



**Academia Europaea**  
**Barcelona Knowledge Hub**

**AE-BKH WOMEN'S WEEK 2018**

**“WOMAN, SCIENCE AND CULTURE: A SYMBIOTIC CONNECTION”**

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**6 March 2018. 19:00-21:00 h.**

**Institute for Catalan Studies (Prat de la Riba Hall)\***

C/ Carme 47. 08001 Barcelona

Co-organised with:



**Institut  
d'Estudis  
Catalans**

**Concert by Lídia Pujol:**

**“*Polorum Regina*. Women as a referent of freedom”**

***Polorum Regina*** (“Queen of the Universe”) is a song in the form of “Virelai” (a medieval musical poetic form) of the *Llibre Vermell*, a codex of the 14th century conserved in the Monastery of Montserrat. The song symbolizes the orientation to our true identity, to the human fullness that recognises the role of Woman in relation to the ascending consciousness that transcends the genre. It invites humanity to go beyond the material mechanism of the world and reminds us that the divinity is the true identity of the human being.

*Polorum Regina* introduces us to the image of magnetism that harmonizes plurality and that inspires the freedom of our mind towards movement and differences. It orientates life towards the experience that is given on a level of reality that goes beyond the fatal and hierarchical dichotomy between matter and spirit.

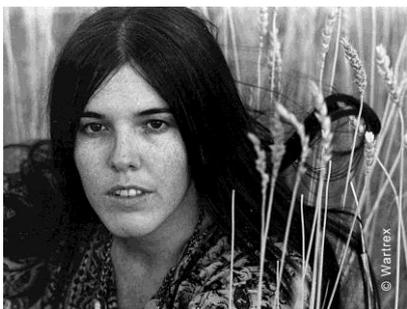
**The repertoire** chosen for this concert is an encounter between culture and art, between local and universal peculiarities, between the individual and the community. The encounter between the traditional and author's songs represents the humanisation process that inseparably links the cultural roots of a community and the search for personal fulfilment towards mystery.



“The dance of Miriam” (The Golden Haggadah)

The traditional Catalan and Sephardic songs of this proposal are the narration of everyday events that demonstrate the hierarchical relation between genres —with the complicity of women— in all times and cultures, and the balance towards the constant search for being a Person beyond subjection and subordination. The concert also has songs in Spanish, English and Latin to remember the symbiotic relationship of universal cultures. A special remembrance is giving to the extraordinary figure of Spanish singer and songwriter Cecilia who wrote and sung compositions both in Spanish and English.

**The poetic orientation of Cecilia** (artistic name of Evangelina Sobredo, 1948–1976), takes on this historical narrative vocation of traditional music to expose her own experience. Cecilia, the daughter of a Spanish military man and diplomat, looked for a real poetic world and did not find it in laws and dogmas. Based on the Castilian tradition and culture, with her songs Cecilia denounced a false world, of which she had been a prisoner and from which she never totally escaped. Without judging, she expressed her opinion and persevered over the censorship that her work constantly suffered. She was very bold, especially in her second album, whose title *Me quedaré soltera* (“I will stay single”) was censored. In this song, the artist broke with preconceived ideas about the role of women in society at the time.



Evangelina Sobredo, “Cecilia” (1948–1976)

As Cecilia’s sister Teresa Sobredo wrote, “It was a reference for women, she was ahead of her time and refused to be the model of a woman being treated as an object. Cecilia, sang for “those below”, but did not trust the ideologies. She never linked herself to any political party, not even to social movements. She had her own ideas and friends on both sides. And people did not like that.”

**The *Magnificat*** at the end of concert represents the answer of Mary to her vital compromise, to accompany her in the new way of liberty and accomplishment. *Polorum Regina-Stella Matutina* is in medieval Catalonia the essential image of the new conditions of Mary as a symbol of the dignity and divinity of woman in exercising her absolute freedom.

**Lidia Pujol**, singer and songwriter, and **Romà Escalas**, musicologist, Member of the Institute for Catalan Studies.

### Repertoire:

1. *Avrix mi galanica* (Sephardic song)
2. *Por qué lloras, blanca niña* (Sephardic song)
3. *Me quedaré soltera / Equilibrista* (Evangelina Sobredo, Cecilia)
4. *Cecilia* (Catalan traditional folk song)
5. *Si no fuera* (Evangelina Sobredo, Cecilia)
6. *El testament d’Amèlia* (Catalan traditional folk song)
7. *Nada de nada* (Evangelina Sobredo, Cecilia)
8. *Caterina de Lió* (Catalan traditional folk song)
9. *Alfonsina y el mar* (Félix Luna / Ariel Ramírez)
10. *Dónde irán a parar* (Evangelina Sobredo, Cecilia)
11. *If I Were In Heaven* (Emily Brönte / Oscar Roig)
12. *Magnificat / Polorum Regina* (Llibre Vermell de Montserrat)



**Lidia Pujol**, voice

**Pau Figueres**, guitar

**Miquel Àngel Cordero**, double bass



\*The attendance to the session is free of charge, but as the capacity of the session room is limited we recommend registering by sending an email to [barcelona@acadeuro.org](mailto:barcelona@acadeuro.org) or phone Griselda Ribas (Tel. 93-2701727) and/or **arriving 15 minutes before** the starting time.

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PARTNERS of the AE-BKH:



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