



Take one
FREE

CATALONIA TODAY

BARCELONA, THE BUSINESS & LEISURE CAPITAL OF SOUTHERN EUROPE

N. 30 / FREE

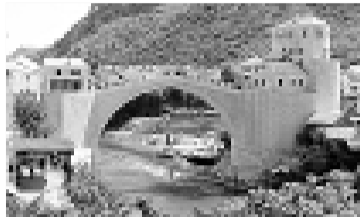
SATURDAY, JULY 24, 2004

EDITED IN BARCELONA



AZNAR SAYS HE HAS NOTHING TO ADMIT NOR TO DENY

NEWS, 3



SYMBOL OF THE BOSNIA WAR REOPENS IN MOSTAR

NEWS, 4

INSIDE

NEWS	2
FOOD & DRINK	5
OPINION	6
BUSINESS	7
CULTURE	11
WHAT'S ON	12



The directors of La Caixa, the biggest financial institution in Catalonia / CT

La Caixa reports record profits

Bank acquires 2,000 new clients a day despite increased competition

La Caixa returned huge profits of 532 million euros for the first six months of this year, an increase of over 11 per cent on the same period of last year. The volume of banking business of Catalonia's most powerful financial institution grew by 17.5 per cent to 2223,080 million euros.

OPINION, 6

On monks, mandalas and saving face

MICHAEL BUNN

OPINION, 6

On the art of saying nothing in a clever way

STEPHEN BURGEN

CULTURE, 11

Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter at l'Auditori



Controversial la Mercè poster provokes row over tourism

The Barcelona city council has chosen a controversial design for the poster promoting this year's annual la Mercè festival in September. The poster, which has been designed by the provocative artist Perejaume, consists of a few lines of text implying that tourists are ruining the country.



The numbers of women in the Catalan workforce, typically in service industries, has been climbing for several years / A. SEBASTIÀ.

Women snap up new jobs to make up 62% of Catalan workforce

Unemployment falls in Catalonia as thousands of new jobs are created



Ballet flamenco Juan de Juan

TORERO

coreography by **Antonio Canales**



07/14 to 08/01

TEATRE VICTÒRIA
3x1735 TRICICLE / DAGOLL DAGOM / ANEXA

We've got 10 very special price tickets every day.
Send us your name at info@3xtr3s.com
3€ per ticket.



936165977180

Clos presents Mercè 2004 program together with controversial poster

Perejaume's poster has provoked different reactions, though no-one seems sure what it means

MICHAEL BUNN

Last Thursday, Joan Clos, the mayor of Barcelona, presented the program for the Mercè fiesta, which will be held from 23 to 26 September.

He also presented the poster for this year's festival, which features a provocative slogan from the multi-talented artist Perejaume: "Should we, the artists, turn into countrymen? Is a tourist established here a countryman? Can someone who has been a tourist become a countryman?" Perejaume told journalists that he was attempting to provoke a profound reflection on society. "The poster doesn't solve anything, though it mentions the reality in which we live: country people and tourists".

The poster provoked various reactions: Xavier Trias, the president of the CiU party in Barcelona city council, called it "provocative", adding "It is very profound, though I don't know if everybody is going to understand it". Meanwhile, the president of the municipal PP party, Alberto Fernandez Díaz, declared that the poster left him "confused" and criticised the fact that it was "so obscure that it had to be explained".

Meanwhile, Ferran Mascarel, the councillor for culture at Barcelona City Council, declared that "this year the Mercè fiesta would also be a Forum fiesta, and that it would be imbued with the ideas and principles of the Forum.

He also announced that the traditional musical firework show, which will be held on 26 September, has been moved from the fountains at Montjuich to the beach at Barcelo-



The artist Perejaume during the presentation of his enigmatic poster for the Mercè 2004 festival to the press / ARCHIVE

lona, where the fireworks will be launched from 80 catamarans and 15 large boats. This event will represent the end of both the Mercè fiesta and the Forum.

As every year, the festival will feature traditional attractions such as

the *correfoc* (fire run), the *castellers* (human towers) and the *gegants* (the traditional giant figures paraded through the streets). Meanwhile, the city will be filled with music (specifically the BAM festival and Mercè folk), with performances by

bands and singers such as Els Pets, Pastora, Mastretta and Mala Rodríguez. Meanwhile, a new feature this year is the storytelling section of the festival, La Mercè de Conte, which is also the introduction to the 2005 Year of Books and Reading.

Call for party to get rid of Barcelona bias

AGENCIES

The PSC needs an "effective" executive drawn from every part of Catalonia, according to Pasqual Maragall. The president of both the Generalitat and the party was speaking during the opening session of the party's 10th congress which is taking place in Barcelona.

Maragall admitted that his duties as president of the regional government often forced him to delegate his functions as party president. He urged delegates to create an executive with broad territorial represen-

tation that was not overloaded with members from Barcelona, as is the case with the current executive and its leaders.

Maragall told the 1,154 delegates at the Congress that, as well as social justice, the PSC had a triple objective: "A united Europe, a plural Spain and a free Catalonia," he exclaimed, concluding with "Long live socialism!"

Opening the Congress, Barcelona mayor, Joan Clos, described the PSC as the new symbol of Catalan politics and said the party was ex-

periencing a historic moment. He told the Congress, which, he pointed out, was gathering for the first time in the presence of the president of the Generalitat, that "we have in our hands the tools to change reality". He thanked party workers for their contribution to the realisation of "our dream".

Earlier in the day, Party Secretary Joan Rangel attributed the party's election success in Catalonia to the reforms it adopted at the 2000 congress. But this was no time for complacency, he added. The party needed to live up to the faith voters had placed in it, to fundamentally transform the country.

They had an obligation to improve quality of life and to promote the values of sustainability and the culture of peace.

Aguirre claims Aznar's deal with lobbyists was "normal"

MICHAEL BUNN

In reaction to the storm that has blown up around the news that Jose Maria Aznar used state money to purchase a congress medal through lobbyists, Esperanza Aguirre, the president of the Community of Madrid, replied yesterday that "This is nothing new", since "in 1983, when Felipe Gonzalez went to Washington to have a meeting with Reagan, Julio Feo went along with him to seal an agreement with a lobby".

PINEDA DE MAR

Teen falls to death

A 15-year-old boy died yesterday when he fell from a fifth floor apartment in Pineda de Mar, Barcelona, according to police reports. Mossos d'Esquadra police officers and health service workers arrived at the scene at around 5:40 pm yesterday afternoon. The boy was already dead upon their arrival, and could not be resuscitated. It appeared that the accident occurred when the teenager was playing on the apartment balcony.

MANRESA

Gruesome find in Manresa

The bodies of a man and woman, both in their 30s, were found by Mossos (regional police) officers in a flat in Manresa yesterday morning. The body of the woman, aged 30, was said to be in an advanced stage of decomposition. The police had been alerted by a friend of the woman who was concerned not to have seen her or been able to contact her. With the help of the fire service, the Mossos broke into the flat and discovered the dead woman along with the body of a 37-year-old man.

BARCELONA

Two metre python in Eixample

Wildlife department officers were called in to capture a two metre long python which had climbed in the kitchen window of an Eixample flat. The snake had slithered through the extraction vent in the window, presumably after escaping from another flat in the neighbourhood.

LLEIDA

Thousands of farmed trout die

More than 40,000 baby trout were discovered dead in a fishfarm on the Segre river today, victims of heat and a lack of water. The electricity company Fecsa was accused of having released insufficient water and causing the deaths of the fish which were going to restock various parts of the river.

Speaking on Telemadrid Radio, Aguirre said that in the US, "Lobbyists are simply transparent public relations agencies", and added that "in Spain we have lots of public relations agencies who hire lots of people, but they are not under obligation to give an exact account of whom they have spoken and why".

Aguirre said that the Spanish embassy in Washington "made a recommendation to the Foreign Office minister, a long time before the matter of Aznar's medal came up, that they needed the support of the people who liaise with the politicians and other important personages in Washington". She said that "many Spaniards have made this kind of contract, and it seemed more honest and transparent to make such an agreement as openly as possible".

Aznar denies using public funds in bid to win Congressional Medal

Documents detail deal between Aznar government and lobby firm

ROBERT KIMPLETON

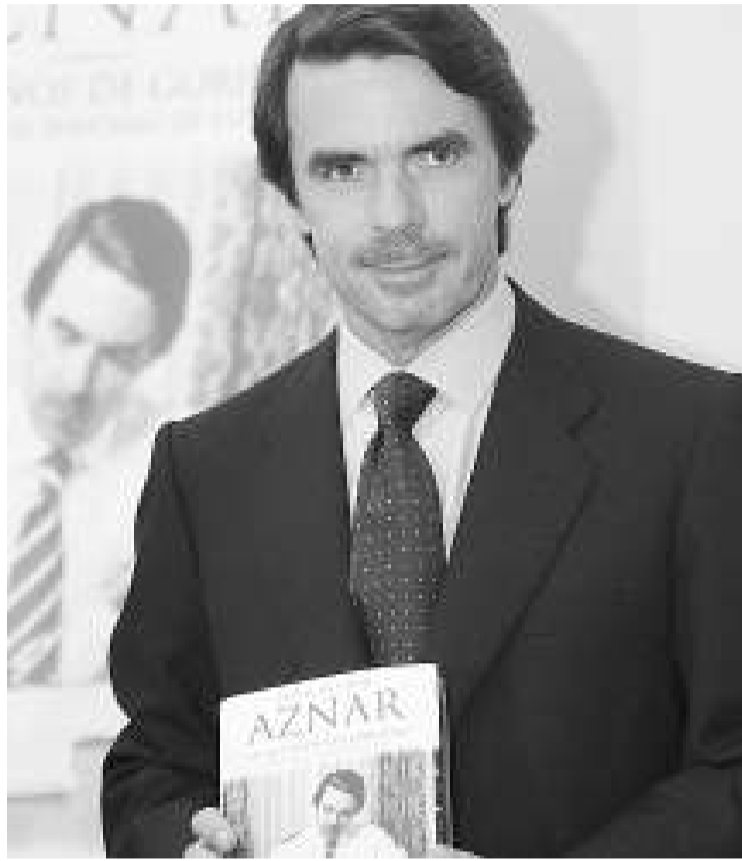
Former Spanish prime minister José María Aznar yesterday denied allegations that he hired an American law firm to act as lobbyists to promote his candidacy for the Congressional Gold Medal.

