
“Roots and Wings: A Journey from the Beginnings to the Present”. The exhibition by RCR arquitectes at the Garrotxa Museum.

The Garrotxa Museum presents an exhibition that invites visitors to delve into the world of RCR Arquitectes and understand the essence of their architectural language.

The exhibition, which will occupy all the museum’s galleries and engage in dialogue with the permanent collection, can be visited from March 14 to August 9, 2026.

The exhibition proposal is organised as a journey that spans from works from their early period to the studio’s current projects.

A living proposal, conceived as an open and constantly evolving process, which will continue to expand over the course of the exhibition.

The Garrotxa Museum in Olot presents, from March 14 to August 9, the exhibition **“RCR Arquitectes, Roots and Wings. A Journey from the Beginnings to the Present,”** curated by **Jaume Prat Ortells**, PhD in Architecture. This journey through the studio’s history occupies, for the first time, the entire Garrotxa Museum and offers the public a comprehensive view of the creative universe of RCR Arquitectes and their impact on contemporary architecture.

In a context marked by transformation and uncertainty, RCR’s architecture brings together territory, art, and culture into a collective vision that views buildings as catalysts for experience rather than as closed objects.

Their work, recognised with some of the most important national and international architecture awards—culminating in the 2017 Pritzker Prize—has evolved into an ecosystem that integrates architecture, teaching, culture, and research. Among their notable projects is **RCR La Vila**, a centre for research and cultural experiences in the Vall de Bianya, which will open its doors to the public on June 28.

The exhibition traces the beginnings of RCR in Olot—with the firm and determined intention to remain in their place of origin—along with their relationship to the local cultural and artistic context and their role in contemporary architecture.

RCR, beginnings: in Sala Oberta 2, the exhibition opens with the studio's first works in Olot, exploring their decision to develop their practice from the city and their relationship with the landscape. It ranges from houses to transformative interventions from the studio's first twenty years, such as the **Margarida, Mirador, and Horizon** houses—built laboratories in which to question conventional ways of living—as well as the **Tossols-Basil Athletics Stadium, the Bath Pavilion, and the Pedra Tosca Park:** local landscape interventions that enable the citizens of Olot to inhabit the Garrotxa Volcanic Zone Natural Park.

RCR in dialogue with culture: the journey continues with an interaction with the Museum's permanent exhibition, on the third floor, which contextualises the cultural and artistic evolution of Olot—from the School of Art and local industry to the protest art movement of the 1970s—showing how RCR integrates into this cultural fabric. Visitors will see furniture, industrial design, selections of the studio's drawings, paintings, sculptures, photographs of their work, and Barberí Space, which houses their studio, as an example of dialogue with Olot's industrial and artistic memory.

On the first floor, a selection of photographs by authors with whom they have collaborated over the years: **Pep Sau, Marc Chęcinski, and Eugeni Pons.** In the cloister, a display of sketches and reflections on their work.

RCR, now: Sala Oberta 1 illustrates the current direction of RCR's architecture, the studio's post-Pritzker work, and their most recent projects, such as **Muraba Veil**, a residential tower in Dubai; a complex of **residential towers in Tirana (Albania);** the **extension of the Soulages Museum** in Rodez, which reflects on museum architecture; the **expansion of Sants Station**, shaping one of Barcelona's main gateways; and the development of **RCR La Vila. The Centre for Research and Spatial Experience is conceived as a meeting place for diverse disciplines to address contemporary challenges from an integrated and cross-disciplinary perspective, among other initiatives.**

This exhibition shows how architecture born of shared creativity and the dialogue between place and form transcends the boundaries of architecture. The exhibition will be enriched over the coming months with guided tours and complementary activities, maintaining its living and evolving essence.

Local Roots, Global Reach

RCR arquitectes, founded in 1988 by Rafael Aranda, Carme Pigem, and Ramon Vilalta, emerged and grew in Olot, a territory that has shaped their way of seeing and practising architecture. The studio's early works already reveal a profound dialogue with the volcanic landscape and the city's cultural history, integrating nature, tradition, and everyday life into their proposals. This commitment to their origins has enabled their architecture to transcend borders and become a global reference. Their international recognition—culminating in the 2017 Pritzker Prize—demonstrates how deep roots can sustain wings that lift architecture toward new geographies and cultures.

Dialogue between Architecture, Art, and Culture

For RCR arquitectes, a building is not merely a construction but also a space for encounters between disciplines. Their work integrates architecture, landscape, sculpture, industrial design, ephemeral architecture, and graphic work, generating a creative universe in which each project engages in dialogue with its local environment and culture. The exhibition reflects this dialogue through its connection to the Garrotxa Museum's permanent collection and shows how RCR's architecture draws on the city's history, craftsmanship, and cultural activism. This cross-disciplinary approach turns each work into a living ecosystem, capable of generating aesthetic and intellectual experiences that go beyond mere functionality.

Creativity in Motion

RCR arquitectes' methodology is open and experimental: their projects are not closed forms, but responses to local, social, and cultural conditions. Beauty is the guiding thread that allows function, landscape, and emotion to merge; it is precisely this perspective that unfolds the wings of creativity from a humanistic dimension and has made RCR Arquitectes a global reference. Throughout their trajectory, the studio has developed an architecture that evolves with its context and the needs of the people who inhabit it.

The exhibition reflects this dynamic through a layout of galleries that complement one another and will continue to transform over the months of the show, reminding us that architecture, when it is a shared vision, is always a process in motion—open to new interpretations and experiences.

Dates: March 14 – August 9, 2026

Venue: Garrotxa Museum, Carrer Hospici, 8, Olot

Guided tours led by Jaume Prat Ortells, curator of the exhibition:

Saturday, April 11, at 12:00 pm

Saturday, May 16, at 12:00 pm

Saturday, June 20, at 12:00 pm

Press kit:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1fgRs1ujBE9aK4j6CxZY55DZXPRHBh8oz?usp=drive_link

Visual materials:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1EOKUI4oXx4SZF5Z7y7p-o38TCHVOWhfe?usp=sharing>

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