

# WITH REBELLION, AWARENESS IS BORN

Rafael CANOGAR  
Modest CUIXART

Luis FEITO  
José GUERRERO

Josep GUINOVRT  
Manolo MILLARES

Antonio SAURA  
Antoni TÀPIES

26 September 2018 – 5 January 2019  
(Preview from 20 September onwards)

Mayoral is pleased to present the exhibition ***With Rebellion, Awareness Is Born***, a look at Spanish art of the postwar period which includes a painstaking selection of works by **Rafael Canogar, Modest Cuixart, José guerrero, Josep Guinovart, Luis Feitp, Manolo Millares, Antonio Saura and Antoni Tàpies**. The show has been curated by art historian and critic Tomàs Llorens, who was director of the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid and of the Institut Valencià d'Art Modern (IVAM) in Valencia.

The exhibition includes paintings by a generation of upcoming young artists in the 1950s who were sinking their roots in Spanish cultural life during the apogee of Francoist Spain. These artists partook of the desire to investigate a new art that would express their time and to bring a legacy already expressed by El Greco, Velázquez and Goya, as well as Picasso and Miró, up to date. Through the visual arts such artists conveyed the idea of a wound and of suffering by waging a war of denunciation and rebellion against the injustice and oppression of the *status quo*. In that respect, ***Black Series No. 2*** by Rafael Canogar and ***Painting (3)*** by Manolo Millares are outstanding. Also deserving of particular attention are the two oils by Cuixart, which were included in the São Paulo Biennial of 1959, and the monumental painting by Luis Feito, ***Untitled***, exhibited at the 1968 Venice Biennale.

Tomàs Llorens, in his first exhibition curated for a private gallery, points out that “The final distinguishing factor, and the most decisive one when it comes to describing what differentiates, as a group, the young avant-gardists represented in this exhibition, is their particular historical context. What most deeply marked their different individual poetics,



**RAFAEL CANOGAR**  
**Serie negra n°2**  
(*Black Series No. 2*)  
(1959)  
Oil on canvas  
79 × 59 in

**MANOLO MILLARES**  
**Cuadro (3)**  
(*Painting (3)*)(1960)  
Mixed media on  
burlap  
23.6 × 28.7 in

endowing them with a common character that, as time goes by, is perceived with greater clarity, is the rage and the hope with which, at the midpoint of Francoism, they began to imagine its demise.”

Jordi Mayoral, the gallery director, states that “It is a privilege to promote this exhibition. We cannot forget that the rift this generation of artists represented announces the falling of the walls and the future that is glimpsable on the horizon. We are the offspring of that rift, of those geniuses who edified a hope that we avail ourselves of and make our own. As the writer Albert Camus said, ‘With rebellion, awareness is born.’”

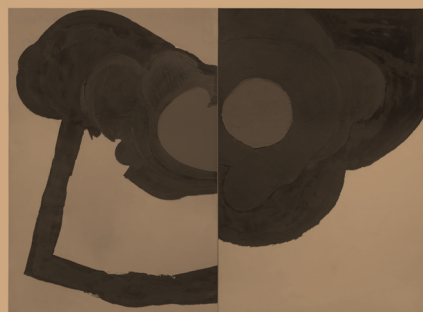
A catalogue has been published for the exhibition which includes, along with the curator’s own essay, an interview with two of the featured artists, Luis Feito and Rafael Canoger. For the carrying out of these interviews the gallery has had the valuable help of the curator Elena Sorokina and the director of the Museo Picasso of Barcelona, Emmanuel Guigon. In addition it has a contribution from Bea Espejo, through whose eyes we approach postwar Spanish art with respect, admiration, and a series of new questions: “Reading this exhibition in terms of rebellion entails thinking about painting as nonconformity and about creation as a renegade space.”

#### THE CURATOR

Tomàs Llorens Serra (Almazora, Castellón, 1936) is an art historian and critic of Spanish art. A Law graduate and Bachelor of Arts, he has been director of the Institut Valencià d’Art Modern, director of the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, and chief curator of the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza from 1991 to 2005. As well as being the author of numerous articles and essays about twentieth-century art history and criticism, architecture and semiotics, he has curated some of the finest exhibitions seen in Spain in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. He was awarded the Gold Medal of Merit in the Fine Arts in 2007.

#### ABOUT MAYORAL

Mayoral is an art gallery founded in Barcelona in 1989 that specialises in modern art and art of the postwar years. Its exhibition programme is structured around leading artists of the 20th century, among them Joan Miró, Pablo Picasso, Salvador Dalí, Alexander Calder, Luis Feito, Joan Brossa, Eduardo Chillida, Manolo Millares, Antonio Saura and Antoni Tàpies. The gallery develops projects that are meticulously curated. Mayoral relies upon the collaboration of the families of the artists, as well as on different foundations and institutions whose mission it is to preserve and make known the legacy of its artists. Likewise, it enjoys the trust of international collectors and museums, both private and public.



**MODEST CUIXART**  
**El sueño de Eude**

*(Eude's Dream)*  
(1959)

Mixed media on canvas  
110 × 79 in

**LUIS FEITO**  
**Sin título**

*(Untitled)*  
(1960)

Oil and sand  
on canvas  
86.6 × 118.2 in

# MAYORAL