



Càtedra *Pau Casals*

FUNDACIÓ
Pau Casals

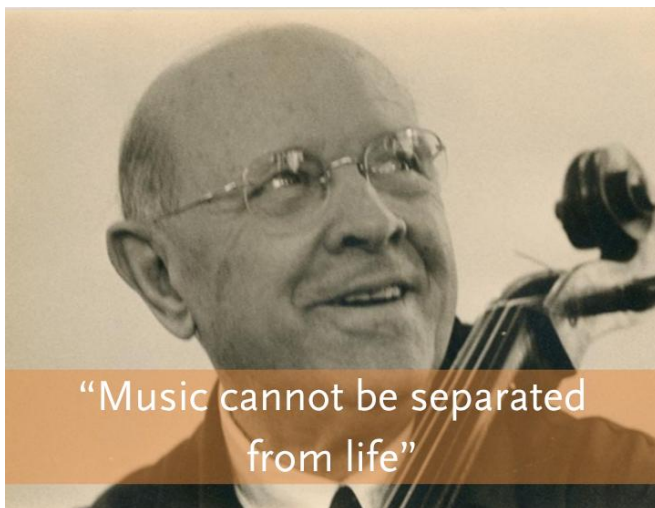
UOC Universitat Oberta
de Catalunya

PABLO CASALS

Pablo Casals was an exceptional cello performer who marked a before and after in the interpretative technique of the cello, one of the most important orchestra conductors of his time, and a great composer. In his capacity as a musician, he combined the defense of peace, human rights, and democracy. In turbulent times, he defended a world without borders with music as a universal language of fraternity among peoples. He was invited on three occasions to visit and perform for the United Nations General Assembly, also delivering historic speeches with great impact. Pablo Casals received from the United Nations the commission to compose a hymn for the UN (Hymn of Peace), which was performed and conducted for the first time in 1971. In recognition of his humanitarian work and the defense of peace, he received the first United Nations Peace Medal.



THE PABLO CASALS CHAIR



The Pablo Casals Chair is a project established in agreement between the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) and the Pablo Casals Foundation with the aim of promoting research, knowledge, dissemination, and contemporary debate on the musical and humanistic dimension of Pablo Casals and his extraordinary legacy, as well as the values he defended throughout his life.



A Chair to foster the commitment of culture and music to the major problems of today's society, to bring together people, researchers, and artists. A space for reflection and research on the role of music in intercultural dialogue and the institutions that defend human rights and multilateralism for a better world. The Chair presents two central areas of activity:

- I. The musical legacy of Pablo Casals. Pablo Casals as a complete musician: performer, conductor, and composer.
- II. The humanistic legacy of Pablo Casals and the contemporary interpretation of the defense of peace, democracy, and human rights.

OBJECTIVES

- I. To promote research, dissemination, and musicological and historiographical knowledge of the artistic work and the facets of Pablo Casals as performer, orchestra conductor, and composer.
- II. To promote research, knowledge production, dissemination, and contemporary debate on the relationship between music, the defence of the values of peace, human rights, and democracy.
- III. To contribute to the strengthening of culture, and more specifically musical expression, within the framework of the United Nations 2030 Agenda, and the various UNESCO conventions, with special attention to the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.
- IV. The promotion of music as an intangible heritage fundamental for social cohesion, multicultural dialogue, and conflict prevention.

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

- I. **Training activities:** Teaching scholarships, awards for final projects, participation in the organization of training programs, conferences and seminars, promotion of educational cooperation (internship students), collaboration in the training plans of the company/entity, promotion of expert meetings in the chair's area of interest.
- II. **Research and innovation activities:** Research scholarships and grants, development of joint research lines, carrying out research and innovation projects, completion of doctoral theses in cooperation with the company/entity, promotion of national and international expert meetings on topics of interest, cooperation to

obtain research projects at the Catalan, Spanish, and European levels, promotion of entrepreneurship and knowledge transfer.

III. **Dissemination, knowledge exchange, and international projection activities:**

Organization of scientific and humanistic outreach days, collaboration in the promotion of scientific, cultural, social, or humanistic events, encouragement of publications on topics of interest, support for doctoral theses in the chair's area of interest, distinction and recognition of international initiatives related to the musical and humanistic legacy of Pablo Casals.

