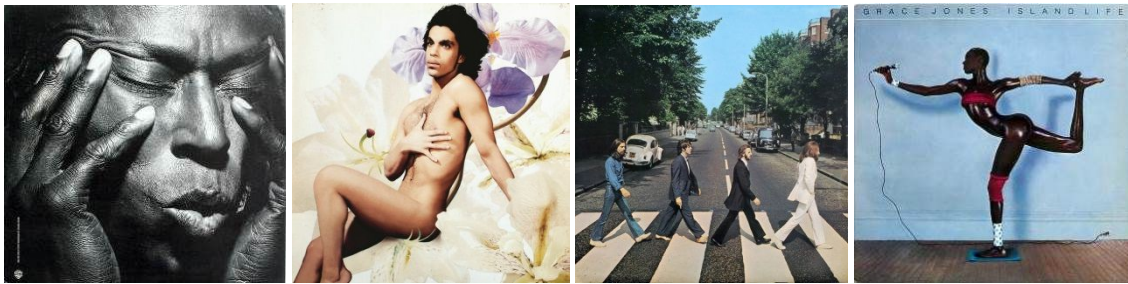


PRESS RELEASE

Foto Colectania merges photography and music through the most iconic vinyl covers of all time

Robert Frank and the Rolling Stones, Annie Leibovitz and Cindy Lauper, Helmut Newton and INXS, Herb Ritts and Madonna, Weegee and George Michael, amongst others, star in a great exhibition at Foto Colectania.



(1) Vinyl: Miles Davis, *Tutu*, Warner Bros. Records - 1-25490, United States, 1986. Design: Eiko Ishioka. Photography: Irving Penn. (2) Vinyl: Prince, *Lovesexy*, Paisley Park – 9 25720-1, United States, 1988. Design: Laura LiPuma. Photography: Jean-Baptiste Mondino. (3) Vinyl: The Beatles, *Abbey Road*, Apple Records – PCS 7088. England, 1969. Design: John Kosh. Photography: Iain Macmillan. (4) Vinyl: Grace Jones, *Island Life*, Island Records – 207 472, France, 1985. Design: Greg Porto.

Barcelona, November 21st.-

The **Foto Colectania Foundation** presents the exhibition '**TOTAL RECORDS. Vinyls and Photography**', in collaboration with Banc Sabadell Foundation, showing a selection of **250 vinyl covers** that reflect the fruitful relationship between photography and music. The exhibition, which has been presented in Arles, Zurich and Berlin, arrives to Barcelona at the hands of Foto Colectania. The show is produced by Les Rencontres d'Arles, curated by Antoine de Beaupré, Serge Vincendet and Sam Stourdzé, with the complicity of Jacques Denis. The installation of "Total Records" in Barcelona is completed with a section of Spanish vinyl records, created especially for this exhibition, as well as a sample of the Gladys Palmera's Collection, which is internationally recognized as the most outstanding musical catalogue of Cuban music from 1940 to 1960.

The exhibition can be seen from **November 22, 2017 to March 11, 2018**; afterwards, the show will travel to Japan.

What would an album be without its cover?

The art of album covers has always been a key element in musical vinyl iconography, and many of the exhibited works have become true emblems of the musical history of our time. What is perhaps not known, is how a whole series of photographers have contributed to the realization of this visual iconography. 'TOTAL RECORDS. Vinyl and Photography ' tells the story of how these two worlds have been interconnected.

"The main theme of the exhibition shows the work of renowned photographers through vinyl, since most of the best photographers have made at least an album cover. The relationship between a photographer and a music group could sometimes be so intense that it would forge their brand image ", explains **Antoine de Beaupré**, collector and curator of this exhibition.

The exhibition shows surprising associations, famous vinyl and unsuspected rarities. From **Helmut Newton's** baroque photographs of the Australian band **INXS**, to iconic Vanity Fair and other prestigious American magazine photographers, like **Herb Ritts** or **Annie Leibovitz**, associated with **Madonna** and **Cindy Lauper** respectively. The show also brings together great creators like **Jeff Wall** for an **Iggy Pop** album, or the great innovator **William Klein** who portrayed **Serge Gainsbourg**. Also, the creative tandem **Jean-Paul Goude / Grace Jones**, and even a classic photograph as **Irving Penn's** portrait of **Miles Davis**. The payroll of the great masters is long.

As Antoine de Beaupré explains, "the album covers define and configure the image of *popstars*. **David Bowie** or **Grace Jones** would not have been what they became without those famous photographs on their vinyl. Now 'TOTAL RECORDS' aims to highlight the authors behind those images. "**Andy Warhol** created images that will always be remembered, like the 1971 **Rolling Stones** *Sticky Fingers's* cover. *Abbey Road*, by **The Beatles**, photographed by **Iain MacMillan** in 1966, is mythical not only for its photograph, but also because of what is behind it: that was the last record of the British band. "There are surrealist stories about the covers, a lot to tell", explains de Beaupré.