Spanish Radio station Cadena SER announced on Thursday that a contract was signed with the firm Piper Rudnick near the end of 2003 for two million dollars to publish photos of Aznar and get the signatures necessary from members of congress to win him the medal. The radio station also alleged that the money used to pay the firm was public money from the ministry of foreign affairs.

Aznar, who was travelling in Mexico on a book tour when news of the allegations broke, made little comment. "When things are said that have nothing to do with the truth, it is just contemptible," he said. According to documents published on Cadena SER's web site, 700,000 dollars was paid at the beginning of 2004 with an agreement to make subsequent payments during the following months for a total of two million dollars. The documents also specified that the contract would be cancelled if Aznar lost the general elections in March.

The documents described the nature of the firm's services as "to assist the Spanish Government in its public diplomacy and communications strategy".

In January 2004, the firm publicised a speech to be given by Aznar on Capitol Hill in February, requesting that members of congress be present and sign petitions of support.



José María Aznar during a book presentation Thursday in Mexico City. / EFE

A minimum of 290 signatures are needed to be considered for the medal. Aznar already has 306, but The Congress has not yet taken any actions towards awarding Aznar the medal.

One memo from the firm that was made public summarised some of the public relations assistance it had rendered and mentioned the Congressional Gold Medal. In reference to the speech, it said that "(m)embers of the Firm assisted the (Span-

ish) Embassy to maximise attendance at President Aznar's address before a Joint Session of Congress."

In specific reference to the medal, the document said that "(M)embers of the firm assisted the the passage of H.R. 2131, a (congressional) resolution authorising the striking of a gold medal for President Aznar."

As of yesterday, socialist prime minister José Luis Zapatero, had declined to make specific statements about the brewing scandal.

EU directive to regulate disposal of mobile phones

These days it's not easy to find someone who does not own a mobile. In fact, last year a total of 14 million mobiles were sold in Spain, nearly matching the record of 15 million sales in 2000. As most of these phones will have a life expectancy of only two or three years, it won't be long before the owner is faced with the problem of disposal. Unknown to many mobile phone users, 90 per cent of phone components are recyclable. At present facilities for disposing of mobiles in this way are non-existent but from August 2005 a EU directive will force authorities to provide a dedicated recycling system. This week Catalonia took the first steps towards providing recycling facilities for mobile users when the Eroski group revealed their "Tragamóvil" campaign. The project aims to install special containers for the disposal of old mobiles, batteries and accessories. The collection campaign will start with containers in Terrassa, Sant Cugat del Vallès, Tarragona, Figueres and Cornellà de Llobregat. After collection, the phones will be dismantled at the Indumetal recycling plant in Bilbao. The components to be removed are the batteries, liquid crystal displays as well as metals, of which many are precious metals such as gold and silver. Some mobiles contain dangerous substances, most of which end up in landfill sites or in the sea. The disposal of some phones could lead to the release of gallium and arsenic. Older models may contain cadmium, a highly toxic substance.



Blair names Mandelson

Prime Minister Tony Blair has named his old ally and European enthusiast Peter Mandelson as Britain's new EU Commissioner. Blair telephoned new European Commission President Jose Manuel Durao Barroso yesterday and received a "positive response", a government spokesman said. For Mandelson, it is a remarkable comeback for a politician who helped mastermind the Labour Party's 1997 election win but was later twice forced out of ministerial posts amid scandals. He is sure to be a key figure in a referendum Blair has promised, probably in 2006, on the EU constitution.

Arrests made for child-selling

Four people are being held for questioning by French police about an alleged ring which dealt in the sale of babies born to Bulgarian mothers for childless couples. According to a report in *Le Parisien* newspaper, police arrested ten people this week. Police believe that up to ten babies could have been sold, and say they have hard evidence for the sale of at least two. According to the report, detectives tapped the telephone lines of a Bulgarian woman who was about to give birth to a baby boy and heard her negotiating a sale price of 5,000 euros with ring leaders. A number of suspects were arrested when members of the ring went to pick up the newborn.

Controversy over spelling of king's name on Forum plaque

ROBERT KIMPLETON

The Forum of Cultures 2004 has found itself in the midst of another controversy, this time over a plaque which was placed for the Forum's inauguration bearing the names of the king and queen of Spain. The plaque has the king's name written in Catalan as "Joan Carles I", and the queen's name in Catalan as "Sofia", without the accent above the letter "i" has it would have in Spanish.

The sign was on the building with the Catalan names when the royal family was in Barcelona in May for the Forum's inauguration, apparently with no ill feelings. There were, however, some disagreements in the media and within internet discussion groups in Madrid about whether the names should have been translated.



The plaque before the change, with royal names spelt in Catalan / LLUÍS CRUSET

Earlier this month, Forum organisers decided to reinforce the metallic letters that were stuck onto a stone background, and in the process someone decided to change the spelling of his name to the Spanish "Juan Carlos", but without changing the queen's name to the Spanish

"Sofia". The royal family told *El Periódico* that they had not requested that any changes be made to the lettering of the plaque and were surprised to learn that changes were made. So far Forum officials have not said if or how they plan to resolve this latest brouhaha.



Obesity figures in Spain alarming

Spain has the third largest number of European citizens suffering from obesity, after the UK and Germany, according to a study published yesterday in Madrid by the Foundation of Savings Banks (Funcas). According to the study, in 1993, 9.1 per cent of the Spanish population was obese, but that number increased to 13.7 in 2001 and has gone down to the still high 12.9 per cent as of this year. The study cited several habits as being contributors to the problem, including a sedentary lifestyle and a poor diet. The study also outlined other lifestyle habits which affect the health of Spaniards such as smoking and a lack of proper rest.

Historic bridge brings town together a decade after bitter conflict pulled Bosnia apart

Community celebrates opening of bridge across multi-ethnic community

AGENCIES

The city of Mostar, in southern Bosnia, was celebrating the highly symbolic re-opening of the Stari Most (Old Bridge) yesterday. The 16th century bridge, built by Turkish engineers in 1566 had been an emblem of the city's multi-ethnic society before it was blown up by Croat forces in November 1993, graphically illustrating the terrible collapse of relationships between Bosnia's Muslims, Serbs and Croats and the de-

scent into all-out war.

Ten years and ten million euros later it reopened during a day of celebrations attended by presidents, prime ministers and royalty from across Europe.

Arching across the Neretva river, the Stari Most (Old Bridge) has been reconstructed using the same methods and materials employed by the Turkish architects who built it 500 years ago. It is hoped it will attract tourists and money to the town.



The historic *Old Bridge* in Mostar, built during the Ottoman Empire in 1566, was shelled during the 1993 war / FEHIM DEMIR / EPA

Sudan warns against "meddling" as US declares genocide

AGENCIES/MADELEINE SHEAHAN

Sudan has accused the US of meddling in its internal affairs following a Congressional resolution declaring that genocide is taking place in the Darfur region and threatening the Khartoum government with sanctions. US Secretary of State Colin Powell dismissed the accusation saying that "one person's meddling is another person's attempt to save people who are in desperate trouble." UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, agreed. "Once they do what is right, the meddling will stop," he said. The 15-month conflict has seen more than one million people displaced and at least 30,000 killed as the predominantly Arab militias, known as the Janjaweed, have been driving non-Arab villagers off their

land in Darfur. The draft resolution calls on Khartoum to crack down on the Janjaweed, accused of carrying out thousands of rapes and killings, or face further action, including possible sanctions. The US is also proposing a UN resolution to authorise a multinational force to protect Darfur citizens and aid workers, which Annan expects will be approved. "Reactions are quite positive, my sense is that it will be successful," he told a press conference held jointly with Powell. Sudan denies backing the militias and has warned against interference which it likens to pressure put on Iraq prior to the recent war. "Any resolutions from the Security Council will complicate things," said Foreign Minister Mustafa Osman Ismail.

Bali bombing convictions unconstitutional

REUTERS

The law used to convict dozens of people in connection with the Bali bombings contradicts the country's 1945 constitution, according to a court ruling. Indonesia enacted its first anti-terrorist laws just days after the 2002 nightclub bombing that killed 202 people, mostly foreign tourists. These laws were used to convict Imam Samudra (aka Abdul Aziz), who was sentenced to death, and many others. This new ruling by the Constitutional Court is likely to hamper efforts to prosecute Abu Bakar Bashir, the alleged leader of the group who masterminded the bombings. It does not annul the earlier convictions but in many cases may provide grounds for appeal or even retrials.



Imam Samudra, tried by faulty law / EPA

JAPAN

Suicide rate soars

The suicide rate in Japan has reached its highest level ever with economic pressures cited as a significant cause, along with health problems. 34,000 Japanese took their own lives in 2003, 7 per cent more than the year before. Most shocking is the increase in young suicides. Among the under-19s the figures jumped 22 per cent, while the rates among primary and middle school pupils rose by almost 60 per cent.

HEALTH

STD warning to young travellers

Young tourists are bringing sexually transmitted infections home along with souvenirs and suntans. That's the warning from UK health officials who attribute some of the growing number of STIs among young people to their sexual activities on holiday. In the two years to 2002, 69% of heterosexual males who tested HIV+ contracted the virus while they were abroad, as did a quarter of the women.

IRAQ

Blast in city square kills eight

Several children were among the eight people killed when a bomb exploded beside a public bus in Baghdad square yesterday. The car bomb went off just metres away from a US Army patrol. Meanwhile, in Faluya, a woman and three small children were injured in a nighttime attack by the Americans against suspected terrorist positions.

GIFT WITH STRINGS

Blair sends back Bono's guitar

Despite being an "axeman" himself, Tony Blair turned down the gift of an electric guitar from U2's Bono. It is just one of many gifts turned down by the UK PM. Rules dictate that gifts worth over 212 euros should be paid for. Afghan rugs, French wines and Italian earrings were also politely declined.



