

**SUNDAY**  
**September 24th**

**MORNING**

10'30h – 11'30h

Walter Benjamin House /  
Library

Book presentation of the first Catalan edition of WALTER BENJAMIN & THE STORM OF PROGRESS, by AGNÈS SINAÏ, published by the Angelus Novus Foundation and Ediciones Reremús. A study on Benjamin and the theories of degrowth.

11'30h – 12'30h

Sala La Congesta, c/ Méndez Núñez s/n

Preview of the opera at the Liceo by ANTONI ROS MARBÀ: "BENJAMIN EN PORTBOU".

Piano adaptation of several fragments of the opera and final song of Angelus Novus, with tenor, baritone and sopranos in the roles of Walter Benjamin, Bertolt Brecht, Asja Lacis and Angelus Novus.

12'45h

Cemetery

Floral offering, poetry recital, and singing of the "Angelus Novus".

Translation: **Alicia Cayuela**

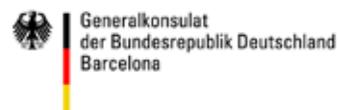
### Inscriptions

info@passatgescultura.org  
T. + 34 660 827023

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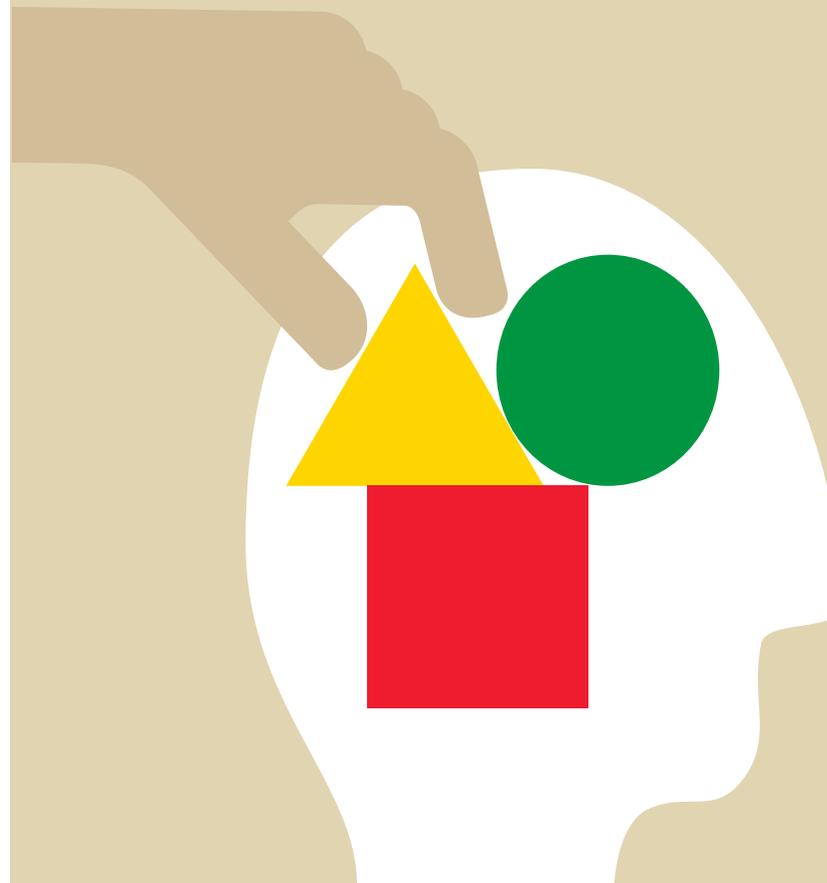


