



MIRADOR

torre
Glòries



Mirador torre Glòries: See Barcelona Like Never Before

Imagine a place that allows us to observe Barcelona with a new look. A place from where we can perceive in detail how our environment transforms, from where we can discover our non-human neighbours, from where we can feel the beat of the city that affects our daily lives, of which we are often unaware. Imagine that this place is in the centre that Ildefons Cerdà dreamt of for Barcelona, in one of the most emblematic buildings of the city: Torre Glòries.

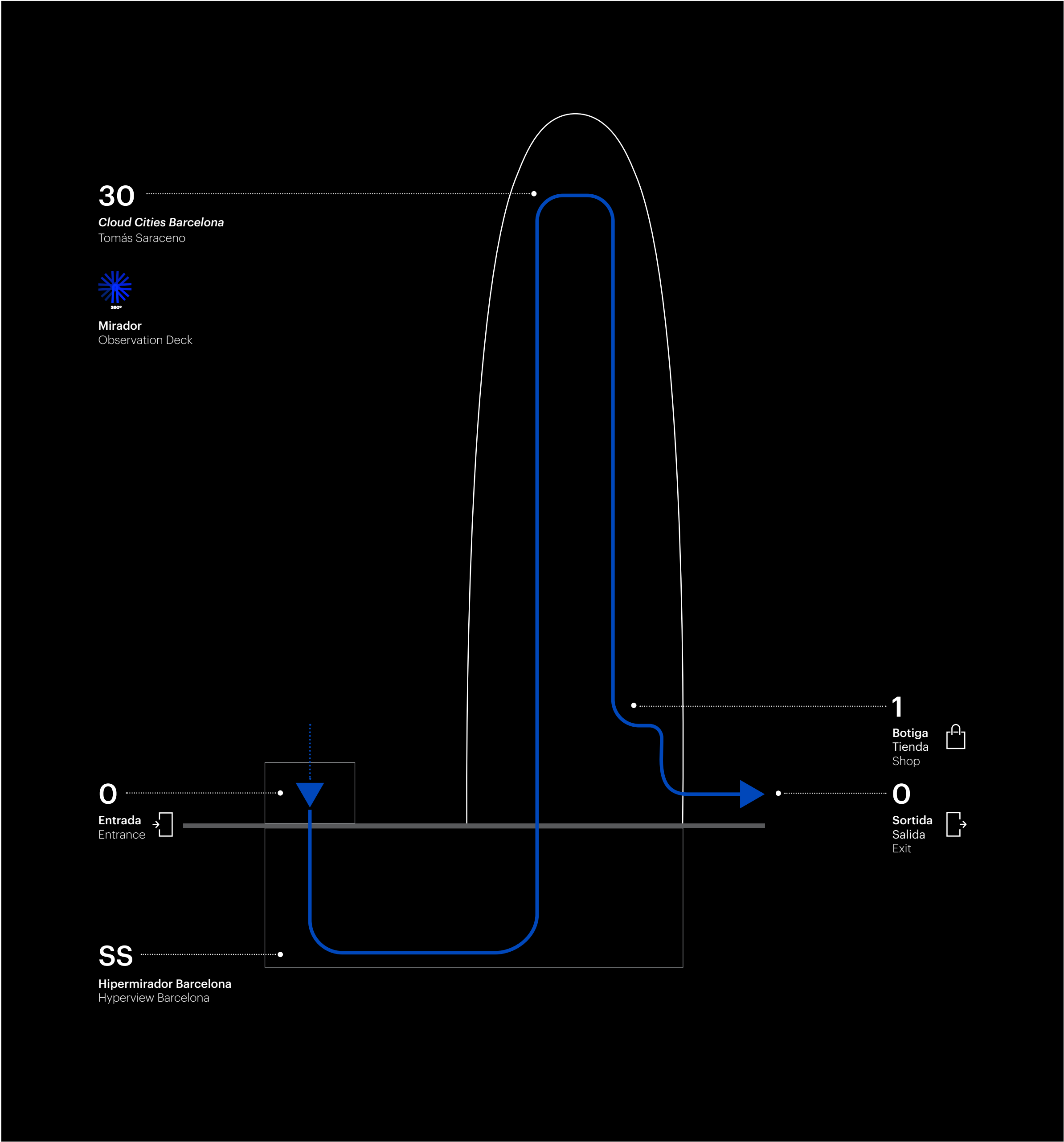
Mirador torre Glòries is a new cultural and entertainment experience. Through spectacular installations that combine art, music, technology and large-format audiovisual productions, the pulse of the city is taken, revealing it to be a living organism. A surprising way of presenting the city as a mesh of natural, social and technological forces. A new concept of double vantage point for contemplating Barcelona with fresh eyes, to rediscover and rethink it.