The Turkish government is being blamed for train crash on century-old line / EPA

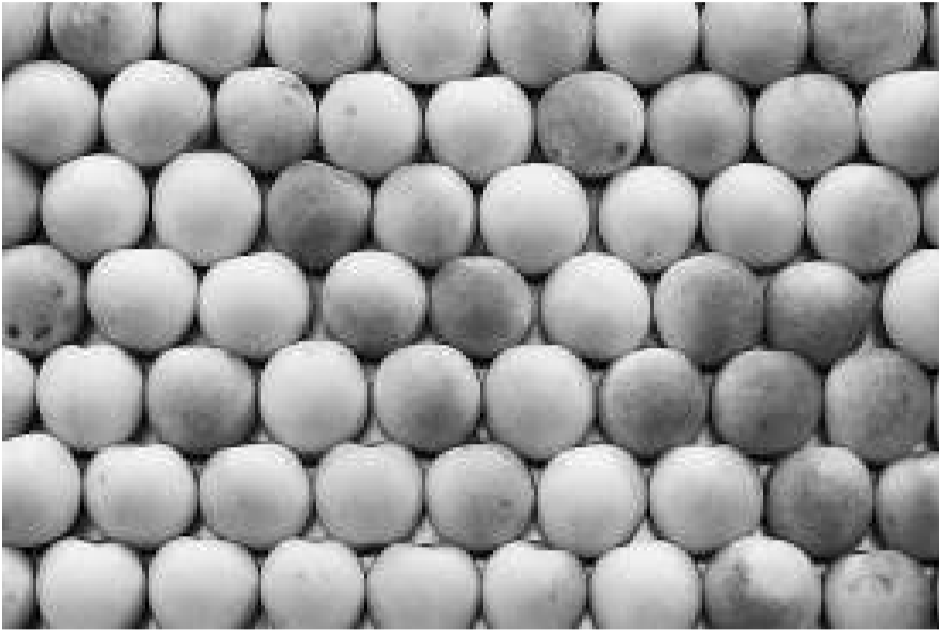
Ancient rail network "unfit for fast train"

REUTERS

The Turkish government is accused of ignoring warnings that the media and public say might have prevented Thursday's disastrous train crash. The crash, near the north-western town of Pamukova, killed 36 people and injured more than 80 others.

"Serial murder" was the headline on the mass-circulation newspaper *Hurriyet* yesterday. The derailed train was a high-speed express service between Istanbul and Ankara

which had been inaugurated only last month as part of an extensive modernisation of Turkey's creaking rail network. And while officials were yesterday pointing to a likely mechanical fault, the media were focussing on the dilapidated state of the network, claiming that the track in question was more than 100 years old. An engineering expert was quoted as saying he had warned 15 days ago that the train was unsafe because the infrastructure was not fit for a fast-link train



Barcelona's Boqueria market, that buzzing hive of activity, is one of city's landmarks and attracts locals and visitors alike, who come to shop, to snack and chat or just look around. / ALLPHOTOS BY ANDREU PUIG

La Boqueria market: the vibrant, colourful kitchen of Barcelona

I liked the market for the sense it gave me of the city as a whole, of how the people acted in their unguarded moments

COLMAN ANDREWS

When I first came to Barcelona in 1982, having fallen in love with the region of Catalonia — and having snagged a contract to write a book about the region's unique cuisine — I found myself spending a portion of every morning in La Boqueria. Part of this was just professional good sense: to learn the gastronomy of the place, study its market and observe the citizenry choosing their food. I was also attracted to the market by the sense it gave me of the city as a whole, of

how the people who lived there acted in their unguarded, busy moments. Of who Catalans were.

I enjoyed chatting to stallholders such as Llorenç Petras, who sells herbs, snails and wild mushrooms at his stand Fruits del Bosc (Fruits of the Woods), and who looks like an amiable forest gnome himself. However, the most larger-than-life stallholders in the Boqueria are the women at the fish stands, who behave as if they were performing in an operetta: they are saucy, bold and sarcastic, wearing plenty of

make-up and sporting professional coiffures, cajoling, taunting and flirting with potential customers. But they are not here posing or filing their nails, they are busy handling wet, slimy sea creatures of every description, making hard-nosed deals, and stuffing coins and notes into their aprons or cash boxes.

As you continue through the market, you come to the produce stands, glowing with the autumnal hues of an enchanted forest — the browns and earthy yellows of wild

mushrooms, the eerie purple of local broccoli, while breathing in the heady aromas of the *xarcuteries*.

AMARKET WITH HISTORY

La Boqueria has deep roots: according to one old document, in 1217 “a representative of the King has granted an individual the ownership of a table on which to chop meat” on Barcelona's Rambla. Other tables followed, and soon a market grew up on the site. In the 19th century it was relocated to its present site, the demolished

church of Sant Josep. The market was given walls in 1840 and a roof in 1874, and by the early 1900s La Boqueria was very close to its modern-day form. Old-timers grouse about the way the market has changed since then, naturally, with all the Japanese tourists and German backpackers, but the truth is that the changes have given the market new energy and a new respect for this living monument to the marvellous abundance and omnivorousness of the Catalan appetite.



Fish so fresh it's jumping

The Boqueria's central ring of the fish market, slippery underfoot and crisply cool thanks to the ice-filled counters, is not a sight for the faint-hearted tourist; next to glassy-eyed turbot and hideous monkfish lie the crustaceans — the lobsters, crayfish and crabs, flexing their limbs and waving their antennae ghoulishly. Meanwhile the women stallholders try and convince passers-by to take a hunk of fish home for lunch.



The freshest fruit in town

One amazing thing about the Boqueria that has not changed over the last twenty years is the fact that here you will find the freshest fruit and vegetables in the city, and yet you can pick them up at incredibly reasonable prices. But beware: before they get to recognise your face at any given stall, when you ask for a kilo of apples you might find they have given you a couple of rotten ones, hidden down at the bottom of the bag.



Dried fruit at tourist prices

The entrance corridor is lined on both sides with multi-coloured stalls selling dried fruit and nuts, which look delicious but I suggest you try elsewhere in the market — these stalls cater for tourists who have wandered in from the Rambla, attracted by the colour and bustle. They see the nuts and raisins, buy a bag or two and wander off, not realising that they could have bought the same for half the price only a few metres away.

PLATFORM

MICHAEL BUNN

On inspirational lost causes

It was a blow to the Forum organisers when the Dalai Lama cancelled his appearance in Barcelona two weeks ago complaining of ill health, though he was seen in public two days later, perfectly hale and hearty. In fact, he did not show up for the same reason that the Tibetan monks who were hoping to build a peace mandala in the Forum were turned away, and had to make do with a suffocatingly hot marquee on the Rambla. But then again, if your government had very generously lent some valuable terra-cotta statues for exhibition in another country, then you would hardly take kindly to that country inviting its fiercest saffron-robed critic and his entourage to come and rain on your parade.

Why is the Chinese government so obsessed with the Dalai Lama? He can do nothing in real terms to prevent China's continuing occupation of Tibet, apart from broadcasting his protest. And there lies the problem. One important aspect of pride-driven Chinese society is the concept of "face" — if someone praises you, you gain face, while if someone accuses you of subjecting their country to "cultural genocide", then you lose it, and feel humiliated. Hence the pressure that has clearly been brought to bear on a certain city council to limit the God-King of Tibet's airspace.

In contrast, westerners see the Tibetan struggle as heroic; China has behaved atrociously, destroying their country's temples and defiling their holy sites. Six million Tibetans can do little to protect themselves against their bullying one-billion-strong neighbour,



Since they invaded Tibet, the Chinese have destroyed many of the country's cultural emblems / ARCHIVE

and their only form of defence is their faith, symbolised by the Dalai Lama. A friend of mine in Hong Kong who regularly visits Lhasa always brings in illegal photographs of the Dalai Lama, and he is greeted as enthusiastically as if he were smuggling in some sort of dangerous revolutionary material.

One of the most inspiring aspects of the Tibetan struggle is the fact that their resistance is pacific. Cynics might say that if they had the

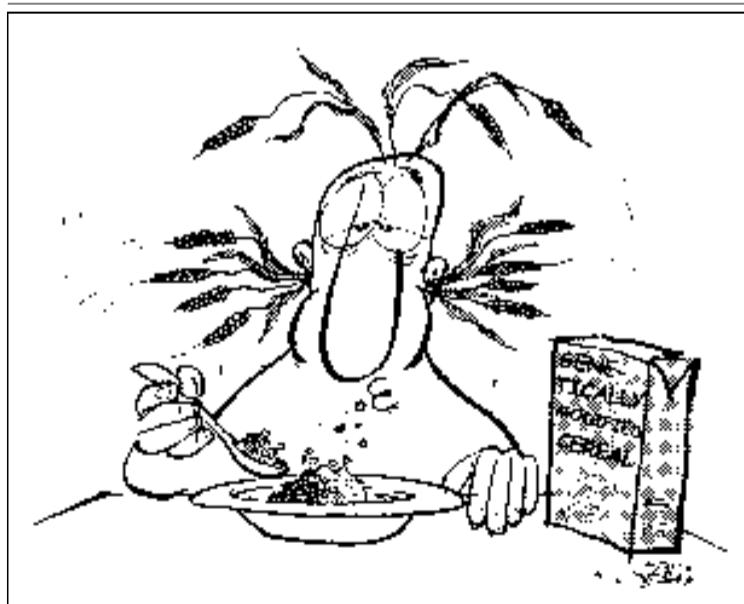
weapons, they might resist Chinese occupation more actively, but their religion makes this impossible. When the Chinese invaded Tibet in 1959, they destroyed the threadbare Tibetan army in a matter of hours, partly because these soldiers had grown up in a culture of prayer and meditation, and simply lacked the impulse towards violence.

While the Bible and the Koran may preach peace, the texts are often open to interpreta-

tion (witness, for example, the horrors of Islamic fundamentalist attacks, not to mention the U.S.-led Christian crusade in Iraq). Meanwhile, one of Buddhism's central tenets is non-violence; Buddhists may choose to act violently, but they know that for every whack they administer to another person, they will receive an infinite number of karmic whacks in subsequent incarnations. We all know that violence engenders violence, we see the ping-pong escalation every day in Palestine, and yet anger is still such a difficult emotion for us to deactivate. But although the Dalai Lama, at almost 70, won't be around forever, and the Tibetans will inevitably be ground into their beloved earth, their struggle will remain as an inspiration to our belligerent species, as it gives us a glimpse of what might be possible when we finally evolve upwards from our centuries-old cycle of violence and destruction.

