

*Strand 1: Art Nouveau Cities: between cosmopolitanism and local tradition*

**Definitive abstract for paper presentation at the *coupDefouet* International Congress**

**Rafael Masó's Honeymoon: A Different Grand Tour**

In Catalan:

In early 1912 the Catalan architect Rafael Masó (1880-1935) took a seven-week honeymoon trip to France, Switzerland, Germany and Italy. Scholars have already noted how crucial this trip was as it provided him first-hand exposure to *Jugendstil* and Secession architecture and design. Throughout his trip the architect sent many letters and postcards to his parents in Girona describing what impressed him the most.

This paper focuses primarily on Masó's stay in Germany (above all at the Darmstadt's Artist Colony, the Hellerau garden city, and Munich), considering not only the written content but also the visual significance of the postcards he acquired, something not discussed in the existing literature. A closer analysis of Masó's choice of itinerary, words, and pictures will provide us with a deeper understanding of his particular Grand Tour. In addition, I will discuss those aspects of German architecture and design that Masó tried to implement upon his return to Girona.

Keywords: Grand Tour, postcard, Masó, Germany, Darmstadt, Hellerau, Werkstätte, Munich, Riemerschmid, architecture

**El viatge de noces de Rafael Masó: un Grand Tour diferent**

A principis de 1912 l'arquitecte català Rafael Masó (1880-1935) va fer un viatge de noces de set setmanes per França, Suïssa, Alemanya i Itàlia. Els estudis sobre Masó ja destaquen la importància d'aquest viatge per conèixer de primera mà l'arquitectura i el disseny *Jugendstil* i de la Secessió. Durant tot el viatge l'arquitecte va enviar moltes cartes i postals als seus pares, a Girona, on descrivia tot allò que més l'impressionava.

Aquesta comunicació se centra sobretot en l'estada de Masó a Alemanya (especialment a la Colònia d'Artistes de Darmstadt, a la ciutat jardí de Hellerau, i a Munic), i considera no només els textos sinó la significació de les imatges de les postals que va comprar, un aspecte que fins ara no s'ha tingut en compte. L'anàlisi de l'itinerari, de les paraules i de la seva tria d'imatges vol oferir una major comprensió d'aquest Grand Tour, a partir de la qual es podrà veure quins aspectes de l'arquitectura i el disseny alemanys va provar

d'implementar a Girona.

Paraules clau: Grand Tour, postal, Masó, Alemanya, Darmstadt, Hellerau, Werkstätte, Munic, Riemerschmid, arquitectura

Curriculum Vitae

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Dr. Jordi Falgàs is Director of the Fundació Rafael Masó, in Girona, since 2008. Previously, he was Cleveland Fellow in Modern European Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art (2004-07), and Assistant Executive Manager at the Salvador Dalí Foundation (1996-03). He holds a PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a Master's degree from Michigan State University, and a Bachelor's degree from the Universitat de Barcelona. He has published numerous articles and contributed essays to several books, most notably *Athenea: The Temple of Noucentisme* (2013), *Casa Masó: Noucentista Life and Architecture* (2012), *El Palau de la Música Catalana* (2009), *The Dalí Renaissance* (2008), *Dalí inèdit: Els dibuixos de Montserrat* (2007), and *Barcelona & Modernity: Picasso, Gaudí, Miró, Dalí* (2006). He has taken part in symposia and lectured at the Instituto Cervantes in Moscow and Chicago, at the Art Institute of Chicago, at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, at La Pedrera in Barcelona, at Queen Mary University of London, and at New York University, among other institutions.