



This desire led them to look for a strategically located place surrounded by nature: equidistant from the border with France, in case they once again needed to flee, and from Barcelona, a city where they could perform their artistic work. They returned to Catalonia in 1973.

When Fontserè and Broch bought the two houses, they were practically in ruins and the couple had to repair them throughout the 1960s. The buildings became two clearly differentiated spaces. One of these, Can Tista, became their usual residence and Can Montguix was converted into their creative workspace.

## Key dates

- **1916:** Carles Fontserè i Carrió is born in Barcelona on 9 March.
- **1932:** He abandons his studies to work as an apprentice in a set design workshop where he begins to draw film and advertising posters.
- **1936:** The outbreak of the Civil War leads him to serving revolutionary committees, the Union of Professional Illustrators and the Government of Catalonia's Commissariat for Propaganda. His *Llibertat! (Freedom!)* poster is one of the first to appear on walls in Barcelona.
- **1937:** He joins the International Brigades and collaborates by drawing posters for propaganda bulletins.
- **1939:** He must go into exile when the war is lost. He is interned at Les Haras camp in Perpignan and manages to leave there thanks to the help of the painter Martí Vives.
- **1939-1944:** He is interned at the Saint-Cyprien concentration camp in Roussillon during the Second World War, escaping from there and settling in Paris, where he works as an illustrator and lithographer.
- **1945-1947:** He paints posters for the Ministry of Reconstruction and Urbanism for the Reconstruction of France.
- **1948-1949:** He illustrates books and designs sets and costumes for plays by García Lorca and Lope de Vega, among others.
- **1949:** He travels to New York and meets Terry Broch, an American publicist and translator of Catalan origin, at Casal Català. He marries her in Paris in the following year.
- **1950-1970:** He moves into advertising art, draws comics and illustrates magazines. He becomes interested in photography as a social document and depicts cities such as New York, Rome, Paris, London, Mexico City and San Francisco, among others.
- **1959:** The couple buy Can Tista and Can Montguix in Porqueres (Pla de l'Estany) with the idea of returning to Catalonia in the future.
- **1973:** The couple return to settle in Catalonia and Fontserè embarks on a long creative artistic period in the fields of posters, photography, painting and writing, winning several awards and prizes for his work.
- **1995:** He begins to write and publish his memoirs, which end up taking shape as three volumes, published in 1995, 1999 and 2004.
- **2007:** He dies on 4 January. His widow begins working intensively on preserving and disseminating his work.
- **2016:** Terry Broch dies on 27 April. All the artistic and patrimonial legacy of the couple is donated to the Government of Catalonia. The Culture Department is placed in charge of its management.
- **2020:** The Catalan Agency of Cultural Heritage and Porqueres Town Hall sign a collaboration agreement to open the Carles Fontserè Studio Workshop to the public.



**Information and bookings**  
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# Carles Fontserè Studio Workshop

A unique creator's refuge



The Carles Fontserè Studio Workshop preserves and displays a significant part of the legacy of one of the most representative artists of the 20th century in Catalonia. It is located in the municipality of Porqueres (Pla de l'Estany), on top of a rise with views of the hill of Puig de les Gitanes, the Ginestar mountain range, the Martís plain and beyond that, the Empordà plain and the Pyrenees.

Carles Fontserè and Terry Broch bought the property in 1959. The couple were living in New York at the time but had decided that one day they would return to Catalonia.



## Carles Fontserè Studio Workshop

The studio workshop is the place designed by Fontserè and Broch for the artist's creative activity and to accommodate his vast legacy. It is a lively, dynamic space that Fontserè continued to renovate according to changes in his extensive artistic career. Each of the sectors of the studio reflects the various fields of arts that Fontserè nurtured: painting, drawing, writing, set design, poster design, illustration and photography.

Located on the first floor of Can Montguix, the studio is arranged as a continuous compartmentalised space according to the various areas of each creative activity. The artist's extremely ordered personality is evident throughout as soon you enter, and his inventive capacity is demonstrated in details such as the ingenious solutions for electric lighting, with the use of scaffolding posts as supports

