Annexe 2: Venues

Manifesta 15 Barcelona Metropolitana will present a programme in 16 venues across 12 cities in the metropolitan region.

Barcelona: Gustavo Gili

The former Gustavo Gili publishing house is currently Manifesta 15 Barcelona Metropolitana’s headquarters in the L’Esquerra de l’Eixample district of Barcelona. Editorial Gustavo Gili is well-known for being the first to publish authors in the field of visual culture and architecture, such as John Berger, Milton Glaser, Rem Koolhaas, Bruno Munari, Joan Fontcuberta and Ellen Lupton, in Spanish. The building is a remarkable example of Catalan architecture from the 1950s, designed by architects Joaquim Gili and Francesc Bassó, who were members of Grup R – an architectural movement that emerged in Catalonia during the 1950s as a reaction to the official architecture of the Francoist regime. The building was awarded the FAD Prize for pioneering modernist architecture in 1961. It represents a very strategic point in the city for the upcoming edition and it will be the nucleus of the biennial programme.
El Prat de Llobregat: Casa Gomis

Casa Gomis, also known as La Ricarda, is a family house designed by Catalan architect Antoni Bonet i Castellana, built for the Gomis family between 1949 and 1963. Ricardo Gomis was a founding member of Discòfils Associació Pro-Música (1935) and a member of CLUB49, a collective made up of people from the cultural and avant-garde scene of Barcelona. Renowned galerist and art connoisseur Joan Prats Vallès was responsible for promoting and supporting most of the projects at Casa Gomis, carried out by artists such as Antoni Tàpies, Joan Miró and Josep Lluís Sert. Casa Gomis was a place of meeting, exchange and experimentation, until CLUB49 disappeared shortly after the death of Joan Prats Vallès. The house, which uses the characteristic Catalan vault in its structure, embodies principles of modernist architecture and was declared a Cultural Interest Asset in 2021. Situated amidst natural surroundings, it symbolises the ongoing dialogue between industrial expansion and environmental preservation, reflecting the theme of Balancing Conflicts.
L’Hospitalet de Llobregat: Can Trinxet

Can Trinxet is a former textile factory. It was first occupied in 1890 and later became the largest industrial complex in L’Hospitalet de Llobregat, a city with magnificent industrial heritage. Often shortened to L’Hospitalet or just L’H, it is the second most populated city of Catalonia, where a great deal of Spanish workers migrated to throughout the 20th century searching for employment. Today, only Can Gras remains of the whole Can Trinxet complex, illustrating the era when the textile industry was a leading socio-economic force in Catalonia and Spain.

Cornellà de Llobregat: La Caldereria

Located in Cornellà de Llobregat, one of the densely populated cities of the metropolitan region, this facility has served as a prominent industrial hub since its opening in 1910. Once an industrial city with a strong presence of manufacturing and textile industries, in recent years it has undergone significant urban redevelopment. Through continuous innovation, the La Caldereria factory transitioned from producing motors to emerging as a global centre for railway equipment. Following the relocation to its present headquarters, La Caldereria now functions as a hangar and workspace for municipal brigades.
Sant Cugat del Vallès: Monestir de Sant Cugat

The Monastery of Sant Cugat, founded in the 9th century and completed in the 14th century, includes Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque elements. It became an epicentre of power and culture in the 11th century, a time when the monks lived following the Benedictine lifestyle whilst also managing extensive properties in the area. Reflecting Manifesta 15’s Cure and Care theme, the monastery’s spirituality emphasises the importance of caring for ourselves, each other and the natural environment.

Sant Cugat del Vallès: Cal Quitèria

Cal Quitèria, a 19th century country house in Sant Cugat, now hosts the Grau-Garriga Centre for Contemporary Textile Art. It honours Catalan textile artist Josep Grau-Garriga’s wish to promote this art form as well as the Catalan Tapestry School, while serving as a pivotal centre for contemporary textile art in the region.
Sabadell: Vapor Buxeda Vell

Vapor Buxeda Vell, established in 1852 by the Buxeda brothers in Sabadell, exemplifies the city’s role in Catalonia’s Industrial Revolution. Commonly referred to as Can Buxeda, this 19th-century textile mill, known for producing electric lighting with its steam engine, stands as a symbol of Sabadell’s industrial heritage.

