

## **OPEN CALL**

### **“VACANCES AMB FRANCO” (“HOLIDAYS WITH FRANCO”)**

A project by Monika Anselment

The last victim of the Franco dictatorship was Salvador Puig Antich in 1974. At the same time an image of Spain was created and spread around that painted Spain as an ideal holiday destination for international tourism.

Although the development of tourism in Spain had already begun at the end of the 19th century, it began to proliferate in the 1960's as in all northern Mediterranean countries. One of the main reasons for promoting Spain as a holiday destination was to boost the Spanish economy. The Franco regime, winner of the Spanish Civil War (1936 – 1939), promoted a homogeneous image of the country collapsing it to a uniform folklore, and denying the diversity of the various regions. The tourists acted as ambassadors raising the image of Spain as a forthcoming country, contributing to the perception of normality under Franco's dictatorship. We could even say that the tourists generated a parallel world to the one that the people of the country who were not related to the regime and its principles lived and suffered.

Was there, however, after all, the possibility of perceiving the dictatorship as a dictatorship? How is this perception reflected in the works of the artists who spent the holidays with their families in Spain? How did the artists perceive the dictatorship and its repercussions in the day-to-day lives of the people they came into contact with or on their own holidays?

We want to curate an exhibition that aims to draw attention to this controversial issue. We are looking for artists, who summered in Spain and want to share their understanding, memory and reflection of their experience of the country under Franco.

Write to us if the topic challenges you!

Please include the following information in your expression of interest.:

- CV of the artist
- Full name of the artist
- Place/s in Spain where you spent your holidays
- Description or sketch of an artistic proposal for an exhibition project of one to two pages and any comments deemed appropriate

Sending proposals: [vamos-a-la-playa@gmx.net](mailto:vamos-a-la-playa@gmx.net)

Closing date for expressions of interest: Monday, May 1, 2023

Languages: Catalan, French, English, German and Spanish

Organized by: Bòlit, Centre d'Art Contemporani.Girona and Museu de l'Empordà