

JOANA BIARNÉS

BIO

Joana Biarnés Florensa (Terrassa, 1935-2018), is considered the first female photojournalist in the entire Spanish territory. Her images show a key stage of the 20th century: the Franco years, with a sad and impoverished Spain, and the beginnings of democracy, its aspirations for freedom and how illusion was recovered. Joana Biarnés knew how to capture a changing society, also leaving testimony of catastrophes, sporting events and social events.

Key figures of national art such as Dalí, Buñuel, Lola Flores, Rocío Durcal, Rocío Jurado, Marisol, Massiel, Joan Manuel Serrat or Raphael paraded before her camera, portrayed in a close and natural way. And international artists such as Orson Welles, Jack Lemmon, Yul Brinner, Roman Polanski, Clint Eastwood, or the Beatles themselves also surrendered to her charisma, being the only one who photographed the band in the privacy of their hotel room, during their Spanish tour.

Started in the profession as an assistant to her father, a sports photographer, she became a pioneer by overcoming the prejudices of what was a sector until then reserved for men.

She triumphed as a photojournalist, especially between the 1960s and 1970s, but by the 1980s, with the rise of tabloids, she preferred to leave the profession and pursue new personal challenges, thus fading from official history.

However, in 2012, her archive would be luckily rediscovered, when a documentarist, who was looking for images of floods in Catalonia in 1962, located the impressive images with which the then young apprentice had immortalized that disaster. That's how, fortunately, we recovered the work of a legendary photographer.

AWARDS AND EXHIBITIONS

2020

Joana Biarnés. Moda a pie de calle. Sala Muncunill. Terrassa.

2019

Joana Biarnés. Moda a pie de calle. Tinglado 2, centre d'Art Tarragona.

Joana Biarnés. Disparant amb el cor. Casa de Cultura de Girona, Girona.

2018

Premio Graffica. Murcia.

Moda y fotografía. Colective exhibition. Museo del Traje, PhotoEspaña festival, Madrid.

Joana Biarnés. Disparant amb el cor. Festival In Cadaqués, Cadaqués, Girona.

Joana Biarnés. Disparant amb el cor. Castell de Rubí, Rubí, Barcelona.

2017

La fotografía como espacio público, Colective exhibition. Arts Santa Mónica, Barcelona.

El rostre, l' instant i el lloc. Centre Cultural El Casino, Manresa

Joana Biarnés. Disparant amb el cor. Festival Fine Art Igualada

De l'ombra a la llum. Colective exhibition alongside Laia Abril y Sandra Balsells. Fundació Setba, Barcelona.

Juana Biarnés. A contracorriente. La Lonja, Zaragoza

Invited to the Festival Formentera Fotogràfica.

Joana Biarnés. El ojo cómplice. Sala del CDIS, UIMP, Santander

Retratos. Juana Biarnés. Festival Internacional de Benidorm

Charity auction for Fundació Balia, Museo Thyssen, Madrid

New photography acquisitions of the National Collection of the Generalitat de Catalunya (colectiva), Arts Santa Mònica, Barcelona.

Awarded the Honor Medal of the Ayuntamiento de Terrassa.

Joana Biarnés. A contracorrent. Palau Robert, Barcelona

2016

El rostre, l' instant i el lloc. Museu d'Art Jaume Morera, Lleida

Distinción. Un siglo de fotografía de moda (colectiva). Museu del Disseny, Barcelona

Juana Biarnés. A contracorriente. Sala Fernando Fernán Gómez, Festival PhotoEspaña, Madrid

Joana Biarnés i The Beatles, 1965. Sala de l'EMD de l'Estartit, Beatles Weekend 2016

Joana Biarnés. Disparant amb el cor. IX Biennial de Fotografia Xavier Miserachs, Palafrugell

Joana Biarnés. Disparant amb el cor. Galeria Valid Foto, Bcn

Subasta Aficionarte (colectiva). Fundació Pequeño Deseo. Galería Senda, Barcelona.

Premio Juan José Castillo de Periodismo, El Mundo Deportivo.

Premio Agulla de Plata del Festival Revela't.

Premio Insignia de Oro de la AIG (Asociacion de Informadores Gráficos). Logroño, La Rioja.

2015

The Beatles, 1965. Sala Estrella, Festival Revela't 2015, Vilassar de Dalt, Bcn

La parálisis cerebral desde la mirada de Joana Biarnés. Sala del Archivo Tobella and Centro Cultural de Terrassa. Terrassa

Federació d'Associacions d'Editors de Premsa Award, Revistes i Mitjans Digitals. Barcelona.

2014

El rostre, l'instant i el lloc. Sala Muncunill, Terrassa

Reconocimiento con la Creu de Sant Jordi de la Generalitat de Catalunya.

2013

XIII Seminario de fotografía y periodismo de Albarracín.

2012

50º aniversari de la riuada de Terrassa (colectiva). Museu de Terrassa, Terrassa

2005

Fotógrafas pioneras de Catalunya (colectiva). Palau Robert, Barcelona.

COLLECTIONS

Her work is part of the Photographic Social Vision Foundation collection.

National Collection of the Generalitat of Catalunya, Arts Santa Mònica, Barcelona.