

## 6.- PAU CASALS and POMPEU FABRA: Two Key Figures in Prades

### PRACTICAL DETAILS

- Duration: 1 day
- Price per adult / student: €12 / Groups of fewer than 20 adults / students: €240 / group

### DESCRIPTION

The Republican exodus brought about an enormous cultural loss for the country. Great intellectuals (writers, scientists, musicians...) fell into the uncertainty of exile and were forced to develop their valuable creative work outside our borders, leaving our country culturally orphaned.

The route starts with a tour of the permanent exhibition of MUME in order to get a historical vision of the events of the Spanish Civil War and the mass exodus of people who crossed the Pyrenees border towards a freedom denied to them in their own country.

*"Exile: pain which consists of forcing someone to leave their homeland prohibiting their return."*

#### Pompeu Fabra

*"A musician is also a man and his attitude to life is more important than his music."*

#### Pau Casals

Two key figures, Pau Casals and Pompeu Fabra, and a place of refuge, Prades, will be the setting and the protagonists of the route during which we will learn about the importance of two major personalities in contemporary Catalan culture. Pompeu Fabra (1868-1948) died in Prades after a brilliant career as a champion of the Catalan language with the publication of a grammar (1918) and a dictionary (1932), among other works. In 1932 he was named Professor of Catalan Language at Barcelona University. Pompeu Fabra embodies the intellectual victim of the barbarism brought about by the Franco dictatorship after the Civil War.

Pau Casals (1876-1973) was one of the most important musical player of the 20th century. His commitment to democracy and the fight against fascism were exemplary. From January 1939, the moment he went into exile, he settled in Prades, where he lived until 1957. From that village he began numerous aid campaigns for Republican exiles, started cultural initiatives of resistance and stayed firm in his condemnation of the Franco regime.



**exili** m. Pena que consisteix a fer sortir algú de la seva pàtria amb prohibició d'entrar-hi. *Fou condemnat a l'exili.* | Fig. Obligació de viure fora d'un lloc, lluny d'una persona, que hom enyora. || Sojorn obligat fora de la pàtria.

## OBJECTIVES

- Offer students and participants the opportunity to walk on paths which are a part of the history of our country and experience feelings of empathy difficult to find in books alone.
- Offer spaces and moments of observation and reflection, both individual and collective.
- Find out about the biography of the two figures as well as the historical context.

## METHODOLOGY

- The perception of the surrounding landscape and the feelings that it provokes will be accompanied by readings of letters and testimonies as well as a collection of photographs, which will help better understanding of the complexity of the Spanish Civil War and its consequent exile. It will also allow understanding of the situation of a Europe at war, in which liberties were threatened by fascism. Moreover, there will be an introduction to the figures and works of Pau Casals and Pompeu Fabra.

## DYNAMIC OF THE ROUTE

- **10 am** - Tour of MUME. If taking a winter route (December-January), the tour of MUME will be after the route to benefit from the hours of light.
- The tour enables us to locate the war historically and geographically as well as to receive specific information about the 1939 exile. The visual material of the permanent exhibition of the museum facilitates empathy with the events and allows a global vision of the conflict.
- **11 am-11.30 am** - Short pause and departure for Prades.
- **12.30 pm** - Arrival in Prades and short historical contextualisation with the reading of texts.
- **1 pm** - Visit to the Pau Casals Museum.
- **2 pm-2.30 pm** - Picnic lunch.
- **2.30 pm-3 pm** - Walk through the village and the places where the two great masters lived, accompanied by readings and photographs, to understand the history and legacy of Pau Casals, who lived in Prades until 1957, and of Pompeu Fabra, who died in this town in 1948. We will mention the legacy they left in Prades and the events held in their memory, such as the Pau Casals Music Festival and the Catalan Summer University.
- **3 pm** - Visit to the cemetery, to Pompeu Fabra's grave.
- **3.30 pm** - Return to La Jonquera
- **4.30 pm** - Arrival in La Jonquera and end of route.