



Curriculum vitae, biography, exhibitions, some critics and references of a singular Catalana artist.

Barcelona, February 3, 2021

CARMEN SELVES

Artist painter



INTRODUCTION

The first exhibition in which the work of Selves was presented in public was in 1947. She was a professional portrait painter until 1967. She then decided to devote most of her energies to taking care of her four children. Likewise, her love for art was always there and - when her children grew up and stopped needing so much attention - she became even more active. As much as the artist who had been 40 years before.

Joan Ignasi Vicente
Author of www.carmenselves.org

WHO IS CARMEN SELVES?

Maria del Carmen Selves was born in Manresa, province of Barcelona, in a traditional Catalan family. Her father was [Joan Selves i Carner](#), journalist and lawyer, and her mother, **Carmen Baltierrez Clotet**, had and exerted a great artistic capacity, which influenced her.

When she was young, Carmen Selves liked reading, walking, traveling, music, swimming and literary creation and expressed her creativity mainly as a concert pianist. Later, he realized that his greatest vocation was oil painting and left out music, which had made a long academic study, to concentrate more energy in painting. He also studied accounting and even shorthand.

When Carmen Selves already received some recognitions in Manresa as a painter, she went to Barcelona to study Fine Arts at the Sant Jordi school between 1951 and 1954, when the school was on Avinyò street and had the sculptor [Frederic Marés](#) as a director. In Sant Jordi he had as teachers, among others, [Francesc Ribera Gómez](#), [Josep Puigdengolas Barella](#), [Ernest Santasusagna Santacreu](#) and [Josep Maria Junoy i Muns](#).

At a particular level he also had important teachers such as [Evarist Bassiana Arbiell](#), [Empar Diaz](#) and [Ferran Hurtado](#).

A little later he married the engineer **Josep Maria Vicente Esforzado** who was also a buon dibuixant and appreciated a lot from classic art to comics, music and cinema. They had four very active children. The family moved to Barcelona in 1968 for work reasons.

You can determine its trend with little accuracy because it continues to evolve but fits a bit into Impressionism, Expressionism, New Realism and Narrative Figuration. Some of his preferences are: Goya, Rembrandt Renoir, Van Gogh, Zurbaran but he also appreciates the talent of many more artists. He did his degree thesis on the painter [Lluïsa Vidal](#).

Carmen Selves later made a university study in restoration of works of art in Sant Jordi in 1977 and another one of d'archeology in the University of Barcelona in 1979. She studied mural painting in Sant Cugat in 1972 and archaeological drawing in 1992. She also worked in the Art Museum of Montjuïc. She has also been a secondary school teacher.

His works are distributed mainly by the area where he lives but there are also his paintings in Argentina, Finland, Holland, Itàlia, Romania, France, and Japan. The majority have private owners. Some are donated to museums such as Imatra, Sitges and Manresa.

His willingness to learn and the determination to discover and develop are shown in his work; Selves works in a variety of media, including oil paintings, murals, ceramics, altarpieces and, lately, digital art. In 2018 he paints with acrylic but normally he does it in oil. It also does other things. For example, study languages and [create story scripts](#).

SOME CRITICISES AFTER 1994



New York Art

New York, USA, Doroty Roatz Myers - October 1994

- << Selve's talent is expensive; he is equally capable of rendering convincing street scenes, Landscapes and portraits. >>



Gira independent 1995

Pieksämäki, Finlandia, Etelä Saimaa, Matti Veijalainen - August 1995

- Translation from suomi : The clear north light evokes something special to a woman from the south, especially when viewed through the eyes of a Mediterranean painter.



Galleria Diocleziano

Pescara, Itàlia, Silva Marini - April 1996

- << Le pitture di quest'artista mettono a fuoco l'evidenza della luce nei presagi, fondendo i colori e dandogli un cromatismo molto emotivo, sprigionando tutta la tenerezza che ha nel suo spirito. >>



Galleria Alba

Ferrara, Itàlia, Gino Trabini - November 1997

- << dai forti tratti espressivi, interpretati con particolare attenzione alle vibrazioni della luce. Un figurazione comunque composta ed equilibrata, ove aleggia una sottile vena poetica, sostenuta da una carica interiore che rende percepibili contenuti e valori universali. >>



E.B. Revista d'art

Barcelona, nº 38 - 1999

- << Por eso Carmen, sintiendo una especial ternura hacia ellos, ha representado en sus pinturas las bestias del bosque dentro de su medio natural. >>