With the support of



## VIII SUMMER SCHOOL WALTER BENJAMIN PORTBOU

2023  
September  
22nd to 24th



## HISTORY AND MEMORY: EXILE AND RESISTANCE

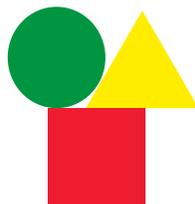
## PROGRAM

Walter Benjamin House /Library  
Avinguda de Barcelona, 11. Portbou

# HISTORY AND MEMORY: EXILE AND RESISTANCE

We live in times of «forgetfulness», of stressful and «unnatural» acceleration due to a clinging of life to new technologies that make messages, information and what we want to say more ephemeral, under the pretext that everything will be stored in a memory stick as truth. In this «digital time» there is no room for reflection or experience. Walter Benjamin tells us that the historian reconstructs the past, but memory constructs its meaning. We will therefore work on the memory of European exiles, which have not stopped growing with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which shakes the foundations of Europe. From Berlin to the Pyrenees was the path of exile from north to south, it stopped for a few years in Paris, sending refugees from central Europe, Germany and Austria fleeing to a safer world than the one offered by the rise of nationalism to power in 1933. Berlin was the cultural epicenter of the Weimar Republic during the 1920s. Literary exiles questioning identity, the search for truth with the New Objectivity, the banality of evil now resurfacing in Europe, German intellectuals finding refuge near the Mediterranean, the need to relocate and travel as a source of inspiration and exile as individual resistance. Lectures, poetry recitals, staged theater and theatrical performances will be held, and a preview of Antoni Ros Marbà's opera «Benjamin at Portbou» will close the festival.

Direction  
**Pilar Parcerisas**  
**Cari Oriol**  
Secretariat  
**Irene Cussó**



### FRIDAY September 22nd

Walter Benjamin House /  
Library

#### AFTERNOON

16h – 16'30h

Preview of the centenary of Franz Kafka. Poetry: Recital of "Letters to Milena", by **CARI ORIOL SERRES**

16'30h – 17'30h

**CARI ORIOL SERRES**

Philologist in Romance languages and professor of literature.

*Walter Benjamin's travels as the genesis of existential evolution and of the main cosmogonies.*

17'30h – 18h

BREAK

18h – 19h

**JORDI PALOU-LOVERDOS**

Criminal lawyer and international mediator. Dialogue facilitator and director of Aequitas-\*Mediation. Former director of Democratic Memorial of the Generalitat de Catalunya.

*Mediation and dialogue in national and international conflicts and initiatives postconflict repair and restorative justice initiatives: Memorial Hearings, in Catalonia / Memory in four voices, in Germany and France.*

19h – 20h

Walter Benjamin Hall

Opening of the exhibition FLUCHT (Escape from a complex interior and Nazi Germany). Photographs by **ESPE PONS** (Barcelona, 1973). Presentation and guided visit by the artist: "Melangia, the superposition of memories and the evocation concept bring us closer to Walter Benjamin's language". It will remain open until Sunday, October 14.

### SAMEDI September 23rd

Walter Benjamin House /  
Library

#### MORNING

10h – 11h

**CARME ALDA ELORZA**

Lacanian-oriented psychoanalyst, member of the World Association of Psychoanalysis.

*Benjaminian fictions: "As long as there is a poor person, there will be a myth".*

*To Experience and Poverty* (1933) Walter Benjamin detects that in the new political, economic and socio-cultural processes a new dehumanizing ideology is hidden, which despises the fundamental principle of humanism (resemblance), which tries to erase the traces of

experience, and generates a new poverty.

11h – 12h

Paper by two doctoral students of the Department of Philosophy of the UNED:

**SARA BARROSO**

*Fate and character Walter Benjamin and Rafael Sanchez Ferlosio.*

**MARIA GELPÍ**

*Sound and resonances of the Russian revolution through Walter Benjamin's "Moscow Diary".*

12h – 12'30h

BREAK

12'30h – 1'30h

**AMALIA RODRIGUEZ MONROY**

Professor Emeritus of the Universitat Pompeu Fabra.

*To speak the truth. Hannah Arendt and the banality of evil.* After the trial that condemned the cruel person responsible for the "final solution" in the extermination camps, Arendt writes the controversial book Eichmann in Jerusalem, where she talks about the banality of evil.

#### AFTERNOON

16h – 17h

**MARIA MAILAT**

Anthropologist, writer and translator, she teaches and directs the ARTEFA center. She has been an

associate professor at the Universities of Paris V and Paris VIII.

*The German exile in the Mediterranean during the Second World War: Hans and Erika Mann, among others and their time in Portbou.*

17h – 18h

**CARI ORIOL SERRES** and **PILAR PARCERISAS**

Book presentation "Las sin sombrero", by **TANIA BALLÓ**. Women of the generation of 27, with the presence of the author.

18h – 18'30h

BREAK

18'30h – 20'30h

Book presentation of *Paul Celan and Walter Benjamin. Anthology of poems*, with the poem "Portbou - German?" dedicated to Benjamin translated for the first time into Catalan, with **MARIA MAÏLAT**, author of the prologue.

Screening of the film *DIE WASSER DES BUG* (The Waters of the Bug) (2023) by Marc Sagnol, Germanist, professor at the University of Erfurt, expert on Walter Benjamin and Paul Celan. Director of this film that traces the genocide experienced by Paul Celan and his family on the border between Russia and what is now Ukraine. Subtitles in Spanish.