# UAB Special Collections. An overview

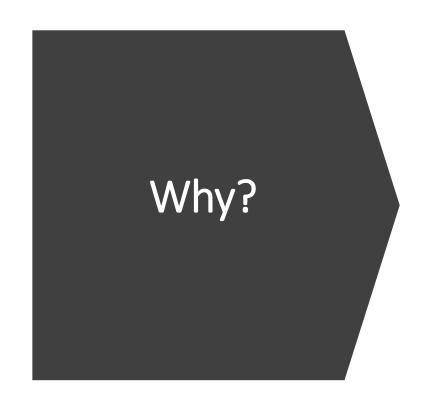
Xavier Beltrán, Ana Escañuela, Cristina Fernández, Anna Florensa, Montse Gutiérrez, Marta Rial, Teresa Santos

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona October 18, 2023





### **Special Collections**





### **Special Collections**

Value to
University
Libraries



#### **UAB Special Collections**

#### Special collections



In the <u>special collections</u> you will find relevant documentation in certain areas or material types.

They often gather rare documents, unique materials, manuscripts, etc.

#### Personal and institutional collections



In the <u>personal and institutional</u>
<u>collections</u> you will find documents
produced or assembled by a person, a
family or an organisation, in the exercise
of their activities and functions:
correspondence, personal diaries, etc.









### Jordi Bigues collection

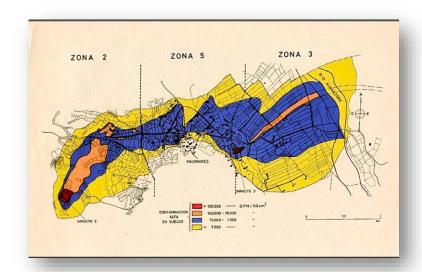
Are you familiar with the Palomares incident?

An aircraft from the U.S. military, carrying nuclear materials, experienced an accident and crashed off the shores of Almeria, in the town of Palomares.

Due to the potential nuclear contamination risk, this episode held significant importance for Spanish society of that era.



The B28FI nuclear bomb, recovered from a depth of 2,850 feet (870 m) of water, on the deck of the USS Petrel (<a href="https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Palomares-H-Bomb-Incident.jpg">https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Palomares-H-Bomb-Incident.jpg</a>)



A scale map of 'Ground Zero' (435 hours) without any alterations. (<a href="https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ma">https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ma</a> pa radiom%C3%A9trico 1966 aunt%C3%A9ntico.jpg)

In the mid-1980s, Jordi Bigues, a member of the Board of Directors of Greenpeace Spain, coordinated the campaign in support of the residents of Palomares, located in Almeria. This initiative aimed to assist the victims of the nuclear accident that had occurred on January 17, 1966, just as the deadline for compensation was approaching.

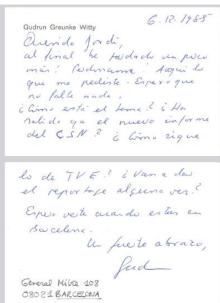
### **Jordi Bigues collection**

In 2016, Jordi Bigues donated his personal archive related to the incident to the Centre for the History of Science at the UAB, which is now known as the Institute for the History of Science.

Access to the archive:

https://ddd.uab.cat/collection/palomares?In=en







The Houston Post/Sun., December 1, 1985/
They live
in nuclear
'darkness'
Still no answers

PALOMARES, Spain (Reuter)

Two decades after a bizarre accident when three nuclear bombs
fell — but failed to explode — on
this Mediterranean hamlet, the
villagers of Palomares still fear
they are being kept in the dark.

ey are being kept in the dark. The sleepy backwater entered & 20th century with a jolt in Janty 1966 when a U.S. Air Force with the companies of the companies of force morbing the companies of surth bomb fell into the sea. Spain's Nuclear Emergy Board is now finally given the villagers clean bill of bealth. But after airline mentally 20 years, the people Palomarks are suspicious of of-

etal findings and are pressing for a independent inquiry. "We have been kept in the dark r too long," Mayor Antonia Flostold Reuters. "Until an indeendent commission studies our edical history, our hearts will at be at rest."

The bombs' inbuilt safety deces prevented a nuclear exploing that could have obliterated out of southern Spain, but the update of the collision caused a lower of radioactive photonium of uranium to fall over the vilge, 125 miles south of Alicante. The bewildered villagers were

al al in the received when the received when the received when we derous explosion, "remio Gonzalez, now a village elder. "We tato the sky and saw diffire and molten metonus," he said.