Arxiu d'Art

Barcelona, Josep Maresma - June 1999

- << Hi ha una mena d'ingenuïtat esclatant. >>
-



Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Barcelona, No hay radio! , Fátima Palacios - June 2000

- << En esta exposición la luz de los azules, los rojos y los verdes intensos son los protagonistas. >>
-



Artisti in Vetrina

Vercelli, Itàlia, Fernanda Banchi – October 6, 2002

- << La pittura di Selvas Carmen evidenzia l'essenzialità e il seguito. L'artista sa cogliere il momento giusto per evidenziare il soggetto, attraverso il paesaggio o le figure. Le sue opere trasmettono all'osservatore un messaggio intenso, romantico e suggestivo. La vitalità delle sue composizioni denotano l'amore dell'Autrice per la natura, lasciando intravedere una tavolozza ricca e spumeggiante, creando così notevoli effetti di luce e colore. >>
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Casa Editrice Alba

Ferrara, Itàlia, Antonio Caggiano - 2003/2004

- << Carmen Selvas, peraltro, che opera in terra di Spagna, aggiunge ai colori adoperati la tensione dei sentimenti in modo che, attraverso l'immagine, si scorga una personalità particolare e l'ambiente andaluso si concretizza visivamente vivo... >>
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Bonart

Benedormiens Castle - Girona - 2006

- << ...transporta l'espectador a un paisatge figuratiu que, sense ser bucòlic, te un deix poètic producte de la fusió de colors i d'una pinzellada enfortida per la llum... >>
-

Regió 7**

Manresa - June 2011

- << Les llums, els contrallums i els clarobscurs del paisatge més humà de la capital comptal s'immortalitzaven en el llenç de Selves amb les seves precises estàtues humanes, les selves incomptables flors i els seus característics quioscos. >>
-

Bonart**

Girona - June 2011

- << L'obra de Carmen Selves no perd ni la emoció ni l'intimisme >>
-

Galart**

Terol, Mario Nicolás - June 2011

- << Lo suyo es un realismo íntimo, humano, que se inspira en los espacios abiertos de su ciudad centrándose en este caso en las Ramblas de Barcelona, con su entorno, sus gentes y la luminosidad especial que presenta este lugar tan bello de la Ciudad Condal. >>
-

Revistart**

Barcelona, J.U. #165 – 2013

- << Su carrera se forja en el momento de la efervescencia de la postguerra mundial, en las que situamos las segundas vanguardias artísticas, sin embargo, en la obra de Selves encontramos características más cercanas a las primeras vanguardias sin adherirse a ningún movimiento concreto, ya que su técnica y talante confieren a sus obras una personalidad que le ha valido a la artista una buena fortuna crítica, así como cuantiosas exposiciones tanto individuales como colectivas. >>
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Centre Nacional d'Art del Japó**

: _____ **!?** - October 2015

- *Translated : ...we are at the National Museum of Japan... what will you do next?*

This expression - literally - was debated in the seventeenth debate of the green tea of the National Museum of Japan with a hearing of 76 people. It could have been directed, not only to all the participating artists, present and not present - among them Carmen Selves, in a few meters, had three works - if not also, in a broader and more constructive sense, a group of people even greater.

* ArtisSpectrum

New York, USA, [#33](#) - May 2015

o << Inspired by the sun, local flora, and the Mediterranean Sea, C. Selves' figurative paintings and portraits establish an emotional connection to each subject. Selves approaches color with a reserved style that is at once dreamlike and whimsical. We see a deftness that delights the eye, a dreamlike essence that challenges the imagination. While she draws on perspective and structure to portray reality, the focus is always on the message she seeks to impart: a message that moves hand and brush to highlight the beauty of her subjects. "One of my proudest moments as an artist was when a bee landed on one of my painted flowers, mistaking it for a real bloom!" Born in Manresa, Catalonia, Spain, near the mountains of Montserrat, Selves admits that her work is representative of her life, her person, her class and her generation. She will often paint in front of a model, but allowing herself the liberty to add imaginative flourishes. "The goal of my work is to stop time [with an] artistic quality." Selves currently lives in Barcelona. She has exhibited in Finland and throughout Spain and France, and recently has participated in an exhibition in the largest museum in Tokyo. >>