DIRECTION



Dr. Joan Fuster-Sobrepere Chair Holder

Doctor in History from Universitat Pompeu Fabra and Bachelor in Philosophy from Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Postgraduate in Management of Cultural Institutions from ESADE Alta Dirección. Associate Professor of Contemporary History in the Studies of Art and Humanities at the UOC. Former Director of the Studies of Art and Humanities at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. Founder and Director of the Master's in Humanities: Art, Literature, and Contemporary Culture. Member of the consolidated research group Identicat.



Dr. Alfons Martinell Sempere Co-holder of the Chair

Doctor in Pedagogy from the Universitat de Girona. Bachelor in Philosophy and Letters from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Member of the Spanish Network for Sustainable Development. Former Director General of Cultural and Scientific Relations at the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain. Honorary Director of the UNESCO Chair: Cultural Policies and Cooperation. Professor Emeritus at the Universitat de Girona. Gold Medal of Merit in Fine Arts (2024).



ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Chair has two advisory committees composed of distinguished individuals in the fields of music, peace, and human rights.

- **Music Advisory Committee**

Asier Polo, internationally renowned cellist. 2019 National Music Award from the Ministry of Culture.

Bernard Meillat, musical advisor of the Pablo Casals Foundation and artistic director of the Pablo Casals International Music Festival.

Enrique Barón, president of the Yehudi Menuhin Foundation Spain.

Ester Bonal, co-director of Xamfrà, Center for Music and Performing Arts for Social Inclusion, winner of a 2022 Gold Medal from the Spanish Academy of Performing Arts.

Jonathan Brown, violist of the Casals Quartet

Maria Claudia Parias, president of the Batuta National Foundation (Colombia).

Marie Hallynck, internationally renowned cellist.

Mireia Pacareu, classical music editor at the European Broadcasting Union

Núria Sempere, general director of the Higher School of Music of Catalonia (ESMUC).

Ruth Miura, teacher trainer for the European Suzuki Association.

- **Peace and human rights advisory committee**

Ana Barrero, president of the Spanish Association for Peace Research (aiPAZ) and director of the Culture of Peace Foundation.

Arantza Acha, director of UNESCO Etxea, the UNESCO Centre of the Basque Country.

Daniel Innerarity, professor of political and social philosophy and researcher at the University of the Basque Country.

Esther Barbé, researcher at IBEI and professor at UAB.

Hannes Swoboda, president de l'International Institute for Peace.

Jean-Jacques Bedu, writer and founder of Mare Nostrum – Une Méditerranée Autrement.

Joan Manuel Tresserras, professor at UAB and former Minister of Culture of the Generalitat of Catalonia.

Xavier Mas de Xaxàs, journalist and diplomatic correspondent for La Vanguardia.



Pol Morillas, director of CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs).

TECHNICAL TEAM

- **Direction of the Pablo Casals Foundation, Jordi Pardo.** Member of the UNESCO Cultural Policy Expert Group 2011–2015; member of the European Commission Expert Team for European Capitals of Culture 2012–2016. He has directed and advised cultural projects in various countries across Europe, Asia, and the Americas.
- **Historical and documentary advising, Núria Ballester.** Director of the Pablo Casals Museum with experience in conservation, research, and heritage dissemination. Cultural affairs and community relations.
- **Technical Secretary of the Chair, Griselda Massó.** Cultural manager and project coordinator.

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 2023

From January 23 to March 31. *Period for submitting applications for the 2023 Research Grants.* With the support of the Entity for the Management of Performing Artists and Musicians (AIE).

International Call 2023: The call, which was open to students and researchers from all over the world, has received proposals of very different kinds. From musicological projects on Casals' legacy to projects on the role of music in conflict prevention, as well as studies on peacebuilding.

- Applications: 51 people
- Awarded grants: 2 grants
- Nationalities: 14 (Germany, Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Spain, Greece, Lebanon, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico, and the USA).
- 11 from Catalan universities and research centers, 31 from institutions in the rest of Spain, and 9 from international institutions.

April. *Research grant results* with 2 winners:

- Evolution of international mechanisms for the protection of musicians: a historical perspective, a project submitted by Laurence Cuny.
- From Festívol to the Prelude of *El Pessebre*. A first approach to Pablo Casals' musical works catalog based on his sardanas, a project submitted by Anna Costal and Albert Fontelles.