Bomb in back yard

We thought the world was
coming to an end," recalled May-

the time of the accident.

"One of the bombs made a huge crater in our back yard. We played with the debris until they told us it was dangerous," she

undertaken by the U.S. Air ee-burning crops, tilling ans and removing 2,000 tons of aminated topsoil. — the village were told by American and isla docture that they were in the decidence of the control of the control

ortillo remembers. "T scrubbed y children . . . but I couldn't afrd to burn our clothes," she said. 
The villagers say they were 
gated like lepers for many years 
d nobody would buy their crops, 
hile the Nuclear Energy Board 
rouded the investigations in se-

Last month, nuclear physicist Francisco Mingot broke the Board's 20-year silence to assure more than 500 people packed into Palomares town hall that there was no health hazard in the residual amount of plutonium remaining in the environment.

in the environment.

The presence of Nuclear Energy
Board scientists in Palomare
marked a personal triumph for
Flores, who led a two-year can
paign for the villagers' right to
know the results of radiation test

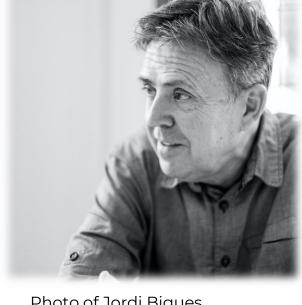


Photo of Jordi Bigues (<a href="https://ddd.uab.cat/img/uab/JordiBigues2.ipg">https://ddd.uab.cat/img/uab/JordiBigues2.ipg</a>)

Below danger levels

"We have detected plutonium i
10 per cent of the population, but these are well below danger levels," Mingot told Reuters.
"One would have to eat thou sands of tons of local produce be fore the risk from radioactivity be

came serious," he added.

Dr. Eduardo Rodriguez Farre, a
sentor researcher at the Scientific
nutritue in Barcelona and a member of Palomares' independent
medical commission, contexts the
Nuclear Energy Board's findings.
"Plutonium is one of the most
toxic substances known to man,"
the told Reuters. "I find it incontee told Reuters. "I find it incon-

eivable that the board should say therwise."

Farre said that once plutonium omes into contact with the air, it orms a compound with oxygen hich is deposited in the lungs,

bones and liver when inhaled.

He said cancer was the most common consequence of plutonium poisoning, but could take 15 to 30 years to develop.

30 years to develop.
"We are currently looking f
funds to conduct our own enviro
mental tests," said Farre. "This
the worst case of plutomium co
tamination known in the world au
too es study of the disaster h
been published in Spain."

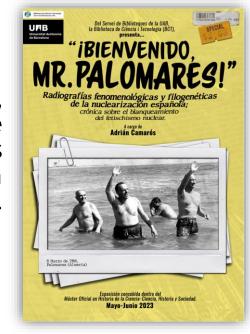
n published in Spain."

arre said the U.S. Air Force
conducted its own research
financed the Nuclear Energy
ard's work, but the results were

### Jordi Bigues collection

In the academic year 2022-23, we initiated a partnership with the Official Masters in History of Science: Science, History, and Society.

Adrián Camarós, a student enrolled in this master's programme, successfully completed an internship at the library, under the guidance of a librarian and his academic supervisor. During this internship, he dedicated his time to curate and assemble an exhibition centred around the Jordi Bigues documentary collection. The exhibition was held at the library in May 2023 and garnered significant acclaim and success.







Photos of the exhibition:

https://ddd.uab.cat/record/275226



This archive's database encompasses sound pieces aired by radio stations within Catalonia's broadcasting bands. These recordings comprise short program excerpts, call signs, advertisements and jingles.

The Sound Archive arises from the collaboration between the <u>UAB Institute</u> of <u>Communication</u> (InCom-UAB) and the UAB Communication Library and General Newspaper Archive and is part of the digital project of the <u>Observatory of Communication in Catalonia</u> (OCC InCom-UAB). The initiative has been directed by Cinto Niqui, lecturer in the UAB Department of Audiovisual Communication and Advertising.



• Collaborative project: right from its inception through to its ongoing development, this initiative welcomes active citizen involvement. The archived fragments are sourced from collections held by radio enthusiasts, steadfast listeners, media professionals, and contributions from some broadcasters.