* Galart

Terol, nº 365, Marta Teixidó - March 2017

o << [...] en esta exposición se centra en la figura. Son piezas amables, que dan sensaciones muy cercanas, muy tiernas, basadas en caracteres académicos, siendo visible su faceta de ilustradora. Su composición y estructura huyen de los cánones estrictos tradicionales, por presentar personas, lo más seguro de su entorno, que en un momento dado quiso pintar, como trabajo y recuerdo. Y lo hizo tal como ella las ve o las veía, desde una perspectiva real, pero atendiendo a unos criterios muy singulares, no exentos de idealización, pero a la vez haciendo notorio el deseo de dejar distancia. >>

* Revistart

Barcelona, #179, A.B. - May 2017

o << [...] obras cálidas, alegres y plácidas que simplemente regocijan el alma, algo absolutamente imprescindible en estos tiempos de prisas [...] >>

EXHIBITIONS

SINGLE

(* = with an internal weblink)

#	Gallery	Place	Year
1	Galeria Torra	Manresa, Barcelona	1962
2	Col·lectiu Fotogràfic d'Igualada	Igualada, Barcelona	1966
3	Palau de Maricel (15p)	Sitges, Barcelona	1966
4	Sala Xipell (1967, 1972)	Manresa, Barcelona	19xx
5	Sala Rovira	Barcelona	1968
6	Galeria Àgora 3	Sitges, Barcelona	1972
7	Real Círculo artístic de Barcelona	Barcelona	1971
8	Galeria d'art del Vallès	Barcelona	1974
9	Sala Al-Andalus	Sevilla	1994
10	Pieksämäen Malaiskunta	Pieksämäki, Finland	1995
11	Imatran Kulttuurikeskus	Imatra, Finland	1995
12	E D'A Estudi D'Art	Barcelona	1999
13	Hotel Mercure	Barcelona	1999
14	Galeria Topaz	Barcelona	2000
15	Galeria LLUM D'ART	El Vendrell, Tarragona	2000
16	Galeria TORANTO	Barcelona	2005
17 *	Galeria Esart: Les Rambles	Barcelona	2011
18 *	Galeria Esart: Retrats	Barcelona	2017

COLLECTIVE

#	Gallery	Place	Year
1	Centre artístic de Manresa (*1)	Manresa	19xx
2*	Palau de la Virreina (*2)	Barcelona	19xx
3	Montserrat Gallery	New York, USA	1994
4	Feria Campionaria Silva Marina	Pescara, Italy	1996
5	Galeria Alba (*3)	Ferrara, Italy	199x
6	Expo Padua	Padua, Italy	1998
7	Art Joction: Palais National de l'Art Vivant	Niza, France	1999
8	Eloge du petit format dans l'art d'aujourd'hui (*4)	Paris, France	200x
9	Galeria Llum d'Art	El Vendrell	2001
10	II Exposició i Mercat d'Art Contemporani (*5)	Blanes	2001
11	Galeria Rua D'Art	Manresa	2003
12	Subastes d'obres d'art a St.Teresina (*6)	Barcelona	2004
13	Index Bonart 2004 (*7)	Castell d'Aro	2004
14	Homenaje a la mujer artista (*8)	El Vendrell	2009
15 *	Sant Joan de Les Fonts (*9)	Girona	201x
16	Ajuntament de Palau de Savadera	Empordà, Girona	2010
17	Exposició Internacional Mini-art (*10)	France	2010
18 *	Galeria Esart (*11)	Barcelona	20xx
19 *	Galeria BCM	Barcelona	2012
20 *	Espacio 120 (*12)	Barcelona	2014
21 *	New York Agora Gallery	New York, USA	2014
22 *	Gira itinerant pel Japó:	Japan	2015
23	1. Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art	Kyoto	2015
24	2. Hiroshima Museum of Art	Hiroshima	2015
25	3. The National Art Center	Tokyo	2015
26 *	Museu Gustavo de Maetzu	Navarra	2016
27 *	Laspadarina	Pizenza, Italy	2018
28 *	La memoria de la materia, C. d'Arte San Vidal	Venice, Italy	2018
29 *	Indagini, ellegalleria.it	Preganziol, Italy	2019
30	Babele, SpazioSV	Venice, Italy	2020
31	New York Art Expo (soon)	New York, USA	2021
32	Fira internacional d'art de Barcelona (soon)	Barcelona	2021

DETAILS OF THE PREVIOUS TABLE (COLLECTIVE)

