

Press release

MACBA OPENS ITS NEW COCKTAIL BAR & CAFÉ



Foto: Enrique Muda Bull

- ▶ The Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona **inaugurates its new cocktail bar & café.**
- ▶ The cocktail bar & café will be open to the public from **Thursday, 18 July at 6 pm.**
- ▶ The architectural intervention has been carried out by **Llamazares Pomés Arquitectes** and the new service is managed by **Chichalimoná.**

Barcelona, 17 July 2019.- MACBA presents the **MACBA CAFÈ**, a new space open to both Museum visitors and anyone passing through the neighbourhood. Accessible from Plaça dels Àngels, this gastronomic cocktail bar & café adds a warm touch to the whiteness of MACBA's emblematic Meier Building, with a cosy and comfortable atmosphere.

MACBA CAFÈ Background and opening

On 5 October 2017, MACBA's General Council approved MACBA's 2018–22 Strategic Plan, which contemplated the 'reordering and improvement of the Museum's spaces and services', with a strategy focused on improving the quality of visits.

The opening of this new space and service responds to our renewed focus on improving visitor experience and the image of the Museum as a welcoming space and meeting point, helping the Museum to expand its limits and become an open, dynamic and stimulating environment.



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Just as our policy regarding content proclaims its own identity with a scope that is both international and local, the introduction of this new space aims to reinforce this same dynamism by offering a continuous service outside of Museum opening hours.

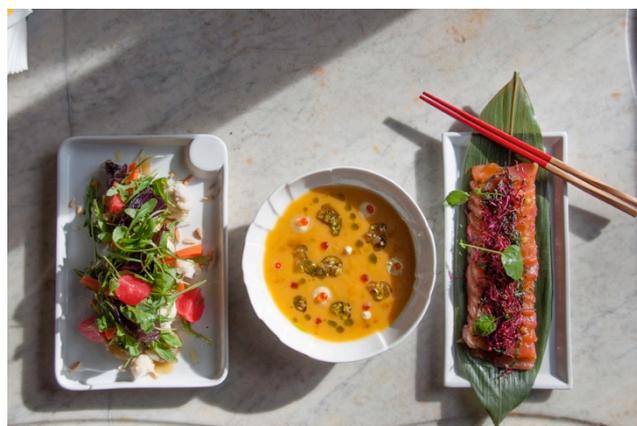
The cocktail bar & café will be open to the public from 6 pm on Thursday 18 July, coinciding with a week packed with summer activities, such as the *Lorem Ipsum* concert cycle. Thursday 18 July at 8.30 pm sees a performance by Tatiana Heuman, producer and percussionist; and on Friday 19 July there will be the musical performance of **Christian Marclay's *Investigations***, which, in the context of his exhibition, will bring together ten pianists at the Capella MACBA: **Steve Beresford, Lluïsa Espigolé, Agustí Fernández, Elena Font, Haize Lizarazu, Jordi López, Jordina Millà, Kayla Portugal, Philip Thomas and Carles Viarnès.**

MACBA CAFÈ Chichalimoná

The open call to manage the catering service was won by Chichalimoná, a project headed by Sara Reixach and Víctor Burgués.

The gastronomic concept of the **MACBA CAFÈ Chichalimoná** is designed to cater for the Museum's varied audiences, as well as those who stroll through the area or live nearby: for the people of the neighbourhood and the city, for those who work in the Museum, for visitors and anyone who chooses to enjoy it. The essence of **Chichalimoná's** success is to offer different combinations for different times of the day.

Chichalimoná is a gastronomic cocktail bar and café founded in 2015. With a menu of seasonal dishes and tapas based on local, fresh and high-quality produce, it is the personal project of Sara Reixach and Víctor Burgués. It is an ideal place to come and relax, to treat yourself or take a break with a varied breakfast or brunch any weekday morning.