• **Memory project:** its primary goal is to contribute to the preservation of our nation's historical and radio heritage. The compiled recordings vividly illustrate the historical evolution of radio, simultaneously reflecting the development of our society and culture.



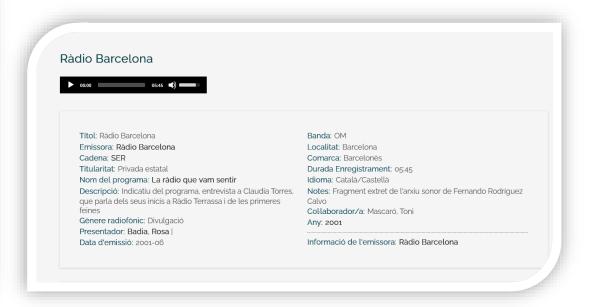
Within the array of broadcasters represented in the Archive, it is worth noting the recordings originating from the *third sector of radio* and *municipal stations*.

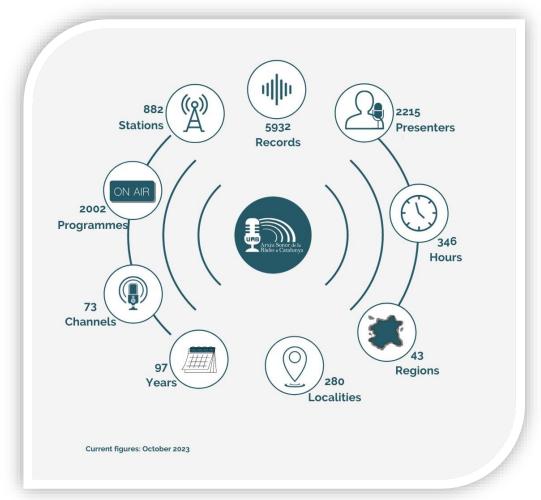


**Omeka Classic:** open-source software tailored for the creation and management of digital collections and exhibitions in libraries and archives.

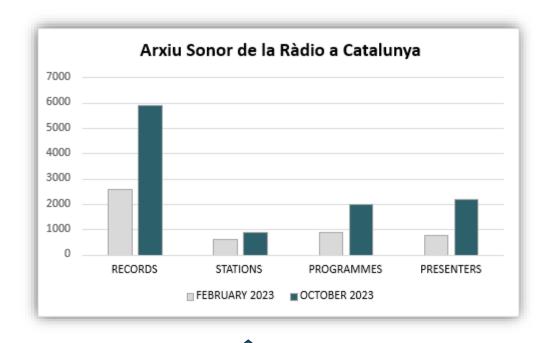
Radio structure: CHANNELS – STATIONS – PROGRAMMES







Current figures (October 2023)



130%
Growth (Records)
(February-October)











#### L'Arxiu Sonor de la Ràdio a Catalunya neix amb 2.600 fragments de prop de 600 emissores

La Vanguardia (13/02/2023). (https://www.lavanguardia.com/vida/20230213/8754850/larxiu-sonor-radio-catalunya-neix-amb-2-600-fragments-prop-600-emissores.html)

≡ rtve play radio ratea radio









L'Arxiu de la Rádio, un primer pas pel Museu de la Ràdio

radio/arxiu-radio-museu-catalunya/6810163)

L'altra ràdio (15/02/2023). (https://www.rtve.es/play/audios/laltra-



El poder en tus manos:

bibliotecas, archivos, museos



Pere Calders (Barcelona, 1912-1994) ranks among the most widely read authors in Catalan literature.

#### The bequest encompasses:

- Various personal papers, primarily related to his involvement in the Spanish Civil War and subsequent exile in Mexico.
- Documentation regarding his professional activities, including literary creations, drawings, advertisements, etc.
- Other types of documents, such as a substantial collection of photographs.

