and active entity that sponsors various activities in this sense; other similar entities also join to keep up interest in new music. The «Mostres» that occur biannually, the fourth Setmana de Música Contemporània (which this year honored Josep Bartomeu, an important figure in music in the 1950's and 1960's) the series at the bar Nick Havanna, which is now in its sixth year, the series at the Fundació Miró, seat of the electroacoustic music laboratory Phonos, the series of «Música d'Avui» held at the Fundació Tàpies (now in its third year), as well as the series of chamber orchestra music at the Teatre Lliure under the direction of Josep Pons were all important in this respect.

Opera is in better condition than what might be expected. The Gran Teatre del Liceu, which still has not made the decision that its remodelling to keep it at its level because of political problems, continues on with more than 50 performances per season. Opera lovers can also enjoy, performances around Catalonia sponsored by the Associació d'Amics de l'Opera de Sabadell and the Symphonic Orchestra of the Vallès. We would especially like to draw attention to the opening of *Nascita e apoteose di Oro* by Miquel Roger in Badalona, which is celebrating the tenth anniversary of the renovation of its Professional Conservatory, one of the most prestigious in Catalonia.

Such an encouraging panorama is still beset by problems, economic factors and the required stability of public. There has been substantial public and private investment which allows music to reach everywhere; at present, although all the musical activity does encourage the presence of the public at concerts, we still cannot speak of the corresponding musical sensitivity.

This was a year of homages; 1991 cannot pass without referring to the figure who has received more homages than anyone else in the history of music, Mozart. In addition to the work by Mozartiana, whose goal is to perform all of Mozart's work in five years, there was no institution that did not publicly honor the composer. In addition, there were other international or local anniversaries to organize musical events around, such as the 75th anniversary of the death of

Granados, the 150th anniversary of the birth of the composer Felip Pedrell, etc. This period saw the passing of the soprano Montserrat Alavedra, and that of the conductor and force behind Early Music concerts, Enric Gispert. Finally, Oriol Martorell, Professor of Music of the University of Barcelona and director of the Coral Sant Jordi for 43 years, decided to retire from the Coral and devote himself entirely to his university duties. His farewell concert brought together people from the worlds of choral music, politics (such as Alexander Dubcek) and culture, and turned the concert into a retrospective view of the last fifty years of music in Catalonia.

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Translated by Albert Muth

VISUAL ARTS

Once again there was a significant amount of activity in the art world in the first half of 1991. We would especially like to point out the incorporation of a new branch of art, design, which is not usually included in exhibits. Design, a form of art somewhere between industry and art strictly understood, has always enjoyed a wide range of admirers and professionals in our area. At present it is one of the major protagonists, together with traditional monographic and thematic exhibits and photographic exhibits, which are becoming more and more important.

Two monographic exhibits stand out. The first was on the work of *Joaquim Mir* (Fundació «La Caixa», Barcelona). It showed one of the most interesting periods of his work, as it concentrated on his stay in the province of Tarragona between 1906 and 1914. With oils, drawings and pastels we can see how the isolation and harsh landscape of the Baix Camp area influenced his work. The second important exhibit was dedicated to *Andy Warhol* (Palau de la Virreina, Barcelona). It contained the last works before his death in 1987. Cars made by the German manufacturer Daimler-Benz were the center of this series, which Warhol was contracted to do in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the automobile.

As far as thematic exhibits are concerned, the show *Col·lecció Cambó* (Fundació «La Caixa», Barcelona) stands out. Francesc Cambó (1867-1947), the important Catalan politician, brought together a large number of works of art belonging to different styles (13th century – end of the 19th century). The collection had two goals: on the one hand, to complete the holdings of the Prado Museum in Madrid, and, on the other, bring together a collection of Renais-

sance works for the city of Barcelona, to which he left a large portion of his collection. The sample was well chosen, and the works in the exhibit were duly highlighted.

With a thoroughly different but also very illuminating perspective, the exhibit «China, 1000 years of art and culture», organized by the Generalitat de Catalunya, was opened (Centre d'Art Santa Mònica, Barcelona). The pieces were loaned by the National Museum of History of Beijing, and they included the famous clay soldiers from the tomb of the emperor Shihuang.

The various attempts to promote design were grouped together under a single name: «Primavera de disseny». Organizers hope the event will be biennial, and will promote design through exhibits, round tables, etc. Three exhibits are worth mention. First, «Design Vignelli» (Centre d'Art Santa Mònica, Barcelona), which was representative of the work of two Italians who now live and work in the U.S. in the world of design, Massimo and Lella Vignelli. Secondly, «Objects dans le parc» (Fundació «La Caixa», Barcelona) summarized the career of the architect from Barcelona, Oscar Tusquets, from two perspectives: that of a creator of architectural spaces and that of designer. This sample was an adaptation of the show presented in the «Villete» in Paris in 1990. And finally, «America Sanchez, deu estratègies gràfiques» (Palau de la Virreina, Barcelona), in which this designer not only showed her best known graphic designs but also the various techniques or «strategies» used to create a message.

Other activities were based on the two sides of photography, art and technique. «Passages de l'imatge» (Fundació «La Caixa», Barcelona), organized by the Georges Pompidou Center of Paris, covered the development of artistic practice since the appearance of new means of reproduction. «Fotografia americana del segle XX» (Fundació «La Caixa», Barcelona) summarized seventy years of photography in the United States. Based on the holdings of the Center for Creative Photography of the University of Tucson, Arizona, it examined the development of photography from after World War I to the end of the 1980's.

Other exhibits that were interesting because they dealt with uncommon topics were: «Els orígens de la litografia a Catalunya» (Biblioteca de Catalunya, Barcelona) and «L'objecte surrealista a Espanya» (Fundació «La Caixa», Barcelona), with works by Buñuel, Dalí, Miró, Clavé, etc.

There have also been important events in the art world elsewhere in Catalonia. A foundation was created in Pineda de Mar: the Fundació Pública Municipal Joan Josep Tharrats. This center's nucleus is the Tharrats' donation of graphic arts by important artists such as Picasso and Miró, as well as his own work. There was an exhibit in Olot entitled «Els sants d'Olot» (Museu d'Olot), which concentrated on one of the most traditional artistic activities of the city: imagery.

In the Balearic Islands, the exhibits on Fabrizio Plessi (Centre de Cultura Sa

Nostra, Palma de Mallorca) and Antoni Clavé (Centre Cultural Contemporani Pelaires, Palma de Mallorca) were very successful.

Finally, in Valencia the shows organized by the Institut Valencià d'Art Modern to promote «pop» art stand out. The Institut held a single-theme show on the career of J. Rosenquist, with the famous series on President Kennedy, and one on Richard Hamilton, undoubtedly the leading figure of the «Independent Group» of London.

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