



## **Press Release**

18 October 2021

## Zaragoza hosts the initiative "Your city is full of pianos"

The initiative of Fundación Jesús Serra and the Maria Canals Competition will dress the streets of the Aragon capital with 8 grand pianos on 22 October.

Fundación Jesús Serra, from Grupo Catalana Occidente, and the Maria Canals International Music Competition will be bringing back the joy of playing the piano to the city with their initiative "Your city is full of pianos". On Friday, 22 October, Zaragoza will turn its streets into outdoor music venues with 8 grand pianos spread across the city's busiest enclaves.

Thanks to the collaboration of the Zaragoza City Council and following the initiative's recent success in San Sebastián and Madrid, the people of Zaragoza and all visitors to the capital will be able to enjoy art and musical fusion in a historic and unparalleled setting, thanks to this action that in essence intends to bring the universal pleasure of playing music closer to citizens.

The grand pianos will be located in some of the city's emblematic locations, such as Plaza del Pilar, where the Basilica of Nuestra Señora del Pilar is located, a mandatory stop for anyone passing through Zaragoza, Plaza de Aragón and Plaza de Santiago Sas. The Plaza de España square, in front of the Provincial Council building and outside the Banco de España, the junction of Calle del Coso with Calle de Alfonso I and the junction of Paseo de la Independencia with Plaza Santa Engracia are just some of the other places where visitors can enjoy all types of musical repertoires.

From 11 in the morning until 8 in the evening these pianos will be available to professional musicians, conservatoire students, music schools, children and amateurs, who will turn Zaragoza into one enormous open-air music hall. Among these musical gems, two concert grand pianos which are usually only found in large concert halls will exceptionally be available to the public for one day.

The 8 pianos will be placed in the following locations in Zaragoza:

- 1.- Plaza del Pilar (Fuente de la Hispanidad)
- 2. Plaza del Pilar with Calle de Alfonso I
- 3. Plaza Santiago Sas
- 4. Calle del Coso with Calle de Alfonso I
- 5. Plaza de España (opposite the Banco de España)
- 6 Plaza de España (opposite the Provincial Council)
- 7.- Paseo de la Independencia with Plaza Santa Engracia
- 8.- Plaza Aragón (Palacio de la Antigua Capitanía)

The day's highlights can be shared on social media through photos, videos and messages with the hashtag #PianosZaragoza.

## About Fundación Jesús Serra

Fundación Jesús Serra is a non-profit organization created in memory of Jesús Serra Santamans, a well-known businessman and sponsor and founder of Grupo Catalana Occidente. The Foundation develops and supports projects in the areas of research, education, business, social action, sports, and promotion of the arts, with the common goal of a responsible commitment to society.





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The "Your city is full of pianos" project aims to promote universal dissemination and practice of music through citizens' involvement. It is one of the highlights organised jointly by Fundación Jesús Serra and the Maria Canals Competition to bring music closer to the entire Spanish population.

"Zaragoza is the last stop of our initiative "Your city is full of pianos" this year and we are very proud to close in a place as important as this. This last quarter of the year has allowed us to take a very energetic return to cultural activities, and this is reflected in the participation of citizens. To be able to come back and do it in the Aragonese capital is a pleasure for us and that is why we want to thank the City Council for all the facilities that have been made available to us to make this a reality and we hope that all the people of Zaragoza and its visitors will enjoy this initiative," said the director of the Fundación Jesús Serra, Ignacio Gallardo-Bravo.

Furthermore, Jordi Vivancos, director of the Maria Canals Competition, stressed the importance of this project through which "we are proud to be able to offer an initiative as lovely as "Your city is full of pianos", which apart from bringing music and piano closer to society, we can showcase and promote the involvement of the country's finest talent with the prestigious Maria Canals International Music Competition."

The close collaboration between Fundación Jesús Serra and the Maria Canals Competition has allowed this cultural activity to take place in several cities such as Barcelona, Madrid, Bilbao, Seville, Cadiz, Malaga, Salamanca, Toledo, Santiago de Compostela, Valencia, Leon, Granada and San Sebastián. Zaragoza closes the 2021 edition of "Your city is full of pianos."

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