

The entire universe of Francesc Torres gathered in one installation at MACBA

- ▶ More than 3,500 of the artist's key objects are gathered in *The Hermetic Bell. Space for a Non-Transferable Anthropology*, an installation that will help us understand his creative universe.
- ▶ Francesc Torres has selected toys, objects, images... that he has accumulated throughout his life and which are the original material for his most questioning and incisive creations.
- ▶ Francesc Torres will donate this installation to the Collection. This is the first step in a process that will culminate with the donation to MACBA of works and documents from his personal archive.

Title: *The Hermetic Bell. Space for a Non-Transferable Anthropology* **Curator:** Antònia M. Perelló **Opening:** Friday, 9 March 2018, at 7.30 pm (at 6.30 pm there will be a talk between the artist and the curator) **Exhibition:** 10 March – 11 September 2018 **Organisation:** MACBA Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona

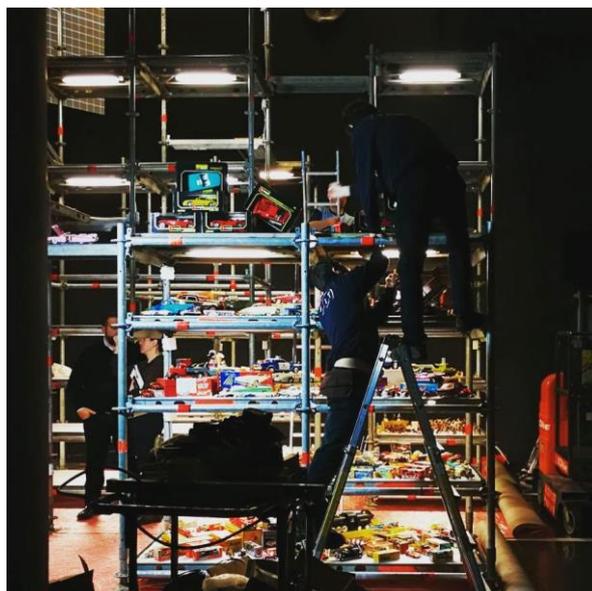
Throughout his artistic career, Francesc Torres (Barcelona, 1948), a pioneer of the language of multimedia installation, has critically reflected on the various manifestations of culture, politics, memory and power. Ten years after *Da capo*, the retrospective that MACBA dedicated to him and for which he received the National Visual Arts Award (2009), Torres and the Museum meet again to face the challenge of exhibiting a personal archive, now converted into an artistic installation and located within the exhibition space of the tower of the Richard Meier building. *The Hermetic Bell. Space for a Non-Transferable Anthropology*, which is presented at MACBA, is the result of research into creative processes, objects as testimonies of personal experiences and anthropological documents. The installation reflects the spirit of the cabinets of curiosities or *Wunderkammer* of sixteenth-century Europe and brings together over 3,500 objects, documents, toys and various materials that the artist has accumulated throughout his life. The whole becomes the original material of Torres' art and reveals the symbolic potential and the capacity of these objects to originate abstract thought.

The Hermetic Bell will be donated to the MACBA Collection, the first step in a working process that will culminate with a donation to MACBA of works and materials from the artist's personal archive. This desire, already expressed by Torres some time ago, will enable the Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona to have a significant showing of the work of this Catalan artist in its artistic and documentary collections.

The Tower of Torres

This new multimedia installation by Francesc Torres has been created expressly for the exhibition space of the MACBA tower and is a project that will be developed during the exhibition period. A painting by Santiago Ydáñez, made from one of the photos of the Yalta Conference of 1945 and which includes a portrait of Torres together with Molotov and Stalin, although he was not yet born, welcomes us to *The Hermetic Bell*. The installation invites the viewer to enter the brain of the artist and navigate his imaginary. It is about making evident and showing to the public sediments of memory, those that trigger critical thinking, those objects that bear witness to the artist's unique experiences and which constitute an anthropological document. Five towers unfold the themes, the concepts that make up the world behind the artist's works and texts: history, memory mediated by the remnants of wars, toys and the learning tools of hegemonic cultures for educating each generation, to name but a few. Far from functioning in isolation, these towers are linked by gateways that link them like neurons interconnected by multiple synapses.

DOWNLOAD IMAGES - PHOTOS here www.macba.cat/press/ftorres20180308



Installation view, work in progress

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Parlem de... Francesc Torres.

With Francesc Torres and Miriam Basilio. Saturday 7 April, 6.30 pm. Museum galleries. Free admission.

PUBLICATION

Francesc Torres, 'La campana hermètica. Espai per a una antropologia intransferible'. *Quadern portàtil*, no. 34. Barcelona: MACBA, 2018 (original Spanish version in pdf at macba.cat)

■ ADMISSION TICKET VALID FOR ONE MONTH - MACBA: Plaça dels Àngels, 1, 08001 Barcelona, www.macba.cat

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■ OPENING HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 11 am to 7.30 pm; Saturdays 10 am to 8 pm. Sundays and holidays 10 am to 3 pm; Tuesdays closed, except holidays