

# THE CENTRO BOTÍN REOPENS ON TUESDAY 12TH MAY

- *The Botín Fundación considers it important to open the art centre at the earliest safe date as part of the reactivation of our communal and economic life, in the conviction that, now more than ever, the arts have a fundamental role to play in our personal and social development.*
- *In reopening, the Centro Botín will be contributing to the gradual return of tourism to Santander. The strong local commitment shown by the project since its inception – 140,000 Cantabrians now have their permanent Pass – is very much in line with the closer focus on the immediate environment being adopted by museums and art centres around the world in response to the present situation.*
- *The Centre has adapted its running and programme of activities to ensure that visitors can enjoy it at their leisure and in perfect safety. The current exhibitions are AS YOU GO (Châteaux en Espagne), by the Albanian artist Anri Sala; Collecting Processes. 25 Years of Itinerarios, and the permanent show Portraits: Essence and Expression.*

*Santander, 10 May 2020.- In the firm belief that the arts make an outstanding contribution to personal development and creativity in the generation of economic and social wealth, **the Centro Botín is reopening its doors so that the people of Santander and Cantabria can once again enjoy its wealth of artistic, educational and cultural provision.***

*On Tuesday, 12 May, the Centre had once again welcome visitors to its exhibitions. AS YOU GO (Châteaux en Espagne), by the Albanian artist Anri Sala, is the second floor, while the first floor offers Collecting Processes. 25 Years of Itinerarios, a special show celebrating the quarter-century of the Itinerarios series, as well as the permanent exhibition Portraits: Essence and Expression, featuring portraits by great masters of the 20th century ceded to the Fundación Botín by its patron, Jaime Botín.*

*In the words of Íñigo Sáenz de Miera, General Manager of the Fundación Botín, the Foundation ‘wanted to open the art centre as soon as it was safe to do so and official authorization had been given, as a contribution to the renewal of activity and revival of the economy, in the conviction that, now more than ever, the arts have a fundamental role to play in our personal and social development’.*

*With its sights set on this coming Tuesday, **the Centro Botín has adapted its running and programme of activities to ensure that visitors can enjoy art and culture at their leisure and in perfect safety, with provisional opening times from 10:00 to 14:00 and from 16:00 to 20:00.***

## **CURRENT EXHIBITIONS**

**ANRI SALA. AS YOU GO (CHÂTEAUX EN ESPAGNE)**

**Room 2. Curator: Benjamin Weil, artistic director of the Centro Botín**

Based in Berlin, Anri Sala (Tirana, Albania, 1974) ) is capable of opening up the deepest nonverbal modes of communication thanks to his exceptional narrative technique. Music and movement are key elements of his

work and the theme of many of his sound and video installations and his sculptural works, which often take the form of self-playing musical instruments.

In this new project for the Centro Botín, Sala invites us to reflect on how we relate to images in an era of unprecedented media saturation. The show revolves around a dual notion of movement: the movement inherent in a work based on time, which relies on music and moving images; and the movement of the visitors, who create their own experience when they enter the exhibition space.

### **COLLECTING PROCESSES: 25 YEARS OF ITINERARIOS**

**Room 1. Curator:** Benjamin Weil, artistic director of the Centro Botín

The Centro Botín inaugurated this show at the end of October last year to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the *Itinerarios* series, a careful selection of outstanding works by twenty-five past beneficiaries of the first quarter century of Fundación Botín Visual Arts Grants, as a clear reflection of the institution's commitment to the most current art and testimony to the history of contemporary art across the turn of the century.

The show includes works by Lara Almarcegui, Basma Alsharif, Leonor Antunes, Javier Arce, Erick Beltrán, David Bestué, Bleda y Rosa, Nuno Cera, Patricia Dauder, Patricia Esquivias, Karlos Gil, Carlos Irijalba, Adrià Julià, Juan López, Rogelio López Cuenca, Renata Lucas, Mateo Maté, Jorge Méndez Blake, Regina de Miguel, Leticia Ramos, Fernando Sánchez Castillo, Teresa Solar Abboud, Leonor Serrano Rivas, Jorge Yergui and David Zink Yi.

### **PORTRAITS: ESSENCE AND EXPRESSION**

**Sala 1. Permanent exhibition.**

A selection of eight major artworks from the personal collection of Jaime Botín, patron of the Fundación Botín, are on permanent exhibition at the Centro Botín in Santander. Chronologically, they span and condense almost the entire history of twentieth-century painting, from *Half-length Figure*, created by Isidre Nonell in 1907, through to *Self-Portrait with Injured Eye*, painted by Francis Bacon in 1972. The other works on show in this room are *Femme espagnole* (1917) by Henri Matisse; *Harlequin* (1918) by Juan Gris; *Beach at Valencia* (1908) by Joaquín Sorolla; *Woman in Red* (1931) by Daniel Vázquez Díaz; *The Constructor of Masks* (1944) by José Gutiérrez Solana, and *Portrait of My Mother* (1942) by Pancho Cossío.

More information at [www.centrobotin.org](http://www.centrobotin.org)

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### **Centro Botín**

*The Centro Botín, designed by the architect Renzo Piano, is the Fundación Botín's most important project to date. One of Spain's outstanding private art centres and a key element on the international art circuit at the highest level, it contributes by way of the arts to the generation of economic and social wealth in Santander. It is also a world-class pioneer in the development of creativity, in making full use of the potential of the arts in the fostering of our emotional intelligence and our creative capacity. In addition, the Centro Botín is a place of encounter, a privileged enclave in the heart of the city and the new cornerstone of the cultural arc of the Cantabrian coast – an engine of the national and international promotion of the city and the region.*

***For more information:***

**Fundación Botín**

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