At Foto Colectania you will see how a work of art is condensed in those 31.5 by 31.5 cm of a vinyl. The exhibition is arranged in different thematic sections, it offers a journey that goes from original creations designed for the cover of the album, to other sections such as "Subliminal Reappropriation" in which musicians have gone through the rich history of photography looking for powerful images that matched their music. This is the case of the emblematic cover of Tom Waits using an Anders Petersen photograph of his well-known *Café Lehmitz* series. There are other sections dedicated to great artists such as Andy Warhol, Richard Avedon or **Jean-Paul Goude**.

Pepe Font de Mora, Foto Colectania's Director, points out that 'TOTAL RECORDS' is a ground-breaking exhibition for the format of the exhibition itself: vinyl hanging on the wall. He adds, "This exhibition tells us about musicians and photographers who established a surprising collaboration, achieving impressive images that are already part of the memories of an entire generation".

The origins of 'TOTAL RECORDS'

The idea of 'TOTAL RECORDS' came up in a very simple way: while Beaupré was studying music at the Berklee College of Music, he started buying vinyl records. Since then, he has not stopped: he has been a vinyl collector for more than 30 years and has about 15,000 vinyl. One day he turned around a vinyl cover to see who was signing the photograph, and there he came up with the idea: why not to connect music and photography? Actually, vinyl records are part of the popular culture and what Beaupré has done with the exhibition is "intellectualize it for the love of photography", according to his own words.

The national panorama

The exhibition in Barcelona also includes a section devoted to Spanish vinyl. At the end of the seventies, Spain opened up to new trends in the world. Modern photography finds its first references in artists who have become inescapable today. The break is rough, and with it a new image is born. The colour of **Javier Vallhonrat** is opposed to the close-up portraits by **Toni Catany**. The black and white of **Alberto García-Alix** testifies to a new country. The photographic poetry of **Chema Madoz** or the photographic typology of **Miguel Trillo** are some of the many examples of this artistic emancipation. The vinyl, this new playground, will allow avant-garde photographers to open themselves to the world. In addition, the exhibition includes vinyls from photographers such as **Oriol Maspons**, **Ouka Lele**, **Francisco Ontañón**, **Leopoldo Pomés**, **Javier Vallhonrat**, **Alberto Schommer** and the **Marta Sentís / Maria Espeus** tandem.



Vinyl: Boz Scaggs, *Middle Man*, Columbia FC 36106, United States, 1980.
Photography: Guy Bourdin. Courtesy from The Guy Bourdin Estate, 2015.

GLADYS PALMERA'S COLLECTION



Cuban music and photography: a look into history

In order to show a vinyl collector's universe, Foto Colectania has invited the Gladys Palmera's Collection, which is internationally recognized as the most outstanding musical catalogue of Cuban music from 1940 to 1960. For this exhibition, a repertoire of photographic pieces as well as original vinyl have been selected, having as starting point Cuba's golden age, and following it with the after revolution period. This collection is shown at Foto Colectania's library.

For more than three decades, **Alejandra Fierro Eleta** (Gladys Palmera) has contributed to the diffusion of Latin American music in Spain. As the most outstanding collector of Afro-Cuban music, her work has extended to the field of media, with the creation in 1999 of Radio Gladys Palmera, she also got involved in education, through her pedagogical project La Escuelita del Ritmo.

The Gladys Palmera Collection has more than 100,000 vinyls and 45,000 CDs; it contains what is considered the most complete musical catalogue in Cuban music. With a clear informative vocation, a large part of the collection is publicly available through a musical channel that is part of the Radio Gladys Palmera radio proposal, where the audience can listen the streaming of a selection of vinyl gems, chosen personally by Alejandra Fierro.

As this exhibition shows, photography occupies an important place in the Gladys Palmera Collection. In the proposed tour, the so-called golden age of Cuba is presented with the work of two great photographers, Armand and Narcy; two artists who created an idyllic and sophisticated vision of entertainment, immortalized in the purest Hollywood style. With the revolution of 1959, the gaze of the photographer is lost in the streets and becomes spokesman of the revolutionary cause; it is the moment of the great album covers showing the propaganda device. The last period exposed, brings the abstract photography closer to the viewer, motivated by the influence of the countries that were part of communist bloc, and which reached the vinyl covers inspiring conceptual compositions.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

'TOTAL RECORDS. Vinyl and Photography'

From November 22, 2017 to March 11, 2018.

Images available at

<http://www.mahala.org/public/TOTALRECORDS>

Fundació Foto Colectania

Passeig Picasso 14

08003 Barcelona

www.fotocolectania.org/

Opening Hours

From Tuesday to Saturday from 11 am to 8 pm.

Sundays from 11 am to 3 pm. Monday closed.

Entrance fee: 4€. Reduced: 3€ (Free entrance: First Sunday of the Month).

For more information:

Neus Fornells / Marta del Riego

+34 663 37 38 16 / +34 654 62 70 45

Barcelona +34 93 412 78 78 /Madrid + 34 91 826 17 22

neus@mahala.es / mdelriego@mahala.es

www.mahala.es

Exhibition produced by Les Rencontres d'Arles, curated by Antoine de Beupré, Serge Vincendet and Sam Stourdzé, with the complicity of Jacques Denis.



Foto Colectania's Main Partner:



Foto Colectania's Partner for Activities:



Institutional Sponsors:



With the collaboration of:

