

Press Release

29 March, 2005  
2005 EXPO Aichi Spanish Pavilion

## Tàpies 2005 EXPO Aichi Spanish Pavilion introduces Spain's modern art to Japan

2005 EXPO Aichi Spanish Pavilion co-organizes an exhibition of Antoni Tàpies, one of the most prominent artists in Spain, entitled "Tàpies" at Hara Museum of Contemporary Art (Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo) from 30 March through 29 May, 2005. The exhibition is co-organized by Spanish Pavilion, Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, SEACEX, State Corporation for Spanish Cultural Action Abroad (Sociedad Estatal para la Acción Cultural Exterior) and Museum of Contemporary Art of Barcelona (MACBA, Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona). During the six months of the EXPO, the Spanish Pavilion will offer a wide range of programs outside of the EXPO site to experience and enjoy the world of Spain. Under the tagline "spain in japan", a variety of activities will be offered for people in Japan. A photo exhibition "TEN VIEWS OF SPAIN" and "PICASSO: CERAMICS AND TRADITION" have already been open to the public, and fashion and design exhibitions are awaiting its opening in July. In addition to the art exhibitions, the Spanish Pavilion will provide many other activities in the near future, including flamenco performances, theater and classic guitar concerts.

"Tàpies", curated by Manuel Borja-Villel, director of the Museum of Contemporary Art of Barcelona and well known pioneer of Tàpies studies, is a compilation of the international exhibition to introduce Tàpies' work to the world, and it will be exhibited only at the Hara Museum of Contemporary Art in Japan. Tàpies is one of the most prominent artists in Spain, who inherits spirits of great artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including Picasso, Dali and Miro. Many of his artwork has strong ties to his homeland Catalonia. His works are imbued with a strong dynamism that seeks spiritual freedom and a strong desire to express. They also have strong essence of the Eastern Philosophy and religions such as Zen, struck by the Book of Tea by Okakura Tenshin as young. The exhibition will present nearly 30 selected artworks by Tàpies produced after 1940s to today, many of which will be presented for the first time in Japan.

### <Outline of "Tàpies">

Location: Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo (TEL: 03-3445-0651)

Period: 30 March – 29 May, 2005

Business Hours: 11:00 – 17:00 (20:00 on Weds), closed on Mondays

### **About the Spanish Pavilion**

The theme of the Spanish Pavilion is "Sharing the Art of Life". Located in Global Common 3 in the Nagakute Area of EXPO 2005 Aichi, the Spanish Pavilion was designed by Alejandro Zaera Polo. The structure of the Spanish Pavilion resembles the design of a cathedral: 5 exhibition spaces – the 'chapels' – are connected with the Plaza, the central 'nave'. The exhibition spaces will introduce Spain using 5 different themes: *Innovation, Harvest of Paradise, Quixote, Contemporary Heroes* and *Fiesta*. Inside the pavilion, there will also be a *Tapas Bar* as well as *LOEWE Shop*. The Spanish Pavilion will also carry out many activities at the pavilion and in various parts of Japan including art exhibitions featuring famous artists from Spain, a flamenco festival, etc. Spain's participation in EXPO 2005 Aichi is a key factor in its relationship with Japan; this will be the first time Spain will participate in a universal exposition held in Asia. For further information visit: [<http://www.expoaichi2005.com>].

### **For further information please contact:**

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## Notes to Editors

During the six months of the EXPO, the Spanish Pavilion will offer a wide range of programs for people in Japan to experience and enjoy the world of Spain and to develop an understanding of Spain's art, culture, historic heritage, scientific development and quality of life. Under the tagline "spain in japan", a variety of activities will be offered. Art exhibitions focusing on introducing Spain's rich art, culture and quality of life will exhibit leading Spanish artists, trends in contemporary Spain, and the lasting impact of Spanish culture to the world. Seven exhibitions such as contemporary art (painting and sculpture), photography, ceramics and fashion will be provided. The Spanish Pavilion hopes to develop a mutual understanding between Japan and Spain, and enhance its presence in Japan through such activities.

### *<Spain in Japan: Schedules of the art exhibitions>*

#### **1. Photography: TEN VIEWS OF SPAIN (in session)**

Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo / 19 March – 24 April, 2005

- Photo exhibition introducing changes and developments Spain has been through in the past 25 years, and present Spain

#### **2. Ceramics: PICASSO: CERAMICS AND TRADITION (in session)**

Aichi Prefectural Ceramic Museum, Seto, Aichi / 21 March – 25 September, 2005

- Ceramic exhibition demonstrating how Picasso's ceramic works and traditional ceramics leap over boundaries such as culture, civilization and time to form part of the long tradition of ceramic art

#### **3. Tàpies**

Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo / 30 March – 29 May, 2005

- Planned to travel throughout the world as a showcase of the artist's achievements, this exhibition will feature rarely seen examples of paintings and sculptures by Antoni Tàpies, many of which will be presented for the first time in Japan.

#### **4. NATURE & ART - GAUDÍ, MIRÓ, DALÍ**

Toyota Municipal Museum, Toyota City, Aichi / 17 July – 10 September, 2005

- Art exhibition aiming to examine the relationship that Gaudí, Miró and Dalí had with nature; their passion towards nature, human interaction with the natural environment and important roles the planet Earth has.

#### **5. Design: 300% SPANISH DESIGN**

Saitama Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, Saitama / 16 July – 10 October, 2005.

- Design exhibition introducing the history of industrial design in Spain from the 10<sup>th</sup> century until today.

#### **6. Fashion: GENIO Y FIGURA**

Saitama Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, Saitama / 16 July – 10 October, 2005

- Fashion exhibition will demonstrate the powerful influences of Spanish culture on creations by well-known international fashion designers.

#### **7. Architecture: EXTREME EURASIA**

Spiral Garden, Tokyo / 30 June – 24 July, 2005

- Exhibition introducing the latest trends in modern architecture will promote transcontinental dialogue between Spain and Japan.

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