A world without violence is something that we all deeply want to believe in; as every positive change that has ever taken place in history has come from a tiny germinating impulse, a desire towards a better life, there is no reason why we cannot achieve it, one day in the distant future. Cynics also like to say that violence is "just human nature". I beg to differ: what characterises human nature is the ability to change, to adapt and aspire to an improved existence. The Tibetan people may end up being sacrificed to history, but their message will live on in our collective consciousness, and may well bloom into a full-scale determination for peace one day.

THE STING BY JAP



COMMENTARY

STEPHEN BURGEN

Wading through the shallows

The festival of la Mercè, held every September in honour of Barcelona's patron saint, is by definition popular and centres around the not-very-cerebral activities of dancing and setting off fireworks. So it seems curious, if not misguided, to have chosen as the poster for this year's Mercè, an obscure series of statements by the artist Perejaume (see page two). Xavier Trias, a prominent local politician, said: "It's very profound, though I don't know if everyone will understand it."

A straw poll suggests few in this office, Catalan or otherwise, understand it, which will no doubt suit the artist, who commented that "it doesn't resolve anything, but it describes the reality that we live in". No doubt he is delighted that his work is receiving so much publicity as, in the Turner prize-dominated world of art, controversy is as, if not more, important than expression.

As far as anyone can tell, the text is a dig against tourists, which is fair enough, if a little odd as a way of promoting an event that has become a

tourist attraction. Tourism is a pain, in some places a virtual plague, although one assumes Perejaume doesn't view himself in this light when he is in some other country, assuming he does occasionally unhitch himself from the bosom of Catalonia. It's curious that there is still so much of this sort of art here, where theatrical spectacle or textual obscurity functions to distract from the vacuity of the content. As any *turista plantat* will tell you, elsewhere this sort of knowing nothingness has been passé for decades.



Published by Catalonia Today SL, Tàpies, 2, Barcelona 08001. Tel +34 932 276 620 / Fax +34 932 276 621. email: contact@cataloniatoday.info.

Diposit Number GI-322-2004

ADVERTISING: +34 932 276 620. advertising@cataloniatoday.info SUBSCRIPTION: +34 932 276 620. subscription@cataloniatoday.info

Managing Editor: Carles Puigdemont. Editor: Stephen Burgen. Sub Editor: Michael Bunn. Editorial Staff: Alex Leff, Richard McCrann, Robert Kimpton, Marcela Topor. Editorial Consultant: Miquel Berga. Printed by IMPRINTSA

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Letters to the editor must not be longer than 30 lines long and must include your name and telephone number. We can only accept letters written in English and delivered by email. Catalonia Today reserves the right to publish and edit readers' letters. Catalonia Today, C/Tàpies, 2, 08001 Barcelona. Email: letters@cataloniatoday.info

Saturday 24 July 2004

La Caixa grows astronomically with 2000 new clients per day

The Catalan bank has doubled in size in the last five years, with profits reaching 532 million

NEIL STOKES

"We have doubled the size of the group in the last five years," claimed Isidre Fainé, director general of the Caixa Group in a week that saw the savings bank report huge profits. Profits for the first half of 2004 reached 532 million euros, representing an increase of 11.3% over the same period last year. In commenting on the results, the group highlights a strong growth in banking business and a substantial rise in investment income. The volume of banking business grew 17.5% to a figure of 223,080 million euros and operating margins rose to 714 million euros, or 28% more than last year. Total business income rose to 449 million euros, 14% higher than in 2003, and market value of group holdings in listed companies rose to 15,340 million euros, with unrealised capital gains of 4,890 million.

La Caixa point out that these profits were made in spite of narrowing operational margins resulting from increased competition and low interest rates. The Caixa are two years away from completing their much-trumpeted Strategic Plan, launched in 2003 with its three-pronged objective: Financial (business volume and efficiency), Social (social programmes) and Sustainable (ethics and transparency). This week's figures show that the group is in line to meet all of its objectives. In an interview with *Expansión* this week, Isidre Fainé says: "We are maintaining sustained growth of 15% and...growing at a rate of 2000 new net clients per day." He adds that success is due to "trust from the stream of people who we receive each day because they believe in us."



Isidre Fainé, the Director General of the Caixa group / ABRAHAM SEBASTIÀ

No trouble on the horizon

Telefónica vice president Isidre Fainé seems to be confident about economic growth in the next few months. "In Spain", he said in an interview with *Expansión*, "there won't be any big surprises. We will continue to grow at the usual rate, 2.5 or 3%." In terms of interest rates, Fainé is certain that in Europe this year they will not see major increases, either. If the rates do go up,

he says it will not be more than 0.25 percentage points. "Businesses know very well how to move around those parameters, and in terms of mortgage credit," he adds, "there won't be any problem either because the increase will be moderate." Furthermore, Fainé believes that job creation will remain strong in the first months of the financial year.

THE QUOTES

ISIDRE FAINÉ
GENERAL MANAGER

"The Caixa is growing at a rate of 2,000 new clients every day"

"We have doubled the size of the group in the last five years"

"We are not only a family bank but also a bank for the small business and the self-employed"

"We'd like to see the housing market stabilised in the next few years"

"We are a service bank, personalised and based on professionalism"

"Our intention is to be wherever the client needs us"

"Assets are extremely important and savings are simply not sufficient to meet the demand in credit investments"

Benetton moves from Spain to Croatia and Hungary

Italian textile group Benetton has moved its factories to Croatia and Hungary, after closing a Catalonia-based plants in Castellbisbal (Vallès Occidental) last January and selling another one in Cervera (Segarra) two years ago. Following the relocation trend that is bringing many companies to set up factories in what economists have called "The new Mediterranean", the group is in search of lower costs to compete with rival clothing makers. Benetton intends to maintain only 20% of its production in Italy and to move the rest to cheaper locations, including Tunisia. The closing of the Castellbisbal plant left some 50 workers unemployed. In the following six months many of them have found new jobs, according to trade union CC.OO. Benetton has kept some of its Spanish retail offices in Castellbisbal. The Benetton group plans to open more shops in Spain, which it forecasts will provide 50 to 80 new jobs annually by 2006.

Ma'n'Pa shops endangered in Catalonia

More than half of Catalan companies are family-owned, but only 15% of this type of business is handed down to the third generation. This is the main finding in the study, *L'empresa familiar a Catalunya*, or "Family businesses in Catalonia", and is regarded by the sector as a sign of endangerment. The Department of Labour and Industry has shown an awareness of the need for succession in this business model in order to avoid its extinction.

By region, Girona is the area with the highest number of family businesses, followed by Tarragona, Lleida and finally Barcelona. Metal goods and produce are the most common sectors. The study by the Department of Labour and Industry also found that family businesses are much less profitable than other corporate models, with a disparity ranging from 29 to 63%.

Women make up two thirds of the Catalan workforce but general unemployment still high

AGENCIES

Women make up nearly two thirds of the labour market in Catalonia, a labour market study has found. More and more new jobs are being filled consistently by women, as much as 66.2% since 1980, according to the Manpower group report. Despite the landmark figure, the unemployment rate — at 12.3% during the first quarter — remains high compared to the rest of the European Union. Nevertheless, the study's findings are positive for women, a

total of 630,254 of whom have joined the active labour market, making up 72%. In Catalonia, 243,395 of the workforce is male. The growing number of female workers coincides with a general rise in the number of working people throughout Spain, as well as a marked growth in the economy in the last 23 years. During this time, the study shows that the amount of workers has gone up by 873,649 people. Over a quarter of the new jobs opening in Spain since 1980 have been in Catalonia.

Ercros negotiating downsize plan that had forecast 194 lay-offs and 110 early retirements

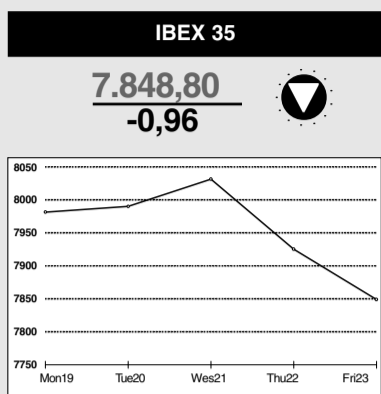
AGENCIES

The Catalan chemical group Ercros has softened its original restructuring plan, which was to include some 194 lay-offs and early retirement for 110 workers aged 57 and above in a plant of 994 employees, *El Periódico* reports. The company has taken some 40 workers off the redundancy list. The plan will take effect in six different Ercros plants, although it will have the most impact on the factory in Flix, where there are 359 workers. One of the most conflictive issues in

negotiation is the intention of a three-year salary freeze. However, union leaders are showing a willingness to negotiate this aspect of the plan, prompted by a loss of 17.8 million euros in 2003. Also, the possibility of initiating an incentive for workers under the age of 50 is being discussed. Ercros president Antoni Zabalza underscores the need to improve productivity. Meanwhile, Levi's have voted on whether to take early retirement or pay compensation, favouring by majority the latter option.


european university
CENTER FOR MANAGEMENT STUDIES
BBA - MBA Programs
Ganduxer, 70 - 08021 Barcelona
info.bcn@euruni.edu - Tel. 932018171
871018/5937108 WWW.EURUNI.EDU

STOCK MARKET



MARKETS OF THE WORLD
NEW YORK (DOW JONES) 9,978 -0,72
PARIS (CAC 40) 3,567 -0,16
LONDON (FTSE 100) 4,326 0,46
FRANKFURT (DAX XETRA) 3,797 -0,10

BEST PERFORMING STOCKS

Table listing top performing stocks: Bradepar Pref. (4.62%), Global Steel (3.66%), Gerdau Preferentes (3.64%), Ercros (3.13%), Copel Pref. B (2.88%), Electrobras Pref. (2.79%).

WORST PERFORMING STOCKS

Table listing bottom performing stocks: CVNE (-9.34%), Tafisa (-5.75%), Avanzit (-5.73%), G. Inmocaral S.A. (-4.35%), SAN (-4.08%), Jazztel (-3.70%).

MARKET SECTORS

Table of market sectors including Communication, Construction, Consumer Goods, and Investment Goods with stock names and percentage changes.

market report | REUTERS
European stocks up while Abbey stars
European share indexes closed slightly higher on Friday, buoyed by gains in banks after it was revealed that UK bank Abbey National has received a bid approach from Spain's Santander, but weakness in insurers and a fall on Wall Street weighed.