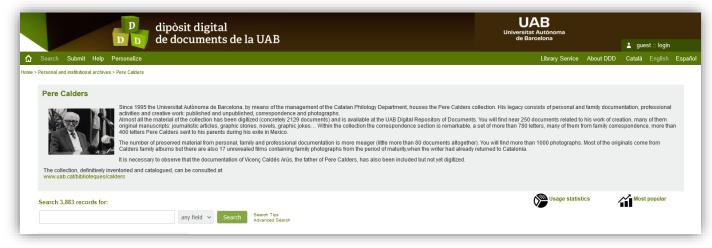


Departamento de Salubridad Públi servicio medico	Visa No. 53//
PARA REFUGIADOS ESPAÑOLES.	
apellidos Calders	nombre skey : Sexo 16.
	Profesión Exercis + Debujati
	c. T. a. B. Se Otras pacs.
	Aulio de 1939, abordo
de Mixique	
Lo acompañan:	
Alojado en	
	1 /
Examen Médico y Observacion	nesy & to fair
recenta form	in cution , and

- Collaborative Project between the Department of Catalan Philology and the Humanities Library
- Systematic organization, cataloguing, and classification of materials
- Development of a relational database
- Digitisation of a substantial part of the collection
- Creation of a dedicated website to showcase the entire documentation
- Publication of the digitised materials on the Digital Document Depository (DDD)



https://www.bib.uab.cat/human/fonspersonals/calders

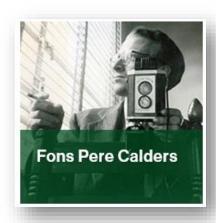


https://ddd.uab.cat/collection/pcalders?ln=en

- Library Services' 'Personal and Institutional Collections' Page
- Introducing the website at various events
- > Inclusion of Collection Description in the <u>Library Catalogue</u>
- > Promotion through various portals:
  - Catalonia Libraries Hidden Collections
  - Heritage of Catalan Publishers and the Published Works
  - The Association of Catalan Language Writers
  - Europeana



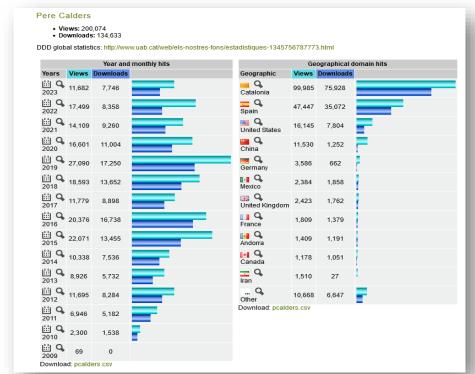






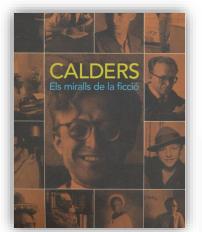


UAB Digital Repository of Documents
 (2009-2023): 200.074 consultations
 134.364 downloads



https://ddd.uab.cat/usage.py?c=pcalders&report=usage&ln=en

- > On-site consultations (2021-2023): 214
- Provision of materials for diverseprojects









Inauguration Year of the Theatre: 1847

Year of the Fire: 1994

Archive: 1847-1994

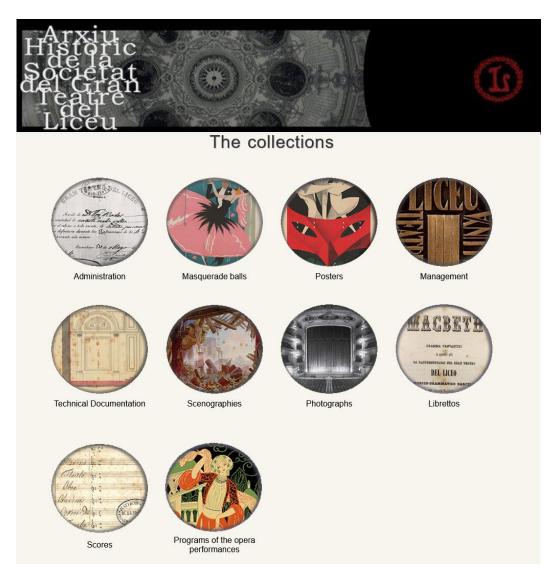
Funding: the Society

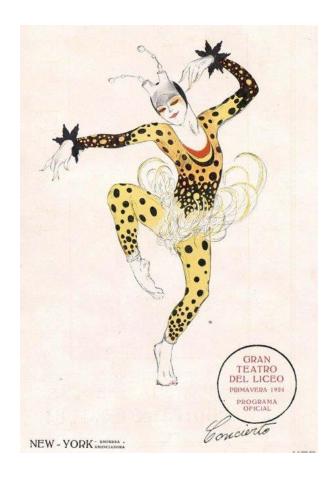
Project directed by: F. Cortès (professor)

Digitisation: external company

Selection, classification, cataloguing, website design, dissemination: Humanities Library

https://www.bib.uab.cat/human/arxiusocietatliceu/publiques/indexeng.php









Currently, the Archive has made 16,700 documents available to the public.

