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SPAIN arts & culture presents:

Launch of the cultural program FALL/WINTER 2015 in the U.S. and CANADA



Cover of the SPAIN arts & culture catalogue Fall /Winter 2015 by Walter Martin and Paloma Muñoz

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Launch of the cultural program FALL/WINTER 2015, U.S and Canada

Washington, D.C.– The Embassy of Spain in Washington, D.C., in collaboration with the Embassy of Spain in Ottawa (Canada), presents the Fall/Winter 2015 edition of the cultural program **SPAIN arts & culture**.

This season **SPAIN arts & culture** will focus on a creative explanation of Spain's influence in the Americas, from America's First City to one of the largest collections of Spanish art. The exhibition *Designing America: Spain's Imprint in the U.S.* at the Former Residence of the Ambassadors of Spain in Washington D.C. will highlight from December 8 to February 28, Spain's important contributions to the construction of the United States territory from the first settlements to present day. A combined narration of historic documents, images and audio-visual elements will enlighten the visitor about political and cultural events that have marked the course of common history between Spain and the United States.

This program also dedicates special attention to the celebration of the **450th anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine**, the oldest and continuously inhabited European settlement in the continental United States, established by Spanish explorer Pedro Menéndez de Avilés in 1565.

The exhibit *Treasures from the House of Alba: 500 Years of Art and Collecting* commemorates the **Golden anniversary of the Meadows Museum** in Dallas. From September to January 2016, and for the first time, 100 objects from this most distinguished noble Spanish family will be displayed. Major treasures never before seen outside of Spain, including Fra Angelico's *Madonna of the Pomegranate* and Goya's *The Duchess of Alba in White*, will be seen along with incredible archival materials such as Columbus's first map of the New World.

Other important exhibitions to highlight during the Fall/Winter 2015 program are: *Miró, The Experience of Seeing*, featuring more than 50 paintings, drawings and sculptures at the McNay Museum in San Antonio, TX. *Disney and Dalí: Architects of the Imagination*, in San Francisco and St. Petersburg, explores the friendship and professional alliance between the two artists. And *Goya & Dalí: Los Caprichos*, at CCEMiami, revisits Goya through the work of Dalí on the former's series of prints entitled *Los Caprichos*.

Photography will be the soul during the *FotoWeekDC* 2015 Festival, the largest visual arts festival in Washington D.C. The Former Residence of the Ambassadors of Spain will, for the second year, serve as the *FotoWeekDC* Central, where the festival's anchor exhibition *Aperture Photographs* will be on display. This 8th edition, from November 7 to 15, will bring a series of dynamic and diverse events including exhibitions, installations, screenings and lectures in several places of D.C.

Performing arts are always an important part of our program. **SPAIN arts & culture** also joins GALA Hispanic Theatre to celebrate its 40th anniversary. With the world premiere of a new adaptation of *Yerma (Barren)*, Spanish playwright **Fernando J. López** takes us back to a dramatic and tragic poem written in 1934 by renowned Spanish poet Federico García Lorca.

Cinema will also be present. Festivals such as *Rock & Doc*, a latino music and documentary film festival created by the Spanish team *Laboratorio Cultural Ultramarino*, spotlights new Latin filmmakers and recording artists, as well as showcases the classic "rockumentaries", documentaries that feature the music scene and its movers and shakers. Furthermore, the 21st edition of *Los Angeles' Recent Spanish Cinema*, the 5th edition of *Miami's Recent Cinema from Spain*, the *AFI Latin American Film Festival* in Silver Spring, MD, the *¡Cine Magnífico!* series in Albuquerque, and the *Festival of New Spanish Cinema* in Ottawa.



Literature is another axis of this program. Spain will be present at the 6th edition of Puerto Rico's *Festival de la Palabra* that will take place this October in San Juan, Puerto Rico. This year includes the participation of writer **Elia Barceló, Esther Bendahan, Ignacio del Valle, Berna González Harbor, Fernando Iwasaki, Luisgé Martín, Javier Ruibal.**

Spain will also participate in *Art All Night: Nuit Blanche DC*, an all-night celebration of contemporary art encompassing five of the most vibrant neighborhoods in DC. In this edition, Spain will offer *Aire: Concert for Nomads*, a cinematic, musical and poetic proposal by composer and double bass player Javier Moreno, who travels through cities, memories and time.

Moreover, *CUBAHORA, Why not?* (previously called Contemporary Cuba) is a multidisciplinary project that offers dance, theater, literature, art and music. The purpose is to portray the creativeness of some of the best born and raised young Cuban artists. Some of the participants are Writer **Leonardo Padura**, director **Carlos Díaz**, musicians **Zule Guerra** and **Alberto Lezgay**. This event is organized by the CCEMiami, the Cultural Office at the Embassy of Spain in La Havana and **SPAIN arts & culture**. *CUBAHORA, Why not?* seeks to emphasize the good relation between Cuba and Spain.

Music, Design, Fashion, and Visual Arts complement this 10th edition of **SPAIN arts & culture** program, which encompasses 43 cities throughout the United States and Canada, accomplished as the result of continuous relationships with American institutions, cultural centers and universities.

The cover of the catalog is the work of the American-Spanish design team **Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz**. Both artists have exhibited widely in museums and galleries throughout the USA and Europe.

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SPAIN arts & culture features the most cutting-edge works of international renowned Spanish artists in fields such as design, urban culture, architecture, visual arts, film, performing arts, literature and music. A series of exhibitions, conferences, showcases, and performances take place every year at the most prestigious American cultural institutions bringing a taste of all the creativity, history, and talent of Spanish artists to the American public. This program is organized by the Embassy of Spain's Cultural Office in Washington, D.C. and its network of General Consulates and Cervantes Institutes in the United States together with the Spain-USA Foundation. www.spainculture.us