Terrassa: La Seu d’Ègara (The See of Ègara)

The episcopal complex of Ègara, which includes the churches of Sant Pere, Sant Miquel and Santa Maria, stands as a pivotal landmark in the historical, ecclesiastical and cultural exchanges of the 5th and 6th centuries. The survival of the artistic, architectural and archaeological elements from the 6th to the 8th century, along with the pictorial decoration, makes this complex an exceptional testimony to the artistic culture of the 6th century.
Granollers: Roca Umbert. Fàbrica de les Arts

The Roca Umbert Factory is a former textile factory that has been transformed into an arts and culture centre. Its origins date back to 1904, when the first looms were installed. Commissioned by Josep Umbert, the company grew steadily amid industrialisation and the rapid consolidation of the Catalan textile sector. The Roca Umbert Factory has been renovated as a symbol of Granollers’ industrial past and turned into a so-called Factory of the Arts. This is a cultural space in constant transformation and at the service of creative processes and the artistic training of citizens.

Plaça de la Porxada © Manifesta 15 / Helena Roig

Granollers: Plaça de la Porxada

At Plaça Gran, the main square of Granollers located in the old town, fifteen columns support a hip-roof structure adorned with green glazed tiles, standing on a stone platform. Built in the late 16th century as a corn exchange, this portico has evolved into Granollers’ focal point. Initially housing stalls, it served its purpose until the Spanish Civil War, during which a bombardment reduced La Porxada to ruins. Subsequently reconstructed without booths, the columns now stand open to the public.
Granollers: Museu de Ciències Naturals de Granollers (Natural Science Museum of Granollers)

Focusing on geology, botany, paleontology and zoology, the Natural Science Museum of Granollers connects the realms of culture and nature. Comprising of two buildings, including La Tela, a Catalan Art Nouveau house set amidst a stunning garden integrated into the museum complex and a modern annexe, it provides exhibition spaces, diverse activities and a comprehensive library, also managing extensive properties in the area. Reflecting Manifesta 15’s Cure and Care theme, the monastery’s spirituality emphasises the importance of caring for ourselves, each other and the natural environment.

Granollers: Can Jonch - Centre de la Cultura per la Pau (Cultural Centre for Peace)

Located in a Catalan Art Nouveau family house in Granollers, the Cultural Centre for Peace stands as a testament to the city’s rich historical and architectural legacy. Originating from the early 20th century, this building embodies the Granollers City Council’s dedication to preserving historical memory and promoting peace. Established in 2008, on the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Granollers during the Spanish Civil War in 1938, the centre serves as both an exhibition space and a resource hub for peace, human rights and various organisations dedicated to these causes. On the day of its inauguration, a Gernika oak tree was planted in the garden as a symbol of peace.
Sant Adrià de Besòs: Les Tres Xemeneies (The Three Chimneys)

The Three Chimneys is a staggering landmark of the coastal landscape of Barcelona. Built in the 1970s, it was previously used as a thermal power station until it closed in 2011 and to this day has remained inactive. Local opposition initially surrounded the station’s construction, disliking both its appearance and its environmental implications. In 1973, during the station’s construction, workers went on strike to demand improved working conditions, tragically resulting in the death of a worker. Despite the company’s intentions to demolish the chimneys upon closure, the local community formed a strong attachment to them and voted against their removal. These chimneys are a monument for the people who built them - a symbol of the recent industrial past. Manifesta 15 will reopen this highly visible icon for the first time in its history for its visitors, with presentations both inside the former turbine hall, as well as outside in its surrounding areas.
Santa Coloma de Gramenet: La CIBA

Opened in 2020, La CIBA is an exemplary public facility for the women of Santa Coloma which aims to help women be independent in all aspects of their lives. It is also a hub for innovation and feminist creation with spaces focused on supporting cultural projects and training.

Badalona: Platja del Coco (Coco Beach)

Platja del Coco is part of Badalona’s prominent shoreline, renowned for the iconic Pont del Petroli, a pier stretching out over the sea. An artistic intervention will unfold along the coast line, seamlessly blending creation with the vastness of the ocean.
Mataró: M|A|C Presó (Mataró Prison)

The Mataró Prison (Elies Rogent, 1863) is a construction of great relevance in the history of contemporary prison architecture because it constitutes the first example of the panoptic model in Spain. It housed many political prisoners in Francoist Spain and remained in use until 1967.

Since the beginning of 2022, the building has been converted into the Mataró Art Contemporani (M|A|C), the contemporary art centre of the city. It was transformed from a former centre of repression into a point of cultural freedom: an ideal point of departure for one of the objectives of Manifesta 15 Barcelona, which is to activate new cultural spaces linked to Catalan social history.
Notes for the editors:
Manifesta 15 Barcelona Metropolitana 2024 is co-initiated by the Municipality of Barcelona and the International Foundation Manifesta. Additional public partners are the Diputació de Barcelona and the Generalitat de Catalunya.

About Manifesta 15:
https://manifesta15.org/about-manifesta

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Manifesta 15 Barcelona Metropolitana:
8th of September – 24th of November 2024

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