Last. Euros: NAV at close; Chg: Difference between last value and value from previous day; Max: Maximum value reached during the day; Min: Minimum value reached during the day; NAV: Last Net Asset Value; Mnth Yld: NAV Variation since beginning of the month; YTD: NAV Variation since beginning of the year.

MOST ACTIVE ISSUES

Table listing most active issues: SAN (885,007), BBVA (546,957), Telefónica (506,882), Inditex (447,270), Iberia (19,119), Repsol (104,911).

OTHER MARKETS

Table listing other market indices: Bilbao (-0.91%), Valencia (-0.91%), Milán MIB 30 (-0.07%), Tokio Nikkey (-0.87%), S&P (-0.87%), Nasdaq (-1.92%), Latibex (0.69%).

Table of market sectors (continued) including Financial Services and Investment Goods with stock names and percentage changes.

Table of market sectors (continued) including Market Services with stock names and percentage changes.

Table of market sectors (continued) including Latibex with stock names and percentage changes.

Advertisement text: Do your own calculations: 30.000 copies of your advert in the business section. It all adds up to great business. For advertising, please call +34 932 276 620 or email to advertising@cataloniatoday.info

STOCK MARKET

INVESTMENT FUNDS

Table of investment funds with columns: Fund, NAV, M.Yld%, YTD%. Includes sub-sections: AHORRO CORPORACIÓN, BANCO POPULAR, BANCO SABADELL, BANKINTER, BANKPYME, BBVA, CAIXA CATALUNYA, CAIXA GIRONA.

Table of investment funds with columns: Fund, NAV, M.Yld%, YTD%. Includes sub-sections: CAIXA LAIETANA, CAIXA PENEDES, CAIXA TARRAGONA, CAIXA TERRASA, CAJA MADRID, CAJA MANRESA, CAM (CAJA DEL MEDITERRANEO), DEUTSCHE BANK, GAESCO, IBERCAJA, LA CAIXA.

Table of investment funds with columns: Fund, NAV, M.Yld%, YTD%. Includes sub-sections: MAPFRE, MORGAN STANLEY, SCH.

EURO STOXX 50 Close: 2.673,44 Chg: -0,26%

Table of Euro Stoxx 50 components with columns: Stock, Euros, Chg.%, Stock, Euros, Chg.%

CURRENCIES AND INTEREST RATES

Table with two main sections: Currency per Euro (listing US Dollar, Sterling Pound, etc.) and MORTGAGE INTEREST RATE (listing Avg Rate, Termin, Mitja, Maxim, Minim).

SPANISH STOCKS IN THE WORLD

Table of Spanish stocks in the world with columns: Stock, Last, Min. Year, Max. Year, Prev. Close. Includes sub-sections: New York, Paris, Frankfurt.

METALS

Table of metals with columns: Basic Metals \$/Tm., Market, Price, Precious Metals \$/ounce, Market, Price, Crude Oil (euros), Market, Price.

Source: Morgan Stanley. Tel.: 901 11 64 31

156007597402

Morgan Stanley
Now Relax

At Morgan Stanley we keep on working for your peace of mind
Delegació a Girona: Av. Sant Francesc, 19, 2^a 17001 Girona. Tel. 972-41 81 50. www.morganstanley.com

Unemployment falls for second straight quarter

Rate for women decreased more than for men over 3-month period

ROBERT KIMPLETON

Unemployment in Spain fell for the second quarter this year, falling more for women than for men, and 3.7 percent in Catalonia, according to the Survey of the active population (EPA) published yesterday by the National Statistics Institute (INE).

There are currently 11,200 fewer unemployed people than there were three months ago, representing a 3.7 percent decrease. The current number of unemployed now sits at 2.1 million, or 10.9 per cent of the active population.

Even through the active population grew by 125,900 people, 197,500 new jobs were created in the second trimester, allowing for an overall drop in the unemployment rate and an increase in employment of 71,600 people.

Over the last year, unemployment increased by 7,500 people, even though the number of new jobs.

More women than men found jobs the second quarter. There were 110,100 new jobs filled by women compared with 87,400 jobs filled by men. Unemployment for those over the age of 55 increased for both women and men.

Unemployment fell in 13 autonomous communities, including Catalonia, which experienced a 3.7 per cent decrease. Communities with decreases were led by La Rioja (with a 33.4 per cent decrease) and followed by the Balearic Islands



Unemployment has fallen by 4,400 in the industry sector / EUDALD PICAS

(25.3 per cent). The number of unemployed went up in Extremadura (7.5 per cent) and Andalusia (1.2 per cent), Valencia (1.3 per cent) and Madrid (0.1 per cent).

Unemployment fell by 38,400 people in the service sector, followed by 15,700 in construction and 4,400 in industry. In agriculture, however, unemployment increased by 19,100 people.

The number of salaried workers increased by 170,100 compared to the previous quarter, for a total of 13.9 million. 9.7 million workers have indefinite contracts, an increase of 82,400 over the previous

trimester, compared with 4.2 million who have temporary contracts, representing an increase of 87,700, meaning that a third of all salaried workers have temporary contracts. 19.1 million people in Spain are considered active, which represents 55.7 per cent of the total population.

Only 19.9 per cent of those surveyed said they would accept a job that would require them to change their place of residence, while 71.6 said they would accept work in a different profession than their current one. Unemployment for heads of households was 6.3 per cent while for their spouses it was 12.2 per cent.

Volkswagen cuts profit target, but share prices rise as figures are less disappointing than anticipated

AGENCIES

Volkswagen has slashed its 2004 profit target following weak first-half earnings, but its shares have climbed because many investors had anticipated even worse news. The company now expects to post operating profit before special items of 1.9 billion euros for the full year, compared with its original guidance of more than 2.5 billion. Before special items, operating profit for the first half fell 19.8 percent to 979 million euros on revenues of 45.9 billion euros, a rise of 7.3 percent. According to the average in a Reuters poll of 24 analysts, first half operating profits were forecast to drop to 821 million euros compared to the 1.22 billion earned in the previous year. The company added yesterday it expected well over one billion euros in savings this year from its ForMotion cost-cutting programme, following



VW Golf V production line in Germany / EPA

400 million in the first half. Expecting a profit warning, many analysts have been busy revising their estimates lower following poor sales in Volkswagen's core domestic market.

UK economy picks up in second quarter

AGENCIES

The British economy has grown at its fastest rate in nearly four years, fuelled by a strong recovery in the industrial sector. The gross domestic product (GDP) was up 0.9 percent at the end of the second quarter, 3.7 higher than the same period last year, and up by 0.2 percent from the previous quarter. These figures put the annual growth rate at 3.7 percent, the highest figure since the third quarter of 2000. Growth was largely driven

by increased industrial activity, with a quarterly growth of 0.9 per cent in production output, the strongest surge since the third quarter of 1999. Output of the service sector also rose 0.9 per cent, the same rate as the previous quarter. Analysts expect the increased growth to lead to increased interest rates in a bid to slow inflation. The Bank of England had already raised rates to 4.75 percent in an attempt to slow consumer spending and the demand for housing.

THIS WEEK IN THE STOCK EXCHANGE

Markets continue on downward trend

DANIEL MATEOS VÁZQUEZ
Investment Centre of Deutsche Bank

This has not been a good week for the stock market. Most of the major indexes have fallen by one per cent, continuing the trend of previous weeks. On the other hand, results reported by American companies have been quite good: of the 244 S&P 500 companies that have published second quarter results, 70 have bettered analysts' predictions. However, the figures have not been as good as expected and the peak for the growth in corporate profits has passed. This news combined with the new surge in oil prices up to the 40 dollar a barrel level have resulted in a rather pessimistic market outlook.

Alan Greenspan's upbeat speech to the Congress and Senate about the outlook for the American economy did temporarily drive markets upwards, causing many investors to wait an extra day to sell



A Russian trader working at the Troika Dialog trading company in Moscow / AP

higher, which should be taken as a sign of economic weakness.

After the low point reached in March 2003 there was a strong increase, which peaked in March of this year. Now stock indexes seem to be experiencing a downward

Most major indexes have fallen by one percent, continuing the trend of previous weeks

trend which should continue for some time. Our stock recommendations continue to be neutral. We still think that prices will have to fall more before investors become interested in variable income assets, yet we do not expect sharp decreases.

NH Hotel chain reports drop in net profits for first half of year

AGENCIES

The NH Hotel chain reported net profits for the first half of 2004 of 20.9 million euros, 20.8 per cent less than the same period last year. Between January and June 2003, the company had profits of 21.2 million euros due to the sales of properties and the expansion of capital by the Sotogrande estate agency, while during the first half of 2004 it recorded a negative balance of 3.6 million euros due to amortisations and the settlement payments made for the annulment of rental contracts. NH Hotels sold 14 establishments last year from which it earned 224 million euros. Nine of these sales took place during the first half of the year, but the largest single sale, that of the Princess Sofia in Barcelona, brought in 80 million euros. The chain currently has 239 hotels throughout the world.

Restless innovators blow the cobwebs away at l'Auditori

Veterans of Miles Davis' groundbreaking groups of the Sixties and Seventies join forces for concert tour

STEPHEN BURGEN

Tonight music lovers have a rare opportunity to hear two legends of modern jazz together when Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter, in the very good company of bassist Dave Holland and drummer Brian Blade, perform at l'Auditori in Barcelona. To call them legends is misleading, however, as the word implies that the best is past, while in fact these two composers and musicians are restless innovators, not the sort to let the grass grow under their feet.

Both came to prominence as young men when they formed the cornerstone of what is generally regarded as the finest modern jazz group of all time, the Miles Davis Quintet which, in the latter half of the Sixties, changed the course of jazz history with its intense, often introspective style of improvisation around Shorter's angular, modal compositions. Davis, at 37, was the old man of the group, followed by the 30-year-old Shorter. Hancock was a mere 23 while Tony Williams, the drummer, was a boy of 17. Interestingly, Dave Holland, the bassist in tonight's concert, was a key player in the next stage of Miles' career when he played on the ground-breaking album *In a Silent Way* which ushered in a new era of jazz that developed - some would say degenerated - into what became known as fusion. Davis, always on the lookout for young musicians with open minds, hired Wolverhampton-born Holland who was at that time only 20.

