

focus ABENGOA

The Focus-Abengoa Foundation presents the reopening of the “View Seville” exhibition adapted to new multimedia technologies

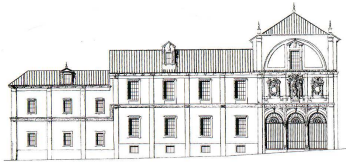
- The exhibition includes multimedia screens that allow visitors to compare the panoramic engraving of Seville held by the Naval Museum in Madrid, with the painting “Vista de Sevilla” owned by the Focus-Abengoa Foundation.
- The exhibition will be open until 11 December at the Hospital de los Venerables in Seville.

Seville, 30 September 2010. The Focus-Abengoa Foundation is presenting an exhibition from its own collection called “View Seville. Five perspectives through 100 prints”, at the Hospital de los Venerables in Seville. Following on from its success in 2010, the exhibition has now been adapted to new technologies, which will allow visitors to delve into Seville’s most majestic era (the 16th and 17th centuries), while also offering a graphic insight into the evolution of the city through to the 20th century.

Thanks to its digitalisation, the exhibition offers visitors the possibility to use interactive screens to compare the panoramic engraving of Seville (Symon Wynhoustz Frisius, 1617) held by the Naval Museum in Madrid, with the painting “Vista de Sevilla” (anon, 1650-1660), owned by the Focus-Abengoa Foundation. The two images are taken from the same perspective in the Triana neighbourhood of Seville and show a similar view of the city but at two different moments in time. The first shows a Seville that is growing at the beginning of the century, while the second shows a Seville immersed in the crisis in the middle of the century, which the artist produced using the illustration by Mathäus Merian (1593-1650), which is held by the Foundation.

The collection of prints, comprised of engravings and lithographs belonging to the Foundation’s iconographic collection, sets out to communicate the value of these documents as a graphic testament of the future of the city between the 16th and 20th centuries. The exhibition, which is open until 11 December at the headquarters of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation in Seville, offers visitors the opportunity to travel through the city and unravel the numerous nuances of its past through the prisms of five transverse perspectives: the geography, the pedestrian, the festivities, the archaeology and the romanticism.

The updated version of the exhibition maintains this approach and also uses “the power of images” as the underlying narrative, offering a new window to help discover a Seville at the time of Diego Velázquez: “The urban theatre”, the physical and architectonic side of the city; “Human geography”, the economic and social mosaic that drives the city, and



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“Topography of Velázquez”, a carefully chosen itinerary of locations and people associated with the life and work of the painting genius from Seville.

Many of these locations and characters inspired the Seville artist who regularly featured them in his paintings: noblemen and caped people with ruff necks, such as the picture of his father-in-law, Francisco Pacheco, who he painted around 1619; clergymen, monks and the common people in particular, from the elderly and the young through to the servants and slaves that inhabit his “Old Woman Cooking Eggs”, his “Water seller”, and his “lunches” and domestic scenes.

The musical activities, focused on the organ, will complete the program, which includes concerts to promote new organists, the master class, the series of master concerts, as well as the Baroque School.

This range of outstanding cultural and educational activities stems from the desire of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation to become a leading international centre for studying the Baroque era.

Focus-Abengoa Foundation

The Focus-Abengoa Foundation was created in 1982 as a result of the cultural work begun in 1972 by Abengoa with the publication of the works *Temas Sevillanos* (Themes of Seville) and *Iconografía de Sevilla* (Iconography of Seville). A collection of documents, books and engravings on the Kingdom of Seville and by Sevillian authors was created around the same time. This initial cultural work showed Abengoa’s directors the importance of the company’s involvement in activities that directly benefit society, beyond its core technology work, which led to the creation of the Seville Cultural Fund Foundation. Since 2007 the Hospital de los Venerables, a 17th century monument and the headquarters of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation in Seville, has housed the Diego Velázquez Research Centre, a leading institution for studying and disseminating the Baroque era and the Sevillian period of this universally renowned artist, which was created to mark the acquisition of Velázquez’s Santa Rufina by the Foundation in the same year.

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