

The Museum of Modern Art

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FACT SHEET

EXHIBITION **ANTONI TÀPIES IN PRINT**

DATES May 7 - August 9, 1992

ORGANIZATION Deborah Wye, Curator, Department of Prints and Illustrated Books, The Museum of Modern Art

SPONSORSHIP Made possible by generous grants from the Generalitat de Catalunya (autonomous government of Catalonia) and the Institute of North American Studies, Barcelona.

CONTENT Antoni Tàpies (b. 1923), the celebrated Catalan painter, has generated an extremely important and extensive graphic oeuvre. This exhibition includes a selection of approximately sixty prints and illustrated books from the late forties to the present. Tàpies has not only worked in the traditional printmaking process, but has gone on to enhance these techniques whenever it suited his expressive needs. He enriches the tactility of the printed surface, thereby redefining in paper and ink the scarred, layered, and weathered appearance of his paintings. His works often include embossing, collage, relief, rubbing, tearing, folding, and cutting. Tàpies's imagery, which includes footprints, handprints, and graffiti-like markings, is an extension of that used in his paintings. With their provocative surfaces, these works achieve the fusion of matter, sign, and symbol that is the artist's hallmark.

Tàpies's conception of the illustrated book is equally innovative. In more than twenty-five volumes, he has achieved a remarkable poetic beauty, while incorporating unusual structure and design in the book as a whole.

PUBLICATION *Antoni Tàpies in Print* by Deborah Wye. 128 pages. 25 color and 50 black-and-white illustrations. Published by The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Hardbound, \$37.50, distributed by Harry N. Abrams, Inc.; paperbound, \$19.95; both available at The MoMA Book Store.

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SPECIAL EVENTS Gallery talks on ANTONI TAPIES IN PRINT, some of which are sign-language interpreted, are offered regularly by the Museum's Department of Education.

TRAVEL The exhibition opened at the Centro Cultural/Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City (through August 25, 1991), and continues at the Long Beach Museum of Art, California (September 22 - November 24, 1991), and The Meadows Museum, Dallas (January 16 - March 1, 1992). After it closes in New York, the exhibition continues at The Art Museum, Florida International University, Miami (September 11 - October 17, 1992), The Detroit Institute of Arts (December 11, 1992 - February 10, 1993), and the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Caracas (March 1993).

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