Because they all started out so

young, these musicians go way back, with the exception of Blade, currently one of the most sought-after drummers. He has worked with Hancock on a number of recent projects, including his tribute to John Coltrane (who Shorter replaced when he joined Miles' band in 1963) as well as playing on Bob Dylan's *Time Out of Mind* album. He has also worked with Joshua Redmond, Emmylou Harris and Joni Mitchell.

Shorter himself featured on *Gershwin's World*, Hancock's salute to the great American composer, a project for which he recruited the diverse talents of Stevie Wonder and soprano Kathleen Battle. In the Seventies and early Eighties, Hancock's jazz-funk albums won him a wider following and a lot more money as he produced a succession of chart hits.

The purists were not happy. Shorter never cared much about the pipe-and-corduroy set either, and after Miles he set up Weather Report with Viennese pianist-composer Joe Zawinul, a band that survived for 15 years, although Shorter pursued a parallel solo career which has taken in funk and synthesizers as well as a number of appearances on Joni Mitchell albums, with whom he has collaborated for over 20 years. Shorter also played on the soundtrack of one of the few good films ever made about jazz, Bertrand Tavernier's *Round Midnight*. But whatever style they adopt tonight, the audience is in for a treat from some of the finest musicians they will ever have the pleasure of listening to.



Herbie Hancock and Wayne Shorter played together in the legendary Miles Davis Quintet but have often collaborated since / EFE

Amis shows signs of a return to form but critics have a field day bitching about his unruly dog

ROXANNE ROWLES

Since its publication last year, Martin Amis' *Yellow Dog* has caused a furore, not so much for its content as for the viciousness of some of the critical response. Most famously, fellow novelist and one-time admirer Tibor Fischer described it as not-knowing-where-to-look-bad, and that being seen reading it was like your favourite uncle being caught in the playground masturbating.

Critics who have given a more balanced response acknowledge

Amis' customary brilliance of language but complain of the novel's lack of coherence, implausible characters and uneven plotting. Has Amis, the uncrowned king of English novelists since the Eighties, lost his touch? He started writing *Yellow Dog* seven years ago and took it up again after completing his autobiographical *Experience* and his analysis of Joseph Stalin's influence in *Koba the Dread*, recently published in Spanish. He returned to it in the aftermath of 9/11.

The story centres around Xan Meo, a successful writer and actor, a New Man who, as the result of a blow on the head from an unknown assailant, reverts to a more primitive side of himself, coarse and lustful, the heritage of his upbringing in an East End criminal family. The panoply of characters includes familiar Amis types: a sleazy tabloid journalist Clive Smoke (pseudonym Yellow Dog), an assortment of unsavoury villains and porn stars, a good wife and a bad one.

Beneath the incisive wit, the evocation of fast food and trashy London, there is a more serious intent, as the writer explores difficult issues like paedophilia and the increasing acceptability of pornography. Read this book if you find a more honest vision of our times in, for example, Mike Leigh's *Naked* than in *The Full Monty*, or if your comic taste tends towards the cruel and dissecting rather than the kind and healing.

Yellow Dog is published by Jonathan Cape.



Familiar array of oddball characters

Oscar-winning composer Jerry Goldsmith dies in L.A. aged 75

Goldsmith composed 200 film scores and won an oscar for "The Omen"

REUTERS, LOS ANGELES

Jerry Goldsmith, an Oscar- and Emmy-winning film and TV composer so prolific that hardly a day goes by when one of his works is not being played somewhere in the world, has died at age 75, his family said on Thursday. His 200 film scores include: *Alien*, *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*, *Chinatown*, *Patton*, *MacArthur*, *Planet of the Apes*, *L.A. Confidential*, *Basic Instinct*, *A Patch of Blue*, *Poltergeist*, *Rambo First Blood, Part 2* and *Freud*.

Goldsmith won an Oscar for his score for the 1976 horror thriller *The Omen* and also received a best song nomination for his song in that film, in which he reversed *Ave Maria* making it into a hymn for the devil, *Ave Satani*.

Goldsmith composed the theme music for several hit TV series including *The Waltons*, *The Man From U.N.C.L.E.*, *Dr. Kildare*, *Barnaby Jones* and *Star Trek: Voyager*. He also composed a fanfare for the annual Academy Awards which is still being used.

He died in his sleep on Wednesday night at his Beverly Hills home after a long battle with cancer, his family said. A five-time Emmy Award winner, Goldsmith also received 17 Academy Award nominations over a career spanning nearly a half century. His only Oscar was for *The Omen*, with Gregory Peck.



Jerry Goldsmith was famous for his film scores ranging from *Chinatown* to *Star Trek*

He never had a favourite score

Goldsmith's widow, Carol says that her husband always refused to choose a favourite among his works. "My favourite score is the one I haven't written yet," he would say. As a professor, he would tell film-school students when scoring a chase scene on horseback, one should not compose music for the galloping, but instead for the fear the rider feels. Winning fame in the industry for the speed with which Goldsmith wrote the score for *Chinatown*, according to Varsity International Film Guide the piece "is now a classic of the private eye genre."

Universal Forum of Cultures cries "olé!"

ALEXLEFF

The clapping and tapping sounds of flamenco can be heard around the world. Barcelona's Forum 2004 could not hesitate to sponsor Flamenco Week festival, bringing the best performers to its concert venues by the river Besòs. Forum goes Flamenco from Monday 26 July to Sunday 1 August. The concert lineup includes some rising stars. If there names don't grab your attention — Farruquito, Capullo de Jerez, El Funi, Rancapino — then their high-pitched singing or foot stomping surely will. The *Setmana de flamenco* includes the *Festa gitana de La Mina*, a small tribute to the neighbourhood's residents who are mostly gypsies: a reminder of where the unusual music comes from.



Flamenco dancer Farruquito at a recent Barcelona performance / GABRIEL MASSANA

New releases ▶

Pink Panther's Penthouse Party

VARIOUS

Label: Virgin-EMI
Genre: *Electro-lounge*
Playing time: 70'31"

The Pink Panther is celebrating 40 years of a successful career with a great musical party. Panther lovers are lured in by Henry Mancini's swanky original classic, and then remixes by the likes of St. Germain, Fischerspooner and Malibu will keep the party going. The album also includes fourteen recordings by big names in the music industry such as Fatboy Slim, Pizzicato Five, Dimitri from Paris. This Pink Panther music compilation is smooth and slick, blending pop music with dance tunes to give a rather loungey effect.



CARNIVAL ELECTRÓNICO

Daniela Mercury

Label: BMG-Ariola
Genre: *Electro-samba*
Playing time: 58'30"

Brazilian superstar Daniela Mercury has put together her own carnival with this album that features music by Carlinhos Brown, Gilberto Gil and Lenine. Along with these samba classics, Mercury presents a slew of DJs such as Renato Lopes, Zé Pedro whose productions bring in just the right dose of electronica to stir the hot Brazilian rhythms. The new album is launched with the aim of celebrating the fifth anniversary of the Trio Techno, which brought electronic music for the first time to the Bahia carnival, in Rio de Janeiro.



LO IMPREVISTO

LAGARTIJA NICK

Label: Lagartija Records-El Diablo!
Genre: *Rock*
Playing time: 43'07"

After several experiments with flamenco and electronica, this group from Granada has dug into its rocker roots with an album produced by Fino Oyonarte which includes collaborations by Los Planetas members J and Floren. They have stepped away from their usual digital technique, opting for an analogue sound that does not disappoint. This new album is the eighth release in Lagartija Nick's discography, since their first one called *Hipnosis* in 1991. Listeners to *Lo Imprevisto* are reminded of one of the greatest Spanish rock bands of all time.

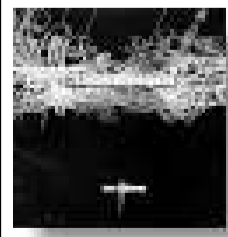


ROCK CRIMINALS

LA SUITE MOSQUITO

Label: Discmedi
Genre: *Rock*
Playing time: 50'07"

Five years have gone by since their first album, *Electronic Devotion Manuel* (Moby Disk, 2001), where La Suite Mosquito showed its devotion for the sampler and synthesizer. It could be that what was lacking on that album has been achieved on *Rock Criminals*: organising their ideas to serve up a succulent concoction. This is the long-awaited second record is essentially a rock album, but with a considerable electronic element. *Rock Criminals* has an impressive lineup of musical collaborators, such as Joan Garcia and Dani Fosas on tenor and alto sax.



SATURDAY

24

Concerts

BARCELONA

- ▶ **La Pedrera. Fundació Caixa Catalunya.** Music from around the world, as part of *The Pedrera by Night*. Provença, 261. Saturday, 9.30 pm-12 pm. Tickets: 10 euros (refreshments included). Until August 28th.
- ▶ **Ambar.** Electropop concert by DJ Lineker. At 11:30 pm. Sant Pau, 77.
- ▶ **Apolo.** Concert by DJ Luke Slater. At 12:30 am. Nou de la Rambla, 113.
- ▶ **Barcelona City Hall.** Concert by DJ Gustavo López, Bizzare DJ and vj Pixel 01. As part of *Deep*. At 12:30 am. Rbla. Catalunya, 2-4.
- ▶ **Domèstic.** Concert by Miss Shampoo. As part of *Ladies Night*. At 10 pm. Diputació, 215.
- ▶ **Jamboree.** Jazz concert by Andreu Martínez. At 11:00 pm. Plaça Reial, 17.
- ▶ **La Boîte.** Samba funk concert by Avenida Brasil. At 12 am. Diagonal, 477.
- ▶ **La Cova del Drac.** Bossa Nova concert by Euclides Mattos. At 11:00 pm. Vallmajor, 33.
- ▶ **La Paloma.** Funk jazz concert by La Mala Fama. At 2:00 am. Carrer del Tigre, 27.
- ▶ **London Bar.** Latin rock concert by Estamos en Ello. At 12:30 am. Nou de la Rambla, 34.
- ▶ **Los Tarantos.** Flamenco concert by Familia Gómez y amigos. At 8:30 pm. Plaça Reial, 17.
- ▶ **Moog.** Concert by DJs Robert X, Purpur. At 1:00 am. Arc del Teatre, 3.
- ▶ **Razzmatazz.** Concert by Steve Mackey. At 1 am. Almogàvers, 122.
- ▶ **Sala Déjà Vu.** Concert by Top Models, Biscuits and Singletones. At 10 pm. Sancho d'Àvila, 49.
- ▶ **Sidecar.** Concert by Sergio Makaroff. At 10:30 pm. Heures, 4-6.

