FACT SHEET

EXHIBITION

ANTONI TAPIES 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 Tapies (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. Tapies 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. Tapies’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.

Tapies’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

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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For further information or photographic materials, contact the Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.