The service is based on the following principles:

- **Mediterranean fare** with traditional flavours and which includes recognisable dishes with a contemporary and international touch, both in their preparation and presentation.
- An honest and direct cuisine, in which **authenticity and high-quality produce** are the focus of each dish.
- A selection of **suppliers and produce** with a history of uniqueness and quality.
- A **sustainable kitchen that takes into account the market, proximity and seasonality**, working whenever possible with organically farmed produce and environmentally respectful packaging, and collaborating with outside organisations for the recycling of food.
- A **seasonal menu that varies twice a year**, enriching both cuisine and produce. Brunch with organic eggs, homemade cakes and artisan bread from neighbourhood suppliers combine to offer a **balanced and cosmopolitan cuisine**. Vegetarian, vegan and suitable proposals for coeliacs are also available.
- A **selection** of vermouths, local organic and natural wines and beer from the city, as well as signature cocktails.

- A **continuous kitchen**: this is the basis of the service offered in the **MACBA CAFÈ Chichalimoná** and which is organised around three different menus corresponding to three distinct time slots: breakfast/lunch, afternoon/evening and brunch/weekend. The menu includes suggestions of the day as well as a daily set menu at an affordable price.

Also on offer is a series of tapas, as well as brunch dishes in which diners are given carte blanche to configure each gastronomic moment to their own preferences, either individually or to share. From breakfasts to dinners, brunch, aperitifs with vermouth menus, lunches, afternoon snacks and evening drinks, with an original cocktail menu, any time is a good time to go to **MACBA CAFÈ Chichalimoná**, where the **kitchen is open from early morning to midnight**.

- **Order APP**: for those who are pushed for time, a take-away service is available, either by placing your order on the premises or from a mobile application that allows you to order and collect at the most convenient time.

- **Gastronomy, art and culture: MACBA from another perspective**. Users of the cocktail bar & café can enjoy a privileged space in the Meier Building itself, where an impressively large window breaks the barrier between outside and inside, flooding the interior with natural light, or on the terrace in the Plaça dels Àngels. It's about experiencing MACBA from another perspective.

In addition to the gastronomic proposals, the **MACBA CAFÈ Chichalimoná** will offer talks, presentations and other cultural activities, organised either by the Museum or the MACBA Store Laie. On our website and social networks we will explain what's cooking in this new space in the heart of the Raval, where gastronomy meets art and culture.

MACBA CAFÈ interior and exterior: architectural intervention

The architectural project has been conceived and designed by **Llamazares Pomés Arquitectura** and **Eskubi-Turro Arquitectes**, together with the MACBA architecture team. The new café seems to emerge from the emptied interior of this part of the building in order to discover **a new space where warmth is the main protagonist**: black walls, floor and ceiling replace the white characteristic of the Museum to form an **intimate and cosy interior**. There is also **a splendid golden frieze of curved shapes** that finishes off the upper part of the new space, behind the large glass window that opens onto Plaça dels Àngels. This frieze, in the form of a large lantern, creates the visual focus of attention from the outside.



Foto: Enrique Muda Bull

In the interior, accessible from Plaça dels Àngels or from the passage that leads to Plaça de Joan Coromines, we find **two areas**. One is **the bar**, made mainly of **natural oak and small format tiles** of an intense black, accompanied by a long bench, parallel to the large window. This is the **main place to welcome visitors**, with different format tables and chairs and with **a clear connection to the street through the glass window**. **The second area is more intimate**, with low tables, armchairs and carpets. It opens directly on to the passage, facing the MACBA bookshop, and offers a space of greater tranquillity.

Another novelty in relation to the interior of the Museum is the **lighting**. In the café, **the lighting seeks to provide warmth**, from the colour temperature of the bulbs to the incorporation of numerous lamps with a homely design. **All this sits in contrast to the necessary interior magnificence of a grand museum space such as MACBA.**

Outside, in front of the window and capturing the street atmosphere, a terrace welcomes visitors who prefer to sit back and enjoy the Mediterranean climate.

In short, a new, surprising and cosy space to stop and recharge your batteries, to browse the catalogue of the latest MACBA exhibition or simply have a good time.



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MACBA CAFÈ

MACBA CAFÈ CHICHALIMONÀ^{xx}

Summer schedule:

Monday to Friday, 8 am to midnight.
Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, 9 am to midnight.

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<https://www.macba.cat/en/macba-cafe-gastro-bar>

<http://www.macba.cat>



PHOTOS: www.macba.cat/press/macba-cafe2019

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