CALELLA DE PALAFRUGELL

- ▶ **Jardins de Cap Roig.** *Voz de amor*, concert by Cesaria Evora. As part of *Festival Jardins de Cap Roig*. At 10 pm.

PERALADA

- ▶ **Castell.** Gospel concert by Fisk Jubilee Singers. As part of *XVII Festival Castell de Peralada*. At 10:00 pm.

SANT FELIU DE GUÍXOLS

- ▶ **Auditori Plaça Abadia.** Concert by Buena Vista Social feat. Omara Portuondo. As part of *Festival de la Porta Ferrada*. At 10:30 pm.

Opera

BARCELONA

- ▶ **Gran Teatre del Liceu.** *Giulio Cesare* by G. F. Händel. Mon to Fri 8:30 pm. Sun 5m. Tickets: 7,25-149 euros. Rambles, 51-59.

Theatre

BARCELONA

- ▶ **Artenbrut Teatre.** *La dona com a camp de batalla*, by Matéi Visniec. Thurs to Sat 9 pm. Sun 6 pm. Until July 25th. Tickets: 16 euros. Perill 9.
- ▶ **Auditori.** *Inmigración* by Cia. Ángeles Gabaldón. As part of *Convivència de les Cultures*. At 9:00 pm. Lepant, 150.
- ▶ **Espai Escènic Joan Brossa.** *Amor Matern*, by August Strindberg. Tues to Sat 9 pm, Sunday 7 pm. Tickets: 9-16 euros. Until July 25th. Allada Vermell 13. Tel. 933010164.
- ▶ **Sala Muntaner.** *Cançons dedicades*, by Franz Xavier Kroetz. Wed to Sat 9:30 pm, Sunday 7 pm. Until July 25th. Muntaner 4.
- ▶ **Teatre Apolo.** *Amor y fuego*, by Manolo Carasco (pianist). Tues 9:30 pm, Wed 6 and 9:30 pm, Thurs 9:30 pm, Fri 10 pm, Sat 7:30 and 10:30 pm, Sun 7 pm. Tickets: 18-24 euros. Until August 1st. Paral·lel 59.
- ▶ **Teatre Borràs.** *Dreamers* by Gemelos Lombard. Tuesto Sat, 9:30 pm. Sundays, 7:30 pm. Until August 1st. Pl. Urquinaona, 9.
- ▶ **Teatre Nou Tantarantana.** *Diktat*, by Enzo Corman. Wed to Sat 9 pm, Sun 7 pm. Until August 22nd. Tickets: 13-16 euros. Carrer de les Flors, 22.

Recommended | MARCELA TOPOR



Ernesto Collado is presenting Como casas at CCCB

● The well-known Barceloni actor Ernesto Collado is directing the performance *Como casas (Homes)* at CCCB until 25 July, as part of Forum-Grec festival. The play deals with loss of values in welfare society, where "the obscene exhibition of intimacy is the norm", as the director and stage-organiser said. It aims to make the audience reflect upon the uprooting of in-

dividuals caused by the lack of faith, convictions and the total loss of reference points. The play is featuring Catalan, Dutch and French actors, who perfectly combine acting and dance. The performance also includes audiovisual work, created by Dionís Escorsa. Ernesto Collado directed *Como casas (Homes)* with the help of Franco di Francescantonino. Tel. 93 306 41 00.

Immigration: coexistence of cultures at the Auditori

● The Auditori is hosting tonight the concert *Inmigración* (Immigration), by Ángeles Gabaldón company, which aims to provide a global perspective of the phenomenon of immigration. The Andalusian company will be performing a show which offers through the performing arts a particular view of the universal phenomenon of immigration, by portraying the experience of immigrants and cross-cultural relations between different peoples and cultures.

Summer concerts at the Monastery of Santes Creus

● The Royal Monastery of Santes Creus is presenting this summer quality concerts in a paradisiac natural background. The offer includes Orfeo de Sants, the National Chamber Orchestra of Andorra, the Polyphonic orchestra of Puig-Reig and the chamber orchestra Virtuosi de Praga (which will be performing Bach's Branderburg concerts on 31 July). The seventeen members of the Black Heritage Choir will close the festival with the Gospel Night on 7 August.

- ▶ **Teatre Novedades.** *Mientes + que parpadeas*. Tickets: 18-22 euros. Until July 25th. Casp, 1. Tel. 93 412 11 75.
- ▶ **Teatre Tivoli.** *Fama. El musical*. Wed to Fri 9:30 pm, Sat 6:30 and 10 pm, Sun 6:30 pm. Tickets: 20-30 euros. Casp, 8.
- ▶ **Teatre Victòria.** *Torero* by Antonio Canales. Tues to Thurs, 9:30 pm. Fri 10 pm. Sat 7:30 and 10 pm. Sun 7:30 pm. Tickets: 20-30 euros. Until August 1st. Paral·lel, 67.
- ▶ **Versus Teatre.** *The backroom* by Cia. Rakatà. Wed to Sat 10:30 pm. Sun 8:30 pm. Tickets: 16 euros. Castillejos, 179.
- ▶ **Versus Teatre.** *La pentamorfosis de Kafka* by Ever Blanchet. Wed to Sat 8:30 pm. Sun 6:30 pm. Until August 1st. Tickets: 12 euros. Castillejos, 179. Tel. 93 232 31 84.

SALOU

- ▶ **Teatre Auditori.** Play *Mamaaaa!!!* with Joan Pera and Paco Morán. At 10 pm.

Miscellaneous

BARCELONA

- ▶ **Centre Cultural Les Corts.** Film screening *Vivir*, by Zang Yi Mou. As part of *Cicle Nocturn de Cinema Asiàtic*. At 10 pm. Dolors Masferrer, 33.

Exhibitions

BARCELONA

- ▶ **Macba - Museu d'Art.** *Arte y utopía: la acción restringida*. Works by Picasso, Braque, Duchamp and Rauschenberg. Until Septem-

- ber 12th. Tickets: 4-7 euros. Pl. Àngels, 1.
- ▶ **CaixaForum.** *Estarem segurs mentre tot es mogui (We're safe as long as everything is moving)* by Doug Aitken. Until September 26th. Av. Marqués de Comillas, 6-8.
- ▶ **Centre d'Art Santa Mònica.** *16 factures*, by Maria Eichhom. Until September 26th. Rbla. Sta Mònica, 7.
- ▶ **Casa Batlló.** Exhibition and guided tour *The attics and the chimneys*. In six languages. New tour adapted for blind people. Mon to Sun 9am-8pm. Pg. de Gràcia, 43.
- ▶ **Casa Elizalde.** *Informalisme*. Painting and sculpture by Lilián Luján. Free entrance. Until July 25th. València 302.
- ▶ **CCCB.** Exhibition entitled *Pascal Comelade i la seva orquestra d'instruments de jojuina*. A selection of thirty-two toy instruments taken from Camalade's own collection. Until August 22nd. Montalegre, 5.

- ▶ **Centre Cultural Caixa Catalunya.** *El Cos i el cosmos. Art escultòric del Mèxic precolombí*. Until October 10th. Provença 261-265.
- ▶ **Centre d'Art Centre Mònica.** *Apparent Phenomena*, by Joao Tabarra. Until September 26th. Rbla Santa Mònica, 7.
- ▶ **Centre d'Art Santa Mònica.** Exhibition *Borrowed Scenery (enriched seminaturalistic enclosure)* by Florian Göttke. Until September 26th. Rambla Santa Mònica, 7.
- ▶ **Col·legi d'Arquitectes.** Photograph exhibition *La primera mirada (The first look)*. Free entrance. Closed on Sundays. Until Sept. 15th. Pl. Nova, 5.
- ▶ **Espai Caja Madrid.** Exhibition *Cuando los cómics se llamaban tebeos*. Original comic works from the 50s and 60s. Until August 12th.
- ▶ **Fundació Joan Miró.** *Manifest groc. Dalí, Gasch, Montanya i l'antiart*. Until September 26th. Tickets: 3,6 euros. Parc de Montjuïc.
- ▶ **Galeria Iris.** *Vida de pintor*, by Tito Calderón. Until July 31st. Enric Granados 13.
- ▶ **Galeria Segovia.** *Imagen del ausente*, by Patricio Reig. Work on old photos. Until July 24th. Dela Palla 8.
- ▶ **IguapopGallery.** *Organic exposition*, painting by 39 artists. Free entrance. Until August 3rd. Comerç 15. Tel. 933100735.
- ▶ **Institut Francès.** *Boyzone. Imatges del cos*, by Clarisse Hahn. Closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Dates: until September 22nd. Moia, 8. Free entrance. Tel. 935427171.



CULTURAL CENTRES

BARCELONA

- Articket.** www.articketbcn.es
- MACBA** (Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona). Plaça dels Àngels. Tel. 93 412 08 10. www.macba.es
- CCCB.** (Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona). Montalegre 5. Tel. 93 306 41 00. www.cccb.es
- Fundació Joan Miró.** Parc de Montjuïc, s/n. Tel. 93 443 94 70. www.bcn.fjmiro.es
- Fundació Antoni Tàpies.** Aragó 255. Tel. 934 870 315. www.fundaciotapies.org
- Palau Robert** (Catalan Information Centre) aims to provide all the information needed to enable residents and visitors alike to get to know Catalonia. Passeig de Gràcia, 107. Tel. 93 238 80 91. www.10.gencat.net/probert/angles
- Gran Teatre del Liceu** (Opera House). La Rambla, 51-59. Tel. 93 485 99 00. www.liceubarcelona.com
- L'Auditori.** Lepant, 150. Tel. 93 247 93 00. L'Auditori, opened in 1999, is the city's new cultural complex in Barcelona and one of the most popular musical venues in the country. www.auditori.org

Museu Picasso. Montcada, 15-23. Tel. 933196310. www.museupicasso.bcn.es

La Pedrera (Casa Milà). Provença, 261. Tel. 902 400 973.