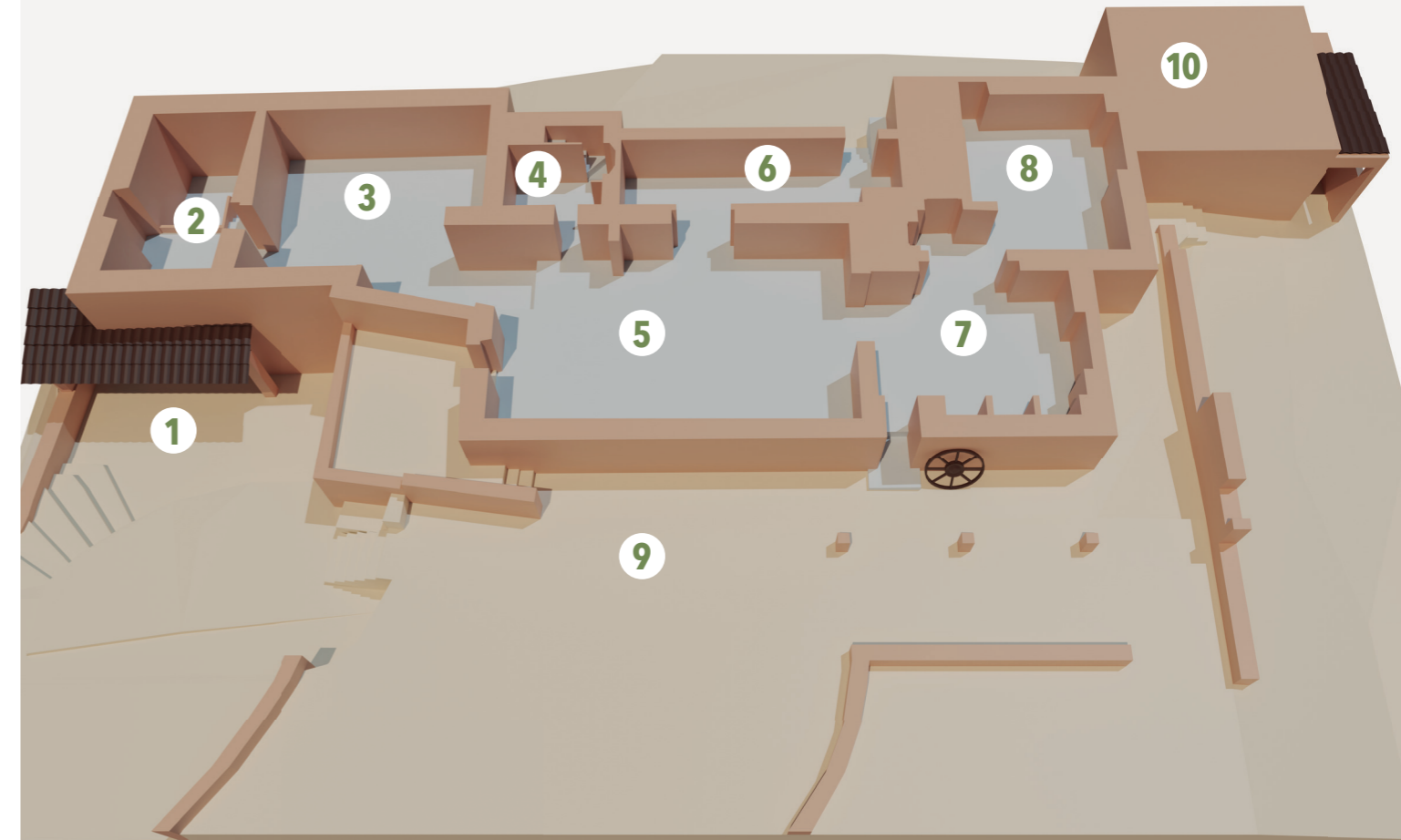
The first space in the house is for administrative and archival tasks, classifying books, phone calls, writing letters and so on, and it is where the most personal photographs were kept.

The library, comprising more than 2,000 volumes, can be found at the centre of the studio and was also the area for painting, with original works presided over by a reproduction of *Llibertat!* one of his most iconic posters. The room on the left initially housed the drawing studio, but the artist converted it into a photographic archive for the more than 40,000 negatives taken in various cities around the world.

The lithography workshop, including a large press that the couple brought over to Porqueres from New York, used to be found at the very rear, although today it is a living room with sofa and armchairs. Adjoining it is the room of the former photographic laboratory, which in later years the artist transformed into an office where he wrote his memoirs.

The studio workshop is a lived-in space that reflects the places where he lived and worked, or those that he visited. It is a space filled with Mexican ceramic figurines, personal photographs, pitchers, wood, metal or stone sculptures, trunks, copies of posters, books, number plates or signs... all of which formed the universe of a key artist from the latter half of the 20th century, an ideal, multifaceted, unique place created by Fontserè and his companion in the latter part of their lives.

Images: ACdPC - Quim Roser



Unknown author/ACdPC

1. Entrance
2. Entrance hall
3. Management room and office
4. Kitchen and access to watchtower
5. Library area, painting space and music corner
6. Photographic archive
7. Living room
8. Former photographic laboratory
9. Well terrace
10. Storeroom