

The Museum of Modern Art of Céret reflects the exceptional cultural adventure of the city since the beginning of the last century. Named “the Mecca of Cubism” as soon as 1909, Céret has turned into a mythic place for modern and contemporary art.

Created in 1950, then renovated and enlarged in 1993, the museum tells this story by offering an historical collection inspired by the stays of numerous artists in the city. The contemporary collection reflects the museum’s artistic openness to avant-garde spirit.

The adventure starts in January 1910, when three artists arrive from Paris, namely Picasso’s friend, the Catalan sculptor Manolo Hugué, the painter and sponsor Frank Burty-Haviland and the composer Déodat de Séverac. Between 1911 and 1913, they invite their friends from Montmartre over to Céret: Picasso, Georges Braque, Juan Gris, Auguste Herbin, Max Jacob...

During their stays in Céret, Picasso and Braque compose a set of canvasses considered as Cubist masterpieces. Following in their wake, the greatest figures of Modern Art come to Céret for whether short or long stays. The outbreak of the Great War slows the trend for a while, but the artistic turmoil starts again in the Roaring Twenties with the arrival of artists from Montparnasse. Between 1919 and 1922, Soutine paints more than two hundred landscapes, considered as Expressionist masterpieces. His fellow countryman Krémègne follows him to Céret and spends there the rest of his life.

In 1928/29 Chagall settles for a few months in a Catalan farm in the surroundings. André Masson, Maurice Loutreuil, Auguste Herbin, Juan Gris come and return to Céret. In his house-studio dominating the city, Pierre Brune, a painter arrived in Céret in 1916, welcomes and guides the visiting artists. Later, fleeing WWII tragic events, Raoul Dufy, Jean Cocteau, Jean Dubuffet and Albert Marquet also arrive in Céret.

Over time, the idea to create a museum becomes more and more recurrent. Pierre Brune and Frank Burty Haviland, both of them at the same time painters and hosts of the visiting artists, gather an important collection and persuade the municipality to create a museum. They enjoy the artists’ generosity and support, since Matisse and Picasso offer a significant number of works. The Museum of Modern art opens its doors in 1950, at the premises of a former 17th century Carmelite convent. In 1993, it is renovated and enlarged, and shows a remarkable Mediterranean architecture, which sublimates the works and the natural light.

The Museum’s particular identity bases on a strong and continuous link with the artists. Its prestigious history encourages the following generations to display their works on the walls, which already hosted their forerunners’ canvasses, and to find their own inspiration in the places they lived in.

Joan Miró displayed his works there in 1977 and he designed the poster of his exhibition. Antoni Tàpies received an official commission in 1988 and designed the mural diptych framing the museum’s entrance. Claude Viallat, Alain Clément, Vincent Bioulès are close friends of the museum, and it regularly shows their works. More recently, two great Catalan artists, namely Miquel Barceló and Jaume Plensa, presented there significant exhibitions. Monographic exhibitions focus on artists, who share a geographic or artistic love for the Mediterranean culture, such as Vieira da Silva ou Najia Mehadji.

Created by two artists and for the artists, the Museum of Modern Art will be soon enlarged again. Strongly anchored in its territory and history, open to creation and to the world, it conducts an ambitious cultural policy consisting in high level exhibitions, a didactic presentation of its collections and their history, various actions around art such as lectures, seminars, and concerts. It offers thereby to the visitors, moments of reflection, contemplation and pleasure.

**Pablo Picasso.**  
Portrait of Corina Pere Romeu,  
1902. Oil on canvas,  
60 x 50 cm. Donation Picasso.  
On loan from the Picasso Museum, Paris.



**Chaim Soutine.**  
View onto Céret, the old town,  
1919. Oil on canvas,  
53,3 x 65,4 cm.  
Private collection.  
On loan to the MAMC.

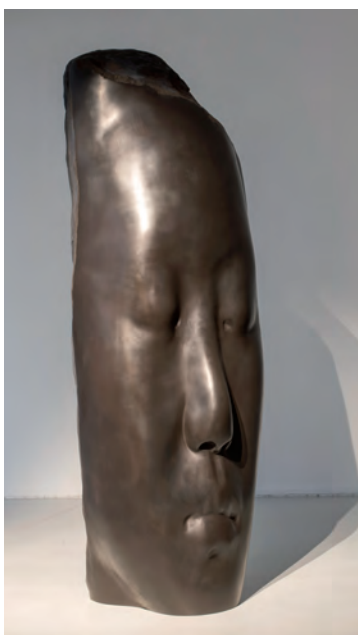


**Juan Gris.**  
Glass and newspaper,  
1916. Oil on canvas,  
41 x 33 cm.  
On loan from the MNAM, Paris.



**Raoul Dufy.**  
Landscape in Céret, the church, 1940.  
Gouache on paper, 42 x 56 cm.  
Coll. MAMC.

**Joan Miró.**  
Miró, Céret, 1977.  
Lithograph on paper,  
75 x 55 cm. Coll. MAMC.



**Jaume Plensa.**  
Rui Rui's Dream,  
2014.  
Bronze,  
205 x 75 x 70 cm.  
Private collection.  
On loan to the MAMC.



**Pablo Picasso.**  
Bullfighting bowl, April 14, 1953.  
Lignon earth decorated with slips.  
H. 6,7 cm, diam. 17,5 cm,  
Coll. MAMC.

**Marc Chagall.**  
Travelling Entertainers,  
1968. Oil on canvas,  
129,5 x 205,5 cm.  
On loan from the MNAM, Paris.



**Antoni Tàpies.**  
Transformació nº 6327,  
1990. Ink and oil  
on bare canvas,  
300 x 500 cm.  
Coll. MAMC.

