



TOT Sant Cugat

Can Quiteria opens its doors as a Grau-Garriga Center for Contemporary Textile Art

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The Can Quiteria farmhouse has opened its doors this Sunday, March 17, turned into the Grau-Garriga Center for Contemporary Textile Art. A space that wants to emphasize the importance of textile art in Sant Cugat del Vallès and the figure of Josep Grau-Garriga, the most international artist in Sant Cugat.

Contemporary textile art has its roots in the Aymat House in Sant Cugat, with the Catalan School of Tapestry, and Can Quiteria now collects the testimony to project this art in which the city has played a key role. The space hosts works by Grau-Garriga and the aim is also to give voice to textile art artists to exhibit their work there.

Apart from the works by Grau-Garriga, the textile art center has opened its doors with the One Hundred Years of Tapestry exhibition in Sant Cugat, which contains about seventy works of textile art that tell the history of tapestry since the beginnings of the 20th century and up to the beginning of the 21st century.

The center will open from Tuesday to Friday from 5 pm to 9 pm, Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm and 5 pm to 8 pm, and Sundays from 10 am to 2 pm. It will also be available for school visits and workshops and activities will be organized. The exhibitions will be renewed.

"A lot of happiness. It's a project we started developing several years ago and we really wanted it to come to light," said Grau-Garriga's daughter, Esther Grau-Garriga, at the opening of the space. For her, it is "an opportunity to teach contemporary textile art" and considers it to be "a space for teaching contemporary textile artists here and abroad".

"It is a great resource for the knowledge of textile art to reach everyone, to get to know the figure of Grau-Garriga and what textile art represents in Sant Cugat and the world," emphasized the artist's daughter, who recalled the beginnings of the movement: "Grau-Garriga was the artistic director of the Aymat House, when the Catalan School of Tapestry began, and here were born artists who had international significance. Textile art came out into the world and it expanded."

"The main thing is that the works are known and many other artists can be exhibited and there is a genuine recognition of contemporary textile," summarized Esther Grau-Garriga.

A Unique Space

"The case of Sant Cugat is unique, with a tradition of tapestries and rugs not found in more cities in the State," said the show's curator, Pilar Parcerisas, who said that "Sant Cugat had understood "this" singular fact "and has opted for the opening of a textile art center.

The Mayor of Sant Cugat, Carmela Fortuny, emphasized that this is a space with "national and international projection" and that he wants to visualize the "talent of international and local artists such as Grau - Garriga". He also said that in addition to temporary exhibitions, the center will also organize educational activities to raise awareness among children of textile art.

The curator of the exhibition wanted to explain why Sant Cugat became the capital of contemporary textile art and



where many international artists went. A fact goes back to 1920, when Thomas Aymat opened the first industry in the state of hand knitted rugs and high and low lesson tapestries. "Sant Cugat is a village that has evolved very rapidly since its agricultural past and many artists remember this past, which is full of textile material that they transferred to the art world".

House with History

The opening of the Grau-Garriga Center for Textile Art has also meant the recovery of the Can Quiteria farmhouse, a historic house in Sant Cugat that was built in 1879 and represents the city's agricultural past. Thus, the people of Sant Cugat can also discover this past of Sant Cugat.

The remodeling works have preserved many of the classic elements of the farmhouse and can be seen during the visit. The fireplace in the kitchen, the murals by Oleguer Junyent, the cellar, the staircase, the porch and the tiled terrace built in 1879, or the oral flooring are some of these elements.

Translated from Catalan