- *1 [Renaixença](#) is the building in which the Artistic Circle of Manresa was held. Carmen Selves was the pioneer of this group. At each major party they organized an exhibition. The parish of [Sant Josep del Poble Nou](#) was also rewarded. Carmen Selves participated in 5 or 6 exhibitions between 1945 and 1951. When he went to Barcelona he stopped participating to study Fine Arts.
- *2 In 1955 and 1972 (twice), Carmen Selves presented paintings and was twice selected to exhibit one of his paintings at the Palace of Virreina in the context of two collective exhibitions in search of new pictorial talents called [Exposició Nacional Espanyola](#).
- *3 The director of Galleria Alba, R. Puviani, invited Carmen Selves to Italy to exhibit one of her works twice in 1997 and 1999.
- *4 This exhibition was after publications in 5 editions of some of his works. The books are published by "Culturel Christiane Peugeot Center. Galerie Le Carré d'Or, 46 Avenue Georges V, 75008 Paris". That 5 editions was in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004. The artist was invited to go personally but this time she only participated with her works. The work that led to was a pair of drawings of Easter's Calanda Drummers made with colored wax.
- *5 Mostra d'Art de la Mediterrània, was called too II Exposició-Mercat d'art contemporani.
- *6 Carmen Selves has participated three times (2002, 2003 and 2004) in editions VI, VII and VIII of the auctions of works of art yielding a 50% of the value of the sales in the parish of Santa Teresa of the Infant Jesus.
- *7 Castle of Benedormiens of Castell d'Aro.
- *8 Ciy Hall of El Vendrell.
- *9 Three participations so far in this organization of La Garrotxa: (1) Commemorative prize VI international show of Sant Joan Les Fonts - Social center of Sant Joan Les Fonts, Girona. from December 4 to 12, 2009. (2) VII international show in 2010 (3) X International Plastic Arts Fair 2013.
- *10 International Exhibition Mini-art, Chapelle Sant Michèl, Roquebrune sur Argens (France) from July 31 to August 7, 2010.
- *11 Discovered by Esart and awarded to her in 2009 the Medal of Honor at the XI Winter Hall in Esart, Carmen selves continues the relationship with Esart and often participates with a particular or collective exhibition in the Winter International Salons. She also regularly attends Esart as a public because she likes looking others artist's works. The artist has participated with two private exhibitions and 5 collectives recently in this room.
- *12 Under the supervision of Espacio 120, Carmen Selves has exhibited at the three most important art museums in Japan as a guest artist of a small list of representatives from Spain with other independent artists from other places. The three museums in Kyoto, Hiroshima and Tokyo are of great prestige and dimensions. At the Espacio 120 facilities, Carmen Selves has also exhibited four times in that collective exhibitions: 2014, 2017 & twice in 2018.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

#	Book or web	Editions
1	Art a Manresa, segles XIX i XX Joan Vilaró i Llach - Manresa	1983
2	Les Grandes Oeuvres d'hier et aujourd'hui Les Editions Arts et images du Monde - Paris	1991
3	Le Livre d'or des collectionneurs Who's Who in international Art, Paris	1992, 1993
4	International Biographical Art Dictionary Who's Who in international Art, Suïssa	1994 to 2004
5	Dizionario Enciclopedico D'Arte Contemporanea Casa Editrice Alba, Itàlia	1995 to 2004
6	Sólo Arte. Catalogo Europeo D'Arte Contemporanea Casa Editrice Alba, Itàlia	1996, 1997
7	CDROM Catálogos Nacionales de Arte CANART, Barcelona	From 1997
8	Diccionari Anual d'Arts plàstiques de Catalunya i Andorra Galart, Terol	1998
9	Index Bonart 2004 Bonart, Girona	2004
10	Homenaje a la mujer artista Ediciones Ecuador 21 SL. Sant Joan de Les Fonts, Girona	2009
11	Artistas de Nuestro Tiempo 2011 GLOBUS Ediciones, C/Marín 6, Barcelona	2011
12	Revistart Revista de las Artes, Barcelona	Various reviews from 2011
13	Bonart Maig, Girona	Various reviews from 2011
14	Galart Mario Nicolás Losada, La Fresneda, Terol	Various reviews from 2011
15	Regio 7 Diari de la Catalunya Central, Manresa	2011
16	Història de Castelltallat Llibre propi d'inminent publicació, Castelltallat	Started at 2014
17	Esart Anuario de Arte Internacional, Barcelona	2009 to 2017
18	Agora Gallery NY Agora Gallery (external site) #32 & #33 – New York, USA	2014 to 2016
19	Cuadros de una exposición Marta Teixidor (external site), Mataró	2015 to 2018
20	Laspadarina Rosario Scrivano (external site), Piazenza, Italia	2015 to 2021



art@carmenselves.org