

Museo Reina Sofía

MUSEO NACIONAL
CENTRO DE ARTE
REINA SOFÍA



The Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía is oriented towards a transformation of the traditional museum model, bringing the visitor back to the fore as a critical agent rather than a mere passive spectator. The Collection is the focal point around which the Museum's mediating activities and temporary exhibitions are organized. Its presentation is structured in historic periods where the various disciplines (visual arts, film, literature, etc.) are interrelated in order to present narratives with multiple roots that help us recognize the complexity of the world we live in.

Research, experimentation and public interpellation are the main guidelines of the program of temporary exhibitions. As a catalyst of ideas, discourses and poetics, the Museum regards the exhibition as a device of prime importance for intervention in the sphere of contemporary art and culture, both national and international.

On the basis of the concept of the expanded museum, the Museo Reina Sofía offers an intense audiovisual and live arts program, as well as a constant forum of thought, debate and education for all ages, with courses, lectures and workshops where the public becomes the protagonist.



GOBIERNO
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MINISTERIO
DE EDUCACIÓN, CULTURA
Y DEPORTE

Museo Reina Sofía Collection, view of exhibit:
ZAJ. Musical Theatre Concert

Collection

The Museum invites visitors to explore three sections that follow a historical logic without imposing a strict chronological order or a linear narrative of modernity. They are housed in both of the Museum's buildings and on different floors, so that visitors can choose the sequence that most interests them. Each section in its turn contains various possible itineraries and perspectives, inviting viewers to follow their own routes and reach their own interpretations.

The Irruption of the 20th Century: Utopias and Conflicts (1900-1945)

Sabatini Building, 2nd Floor

The Collection of the Museo Reina Sofía begins at the end of the 19th century with a survey of the conflicts between a modernity understood in terms of progress and its many discontents. The avant-garde, with its reinvention of the subject, the public and the artistic medium, becomes symptomatic of the new 20th century. While Cubism defines the modern gaze, temporal and multiple, Dadaism and Surrealism free the subject from repression, giving free rein to desire and the subconscious. In the 1920s and 1930s, the re-reading of traditional genres coexists with a link between avant-garde and politics that culminates in the Spanish case with the Republican Pavilion of 1937 and Pablo Picasso's *Guernica*.

Is the War Over? Art in a Divided World (1945-1968)

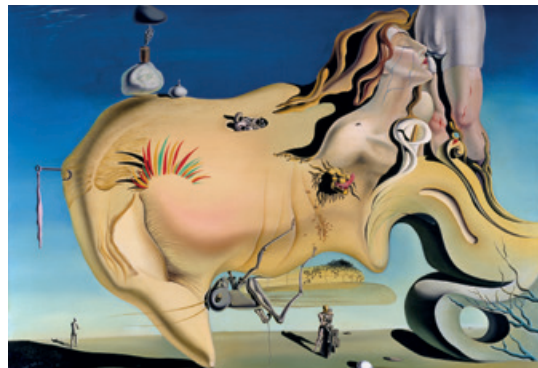
Sabatini Building, 4th Floor.

After the Second World War, a massive setback for the utopian ambitions of the avant-garde, comes the period covered by this section, which examines the artistic transformations of the post-war period. In the face of a withdrawal into expressive abstraction, the consumer society takes shape and a series of political changes lead to a polarization between the individualistic western world and the collectivism of the Soviet Union, two opposed yet at the same time complementary systems. Art inserts itself within this complex discursive web, where the battle for ideological hegemony becomes one for cultural primacy.

From Revolt to Postmodernity (1962-1982)

Nouvel Building, Floors 0 and 1.

It is during the period from the 1960s to the 1980s that a number of political, social, cultural and technological changes occur which shape the contemporary global scenario: decolonization, the revolts of '68, the feminist movements, the economic crisis, the expansion of popular culture, and the blossoming of new peripheral modernisms. It is also the moment when the art system overflows its specific field and directly enters the arena of all these processes, even at the risk of losing the specificity of its conventional media—painting and sculpture—and its aesthetic mission.