More information

May 22. Workshop *Educating in Cultural Rights*, at the Pablo Casals Museum.
48 in-person attendees

This workshop, on education in cultural rights, provided a space for debate and discussion to advance in this important area of cultural management and policy. It featured speakers and contributions such as:

- Maider Maraña, director of the Baketik Foundation (Basque Country) and specialist in cultural rights.
- Mireia Tresserras, co-director of educArt, museum educator, researcher in cultural rights and education.
- Núria Ballester, director of the Pablo Casals Museum.
- Gemma Carbó, director of the Museum of Rural Life in L'Espluga de Francolí and president of the Interarts Foundation. Expert in the relationship between culture and education.
- Mireia Mayolas, Head of the Education and Activities Area at the Maritime Museum of Barcelona and trainer of museum educators.
- Estefanía Rodero, researcher and cultural activist with strong ties to the world of books and reading.
- Teresa Reyes, Head of the Technical Section of the Cultural Heritage Office of the Diputació de Barcelona.
- Nicolás Barbieri, professor at the Open University of Catalonia (UOC), specialized in cultural rights and cultural policies.
- Alfons Martinell, co-director of the Chair.





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More information

October 26. 2nd Day of the Chair: *Music and Social Transformation*, at Pati Manning in Barcelona (CERC of the Diputació de Barcelona). With the support of the Diputació de Barcelona. 82 in-person attendees.

This event was part of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Pablo Casals' death in 2023, and it focused on the transformative role of music in promoting social cohesion and inclusion, intercultural dialogue, and conflict prevention. It was an opportunity to collectively reflect on the reasons and purposes for which we believe it is necessary to advocate for music as a right and as an essential tool in building more attentive and just societies. It featured speakers and contributions such as:

- Marina Garcés, philosopher, essayist, and professor at the Arts and Humanities Studies, UOC.
- Esther Bonal, music teacher and director of Xamfrà.
- María Claudia Parias, president of the Fundación Nacional Batuta (Colombia).
- José Luis Rivero, CEO and artistic director at the Auditorio de Tenerife.
- Hugo Cruz, creator, cultural programmer, and researcher.
- Núria Sempere, director of the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya (ESMUC).
- Pablo González, founding director of the VOZES project.
- Nil Barutel, director of Riborquestra; researcher at UPF and the Institut de Cultura de Barcelona.
- Anna Carné, coordinator and teacher at the ConArte Internacional Association and the Cordes a Primària project at the EMM of St. Feliu de Llobregat.
- Laura Folch, cellist, pedagogue, and designer of social projects.



- Oriol Pérez Treviño, musicologist and essayist.
- Jordi Oliveras, cultural animator and coordinator of Indigestió and the magazine www.nativa.cat
- Erin Corine, founder of Hola Magnolia Identityworks, multilingual interdisciplinary artist, identity and belonging coach, and educator in diversity, inclusion, equity, and anti-racism (DEI+).
- Nicolás Barbieri, professor at the Open University of Catalonia (UOC), specialized in cultural rights and cultural policies.
- Various testimonies from organizations such as Xamfrà, the VOZES project, the Riborquesta Association, and the opera La Gata Perduda.
- Musical action workshop led by the Institut Diversitats and the Riborquesta Association.
- Joan Fuster-Sobrepere, director of the Chair.
- Alfons Martinell, co-director of the Chair.
- Jordi Pardo, director of the Pablo Casals Foundation.





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More information

October 2023 to September 2024. *Project Educating for Peace through Cultural Rights.* With the support of the Catalan International Institute for Peace (ICIP).

Within this framework, the Pablo Casals Chair has proposed the project *Educating for Peace through Cultural Rights* to reflect on how the values and principles of cultural rights can be incorporated into peace education approaches. For years, various institutions have promoted these values, giving them their own conceptual framework.

This project aligns with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 of the 2030 Agenda: “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development,” as well as with other related SDGs (4, 5, and 17, among others).

More information

Provisional Guide A guide aimed at cultural services and facilities for addressing the principles of cultural rights and promoting a culture of peace.



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