

Barcelona, 27 October 2020

ARTIKA presents the artist's book that brings Gaudí back to life

A fire that laid waste to Gaudí's studio at the start of the Spanish Civil War destroyed countless original drawings, models, and papers that reflected the most unknown facet of this world-renowned artist

This work comes to light after more than a decade of research, documentation, and shifting through thousands of scattered archives. A unique piece created with the participation of the biggest names in the Gaudí universe, featuring never-before-published material from the Gaudí Chair and the Sagrada Família.

ARTIKA presents *Gaudí up close*, the artist's book that compiles all the original drawings by the master of Catalan Modernism. This is a worldwide limited edition of only 4,998 copies.

The work is presented in a case that includes an Art Book, Study Body, and an architect's folder that features three of the artist's most outstanding original drawings.

The Art Book: priceless drawings, fragments, and details from Gaudí's body of work

The Art Book features 48 original drawings. Each comes in its original size, just as Gaudí created them. Several small-format pieces are also included, as well as fragments of works that were almost irreparably damaged. A priceless set of drawings.

The most evocative, striking, richest, and beautiful details are showcased in Gaudí's large-format drawings. They are the source of the true essence of Gaudí's art, the sources of inspiration, the original shapes and designs that became the cornerstones of his greatest buildings.

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The Art Book is bound with iron covers die-cut with the letter G and endpapers embossed in a brightly coloured relief that suggests Gaudí's singular *trencadís* (broken tile mosaic) work, reflecting two of the architect's favourite materials.

Three of the artist's most outstanding original drawings are exclusively presented separately in their full format and in archival envelopes in the architect's folder: a stunning design for a quay that the artist drew as a student in 1876; the original façade design for Casa Mila, one of his most iconic private buildings, in 1906; and the first urban study of the Sagrada Família, drawn in 1916, with the artist's proposal for the area surrounding his most ambitious work.

The Study Book, designed to take you deeper into the Gaudí universe

In the Study Book, the most renowned experts on the Catalan architect delve into his life and his extraordinary legacy. Discover secrets, interesting facts, and fresh perspectives on the artist's work.

The book also features articles and studies by these prestigious experts on the Gaudí universe. Architect Juan José Lahuerta, director of the Gaudí Chair, analyses Gaudí's work as a student and presents *Gaudí and Photography*, a study on the drawings that Gaudí made at the Barcelona School of Architecture, analysing the architect's early relationship with drawing through a series of photographs.

Art historian Joan Aicart also contributes his article *Gaudí and Mediterranean Culture*. On the other hand, *Drawings, Projects, and Models*, a study by Dr. Mireia Freixa, provides an analysis of all the original drawings found to date, which were discovered and collected

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from archives scattered throughout the country. Finally, Jordi Faulí, head architect and construction coordinator at the Sagrada Família, teams up with architect Chiara Curti to deliver an exclusive tour of the exterior and interior of the basilica in *Gaudí's Legacy, the Sagrada Família*.

A La Pedrera "warrior" houses this edition

The artist's book is presented in an impressive case-sculpture crafted by one of the sculptors who works on the Sagrada Família. It is a reproduction of one of the characteristic "warrior" chimneys that top Barcelona's iconic Casa Mila - La Pedrera building. With a micro-cement finish and anti-graffiti varnishes, the case once again alludes to the original materials used by the architect known as the greatest exponent of Catalan Modernism.

Created exclusively for this edition, the case stands alone as a unique work of art that commemorates an equally unique genius.

ARTIKA's twenty-seventh major work

With this latest release, ARTIKA helps unveil an unprecedented but fundamental facet of Gaudí's creative process.

ARTIKA is a publishing house that specialises in carefully handcrafted limited-edition artist's books. Its collection includes several international artists and a range of contemporary works, inspiration for exploring the essence of what each has to offer. The conceptualisation, design, materials, and creation of previously unpublished or obscure editions is the cornerstone of ARTIKA's editorial vision.

ARTIKA took its first step in its unwavering dedication to art and publishing exclusive artist's books in 2003 with a book about artist Salvador Dalí. Since then, ARTIKA has

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published books on the greatest masters in the history of art, including Botero, Plensa, Barceló, Cabellut, Tàpies, Picasso, Van Gogh, Sorolla, Antonio López, Miró, Chillida, Dalí, Toulouse-Lautrec, Goya and Rembrandt, crafting a unique collection that now boasts 26 works.

Visit <https://artikabooks.com/en> to discover all ARTIKA artist's books or contact the company at info@artikabooks.com.

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