We have identified 2,800 individuals connected to the theatre's activities, including artists, producers, administrators, lawyers, and merchants.

Additionally, we have catalogued 2,100 works that have graced this theatre's stage, spanning genres such as opera, ballet, theatre, and dance.

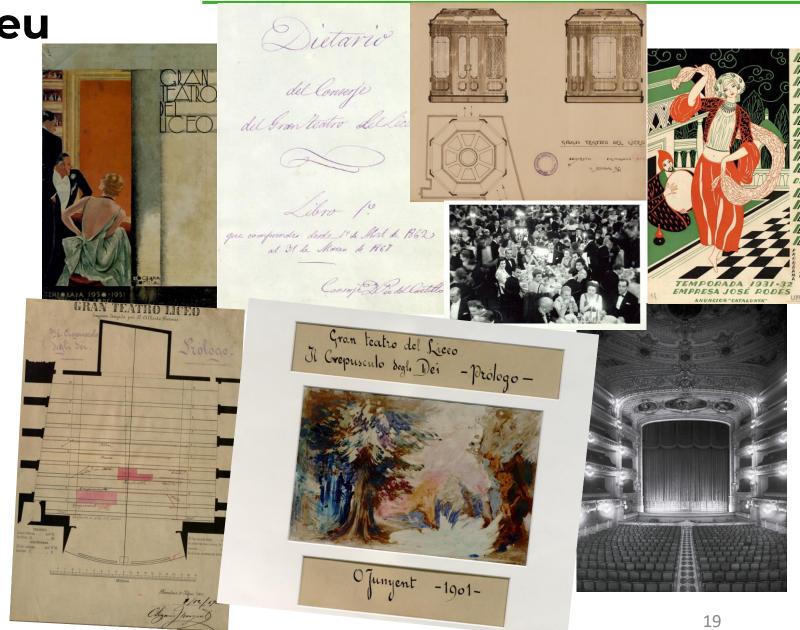
Over the years, our collection has seen nearly 700,000 document consultations, with an impressive 76% of them being downloaded for further exploration.

**Artistic documentation:** stage design s, scores, hand programmes

Management documentation: contracts, invoices, plans

#### **Social documentation:**

posters, photographs



#### **Dissemination:**

Presentations at the Societat

Course: "Musical Heritage" in the Musicology Degree

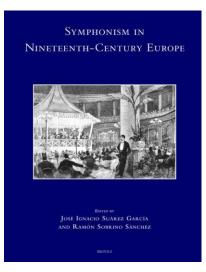
**Exhibitions** 

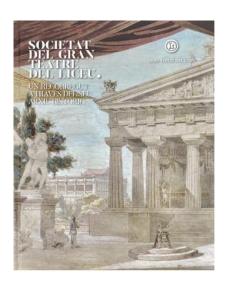
Press articles

Radio and television programmes

Social networks







#### **Research:**

Newspapers articles
Monographies
Master's degree final project
Two doctoral theses















Ongoing outreach initiatives:

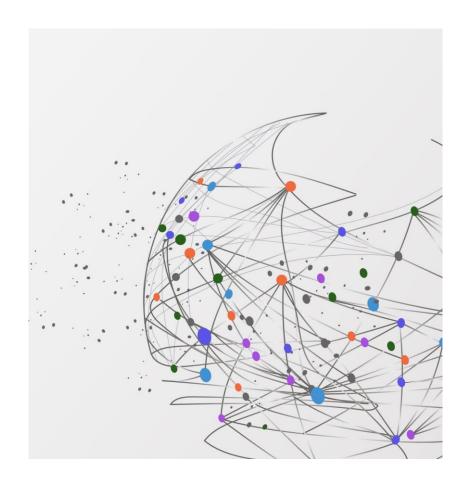
- Special Collections Space at the Humanities Library
- ❖ Bookmarkers
- Microfunding campaign





### The Future: The Impact of Al-

- Efficient Classification and Cataloguing
- Elevated Precision in Research
- Digitisation and Long-term Preservation
- Translation and Multilingual Processing
- Data Analysis and Trend Identification
- Enhanced Preservation and Security Measures
- Development of Interactive Applications
- Accessibility



# Thank you!











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