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MADRID. BOOK OF BOOKS

JORGE CARRIÓN * ALBERTO GARCÍA-ALIX



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Ivorypress presents Madrid. *Book of Books*, a collaboration between writer Jorge Carrión and photographer Alberto García-Alix. This clothbound, small-size publication is the second installment of the Ivorypress Cities series, which explores the vision of a place through the eyes of an artist and the words of a writer.

Following a dictionary format from A to Z, the publication covers some of the most characteristic places of the book in Madrid, where, like a puzzle, each fragment makes up the fascinating landscape of the capital.

Each one of its pieces rebuilds a part of the history, objects, conversations, memories, anecdotes, feelings and phantasmagoria of Madrid's cultural spaces dedicated to the book. In addition to being a symbolic gesture, the text aids in understanding another dimension of the city invisible for many, keeping it from being forgotten.

Bookstores, streets, public and private libraries, foundations, cafes... places that still are or have already been make up the different reading routes the work proposes to us. Jorge Carrión has traveled to and studied all of these places, joined at times by Alberto García-Alix, whose images accompany us throughout the book and give life to this fascinating journey. Through analysis, interviews and trips, the author narrates a part of the city rarely known until now. Along these routes, we discover the many protagonists of this book of books, among whom writers such as Ramón Gómez de la Serna and Max Aub, commentators such as Ramón de Mesonero Romanos and Carmen de Burgos, painters such as Maruja Mallo and the very own García-Alix himself stand out.

Jorge Carrión (Tarragona, 1976) has spent most of his life in Mataró and Barcelona. He holds a PhD in Humanities from the Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona and, together with José María Micó, is co-director of the Masters Program in Literary Creation at the UPF's Barcelona School of Management. He has lived in Buenos Aires, Rosario and Chicago and publishes regularly in various media channels, including the Spanish section of *The New York Times*, *La Vanguardia* and *Mujerhoy*. He is the author of the fictional tetralogy *The Footprints*, made up of *The Dead* (2010), *The Orphans* (2014), *The Tourists* (2015) and *The Deceased* (2019), as well as several non-fiction books, among which *Australia. A Trip* (2008), *Teleshakespeare* (2011), *Bookstores* (2016), *Barcelona. Book of Passages* (2017) and the essay *Against Amazon* (2019) stand out. He has served as curator for the exhibitions *All the Libraries of Tomorrow* at the Koldo Mitxelena Cultural Center in San Sebastián (2019) and *The Sebald Variations* at the Barcelona Center for Contemporary Culture (2015). His work has been translated into fifteen languages.

Alberto García-Alix (León, 1956) is a photographer, filmmaker, writer and editor who lives and works in Madrid. In 1976, he published his first photographs in black and white, in which figures and places from his life and surroundings have appeared. He has exhibited his work in numerous national and international museums. Among his most outstanding exhibitions include *A Fierce Expressionism* at the Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow (2019); *A False Horizon* at the Tabacalera Promoción del Arte, Madrid (2016); *Shadows of the Wind* at the MUSAC, León (2015); *From Where There is No Return* at the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing (2010) and *Where You Don't Come Back From* at the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid (2009). He received the National Photography Prize in 1999 and his work is exhibited in large international collections, such as the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía (Spain), the Fonds national d'art contemporain (France) and the Art Collection Deutsche Börse (Germany), among others.



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