Museu d'Història de Catalunya. Pl. de Pau Vila, 3 (Palau de Mar). Tel. 93 225 47 00 | 93 225 47 26 | 93 225 47 32. www.mhcat.net

Museu Egipci de Barcelona (Egyptian Museum). València, 284. Tel. 93 488 01 88. www.fundclos.com

MNAC (Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya). Palau Nacional, Parc de Montjuïc. 93 622 03 76. www.mnac.es.

Museu Marítim. Av. de les Drassanes s/n. Tel. 933 429 920. www.diba.es/mmaritim/english/index.htm

Teatre Nacional de Catalunya. Pl. de les Arts, 1. Tel. 933 06 57 06. Ticket sales: 902 33 22 11 or www.servicaixa.com

Caixafòrum. Avda. Marqués de Comillas, 6-8. Tel. 93 476 86 00.

Sagrada família. www.sagrafamiliaria.org

Museu del Ferrocarril (Railway Museum). Pl. Eduard Maristany, Vilanova i la Geltrú. 93 815 84 91. www.ffe.es/vilanova

GIRONA

Museu del Cinema. C/Sèquia, 1, 17001 Girona. Tel. 972 412 777. www.museudelcinema.org

Museu del Call. C/Força, 8, 17004 Girona. Tel. 972 21 67 61. callgirona@ajgirona.org

Centre Cultural Caixa de Girona. C/Ciutadans, 19 17004 Girona Tel. 972 20 98 36. www.fundaciocaixadegirona.org/cultura

Museu Dalí. Opened in 1974, The Museu Dalí contains the broadest range of the artistic career of Salvador Dalí, from his earliest works and his creations within the Surrealist movement up to his last works. Tel. 972 677 500. www.salvador-dali.org

TARRAGONA

Museu Nacional Arqueològic de Tarragona. Plaça del Rei, 5 (Tarragona). Very important archaeological collection from Tarraco, the capital of Roman Spain. Tel. 977 23 62 09. www.mnat.es

CT BACK

WEATHER

CROSSWORD

Dense atmosphere

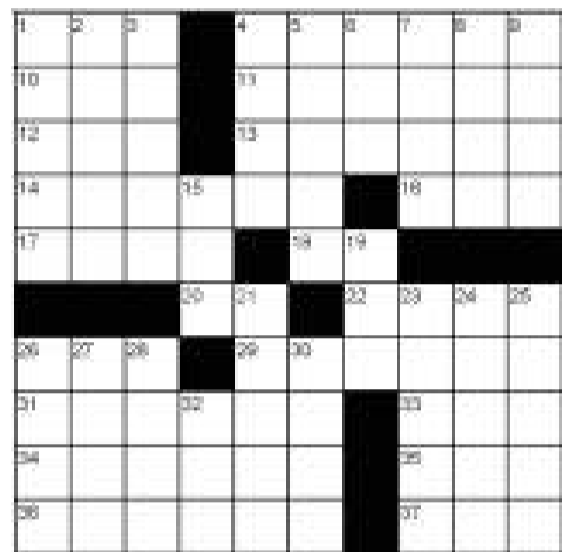
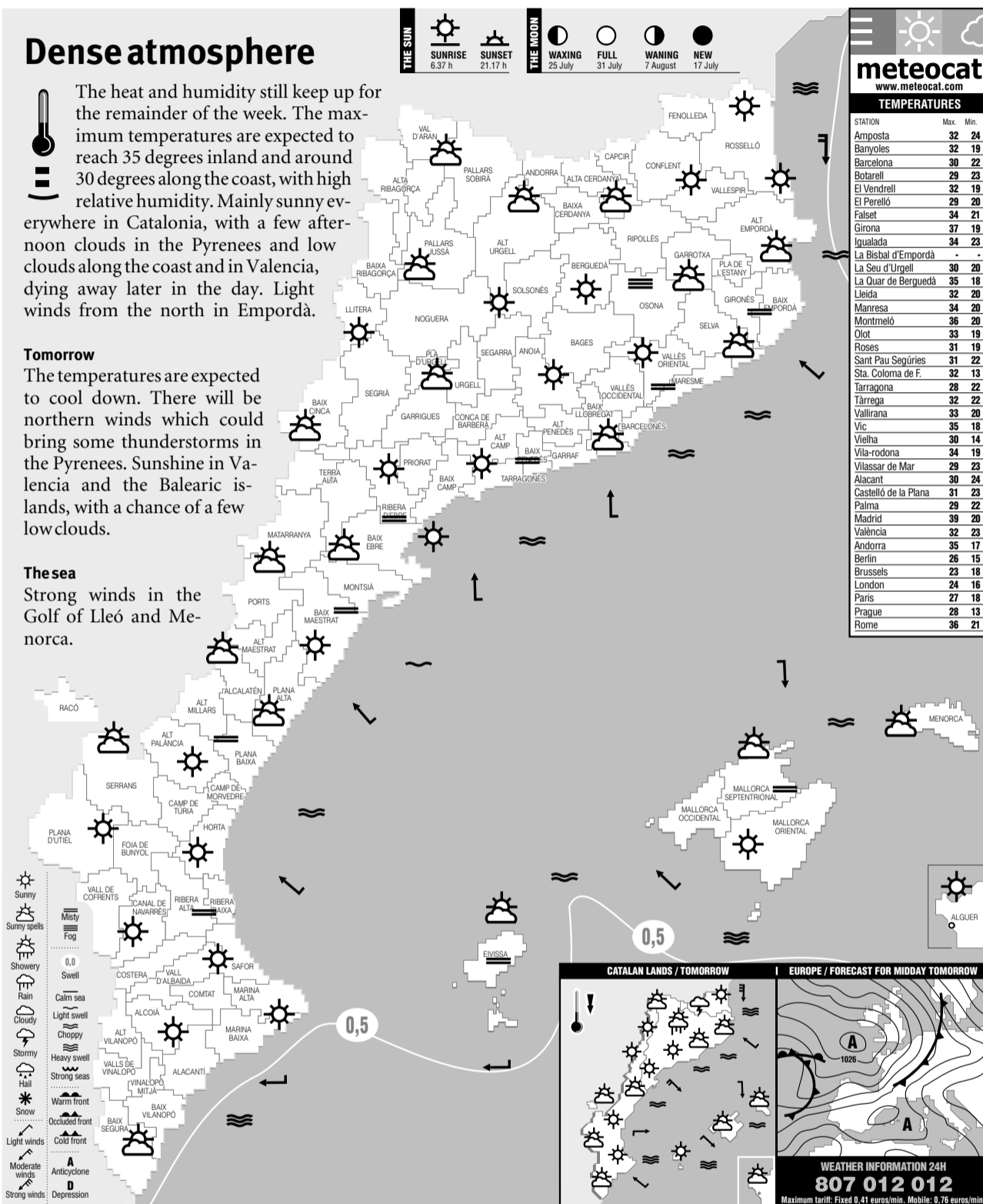
The heat and humidity still keep up for the remainder of the week. The maximum temperatures are expected to reach 35 degrees inland and around 30 degrees along the coast, with high relative humidity. Mainly sunny everywhere in Catalonia, with a few afternoon clouds in the Pyrenees and low clouds along the coast and in Valencia, dying away later in the day. Light winds from the north in Empordà.

Tomorrow

The temperatures are expected to cool down. There will be northern winds which could bring some thunderstorms in the Pyrenees. Sunshine in Valencia and the Balearic islands, with a chance of a few low clouds.

The sea

Strong winds in the Gulf of Lleó and Menorca.



ACROSS

- Jolt.
- Sacred songs.
- Flightless bird.
- Unwind.
- Drink slowly.
- Spirit.
- Dry grassy land.
- Tailor.
- Potato sprouts.
- Sun god.
- Neuter pronoun.
- Listerine alternative.
- Supersonic transport.
- By means of this.
- Traveled around.
- Volume (abbr.).
- Frightened.
- Wrath.
- Framework.
- Short-term memory.

DOWN

- Outlaw James.
- Peacefulness.
- Indian monetary unit.
- Question persistently.
- Make a face.
- Skit.
- Galore.
- 2,800 feet.
- Killed.
- Pounds per square inch.
- Spring month.
- Not our.
- Blue jeans.
- Terminate.
- Plant part.
- Red deer.
- Couch.
- Change position.
- Swirl.
- Lab animal.

ANSWERS

ACROSS

- Jar.
- Psalms.
- Emu.
- Uncoil.
- Sip.
- Mettle.
- Steppe.
- Sew.
- Eyes.
- Ra.
- It.
- Plax.
- SST.
- Hereby.
- Toured.
- Vol.
- Afraid.
- Ire.
- Gantry.
- STM.

DOWN

- Jesse.
- Amity.
- Rupee.
- Pump.
- Sneer.
- Act.
- Lots.
- Mile.
- Slew.
- PSI.
- Apr.
- Their.
- Levis.
- Abort.
- Xylem.
- Stag.
- Sofa.
- Turn.
- Eddy.
- Rat.

871551/5991921

Barcelona agost 2004
San Miguel
Mas i Mar Festival
R&Z BLUE FUNK TECHNO FUNK

28 JULIOL 2004 21h GRAN TEATRE DEL LICEU, LA RAMBLA 51-59

JAZZ AL LICEU

Hurt Rosenwinkel Group
KURT ROSENWINDEL
JOSHUA REDMAN
BRAD MEHLDAU
LARRY GRENNADIER · ALI JACKSON

Mas i Mar all stars
PERICO SAMBAT
LLIBERT FORTUNY
RAYNALD COLOM · JOSEP MARIA FARRÀS
ALBERT BOVER · JULES BIHOHO · MARC AYZA

Entrades anticipades a Servicaiwa | 5 de descompte a Planor Mar, Auriàr March 147, tel. 932 457 396 (de dilluns a divendres.)

Health Travel Logistics

you can come to Barcelona for business & pleasure, but you can also come for all kinds of medical treatments

We organise private medical treatment, surgery, early and preventive diagnosis and continuing care programmes for clients who come from all over the world. We guarantee the quality of these services and ensure they are provided with the utmost in efficiency and effectiveness. You can ask for the most frequently requested services like health checks, laparoscopic surgery, surgery for hypertension, heart surgery, urology, ophthalmology and laser surgery.

869723694800P

Provinge: 08011 - 08002 Barcelona, Spain - Phone: Fax: +34-93 456 570 081
www.health-travel-logistics.com - info@health-travel-logistics.com