Salvador Dalí,
Visage du Grand Masturbateur
(Face of the Great Masturbator), 1929.
© Salvador Dalí, Fundación Gala-Salvador Dalí,
VEGAP, Madrid, 2015



Museo Reina Sofía Collection, view of exhibit: *Guernica* and the 1930s



Museo Reina Sofía Collection, view of exhibit: The Critical Image. Figuration in 1960s Spain



Museo Reina Sofía Collection, view of exhibit: Living Spaces: the Politics of Arte Povera

Exhibitions

Research, the construction of visual narratives and dissemination are the keys to the Museo Reina Sofía's program of temporary exhibitions, whose aim is to provide the visitor with tools for understanding the world through art. With a historical gaze ranging from the recent past to contemporary artistic practices, the exhibitions contextualize times and places, exploring poetics and generating networks of relations. The venues for the exhibition program are the main Museum building and the Palacio de Velázquez and Palacio de Cristal, both in Retiro Park. The program includes monographic

shows, both retrospective and specifically focused, on artists of recognized prestige who have a special significance within the Museum's collections; historical, thematic and thesis exhibitions which confront the work of various artists, examining particular moments and occasionally feeling the pulse of what is happening today; and newly produced projects within the framework of the Fissures Program and the Palacio de Cristal, which support the materialization of new work by internationally renowned artists. In the case of the Palacio de Cristal, the artists confront the challenge of producing a specific intervention for this unique space.



Image of the exhibition
Juan Luis Moraza, Republic
Museo Reina Sofía, 2014



Image of the exhibition
Richard Hamilton
Museo Reina Sofía, 2014

Library and Documentation Center

The Library of the Museo Reina Sofía houses one of the world's most complete collections specializing in contemporary art, with access available to researchers and students. Its collections include specialized publications, artist's books, photobooks, comics, fanzines and audiovisual material. These materials may be consulted freely in the reading room located in the Nouvel Building.

From the Documentation Center, access is provided to digitalized contents, specialized databases and electronic magazines. In keeping with the Museum's mission of safeguarding and disseminating our common memory, various archives on Spanish and international art, with a special emphasis on Latin America, are made available to researchers and the general public in the conviction that documentation should be open and shared.

Activities and educational program

As a vehicle of knowledge and reflection and a sponsor of new spaces for experimentation, creation and diffusion in the arts, the Museo Reina Sofía offers the public a wide-ranging program of activities, from international seminars and lectures to debates on major contemporary issues. Seasons of film, video and live arts moreover establish closer links with artistic practices. The Museo Reina Sofía's educational activities range from

children's education and mediation with sectors of the public to advanced studies, and all are based on close dialogue with the community.

Commented visits and cultural mediation

The program of commented visits includes general and thematic tours of the Collection and the exhibitions aimed at both individuals and groups. Cultural informers and mediators attend to consultations on the Museum's contents and services and assist in the preparation of visits.



As part of the Museo Reina Sofía's commitment to accessibility for all, it offers specific educational actions for members of the public with different disabilities, as well as various services ensuring accessibility for the public in general.

Children's workshop *Leap into the Void*,
Museo Reina Sofía, 2013

Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía

Sabatini Building

C/ Santa Isabel, 52, Madrid

Nouvel Building

Ronda de Atocha (corner of Plaza del Emperador Carlos V), Madrid

Tel. (34) 91 774 10 00

Opening hours

Monday to Saturday and public holidays

10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Sunday

10:00 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

whole museum open,

2:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Collection 1 and one temporary exhibition open (consult website).

The rest of the Museum will remain closed.

Tuesday closed

Museum closing days

January 1 and 6, May 1 and 15, November 9, December 24, 25 and 31.

On May 15 and November 9, only the Palacio de Velázquez and the Palacio de Cristal are open.

Entrance fees

Visit to the Collection and temporary exhibitions € 8

Temporary exhibitions only € 4

Tickets may be purchased online



www.museoreinasofia.es

Palacio de Velázquez and Palacio de Cristal Retiro Park, Madrid

Opening hours

October to March

Every day from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

April to September

Every day from 10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.

Closing days

January 1 and 6, May 1,

December 24, 25 and 31

Entrance free

Library and Documentation Center

Nouvel Building

Ronda de Atocha (corner with Plaza del Emperador Carlos V), Madrid

Opening hours

Monday to Friday

10.00 to 21.00, except public holidays

Audioguide and radio guide services

In Spanish, English, French, Italian, German and Russian.

Radio guides are recommended for guided group visits.

Accessibility

Wheelchairs provided

Sign language guides

Audioguides with audio description

Magnetic induction loops

Leaflets in Braille and large characters

Images of exhibit views

© Sucesión Pablo Picasso, VEGAP, Madrid, 2015

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Juan Luis Moraza, Eduardo Arroyo, Equipo Crónica (Manolo Valdés),

VEGAP, Madrid, 2015

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