Mirador torre Glòries, three exceptional views of Barcelona

The journey through Mirador torre Glòries begins in the small entrance building next to Torre Glòries, on Barcelona’s Avinguda Diagonal 211. From there, visitors go down to the first basement floor of Torre Glòries, to the exhibition entrance, where a journey through the following installations begins:

- 1. Hyperview Barcelona
- 2. The Observation Deck
- 3. Cloud Cities Barcelona by Tomás Saraceno

The experience involves seeing and explaining Barcelona from a new perspective, with a viewing platform that not only reveals the city we all know but also the one that is not visible at first glance; inviting us to reflect on the city of the future and understand it to be a living organism that is constantly changing and transforming.





1. Hyperview Barcelona, a space for observing a constantly changing city

The visit to Mirador torre Glòries begins with Hyperview Barcelona, on the first basement floor. There, visitors will begin their journey from another vantage point, one that reveals the other Barcelona. A viewing platform that reads and amplifies the city's pulse, where the Barcelona that lies beyond what we see at first glance can be observed and understood as a living being, whose heartbeat has a significant impact on the way we inhabit the city.

We live in an ecosystem where systems, infrastructures and technologies intertwine, ones on which we rely to live, and the sustainability of this ecosystem depends, in turn, on the use we make of it. Using big data, from sensors and instruments that record the information of urban systems in real-time, and with five spectacular installations that combine art, music, technology and large-format audiovisual productions, the pulse of the city is taken, discovering Barcelona to be a living organism, inhabited by human and non-human neighbours.

The art installations of Hyperview Barcelona

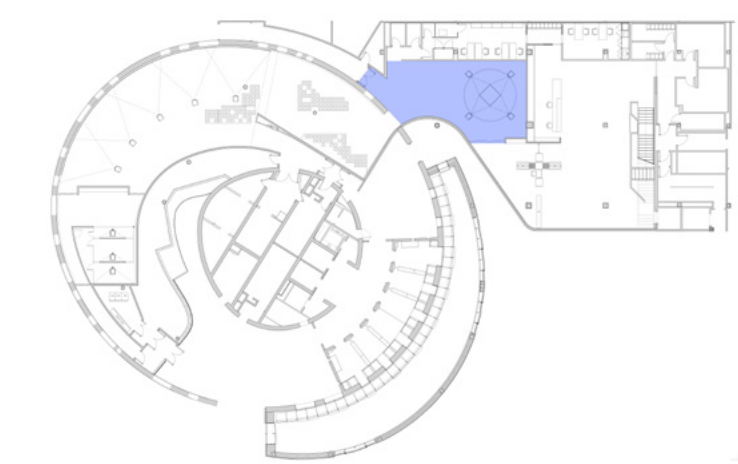
Five installations make up the Hyperview Barcelona observation platform: Prologue, Barcelonians, Atmospheres, Rhythms and Sirena. These installations combine art, technology, scientific information and large-format audiovisual productions, creating an exhibition that is the only one of its kind in the city. The complete journey through Hyperview Barcelona includes the first four spaces, while the fifth installation, Sirena, weaves them all together.

Furthermore, some of the pieces are unrepeatable because they are generated automatically using real-time data of the city, offering a unique view at any time and forming this unparalleled observation platform that is constantly changing and transforming.

Prologue

The first installation of this viewing platform is a non-linear narrative that connects visitors with the different frequencies of the city. This piece has been designed as a tuner of the city, allowing us to see and understand Barcelona as a living being with a heartbeat that sets its rhythms and cycles. It announces to visitors the nature of the journey they are about to embark on.

The prologue is comprised of clips that are less than a minute long, shown together with unconnected phrases that have a central theme: the city of Barcelona. The different texts accompany photographs that show architectural, graphic and natural patterns of the city, providing a kaleidoscopic view that covers different spectra of Barcelona and shows spectators a new way to understand the city.





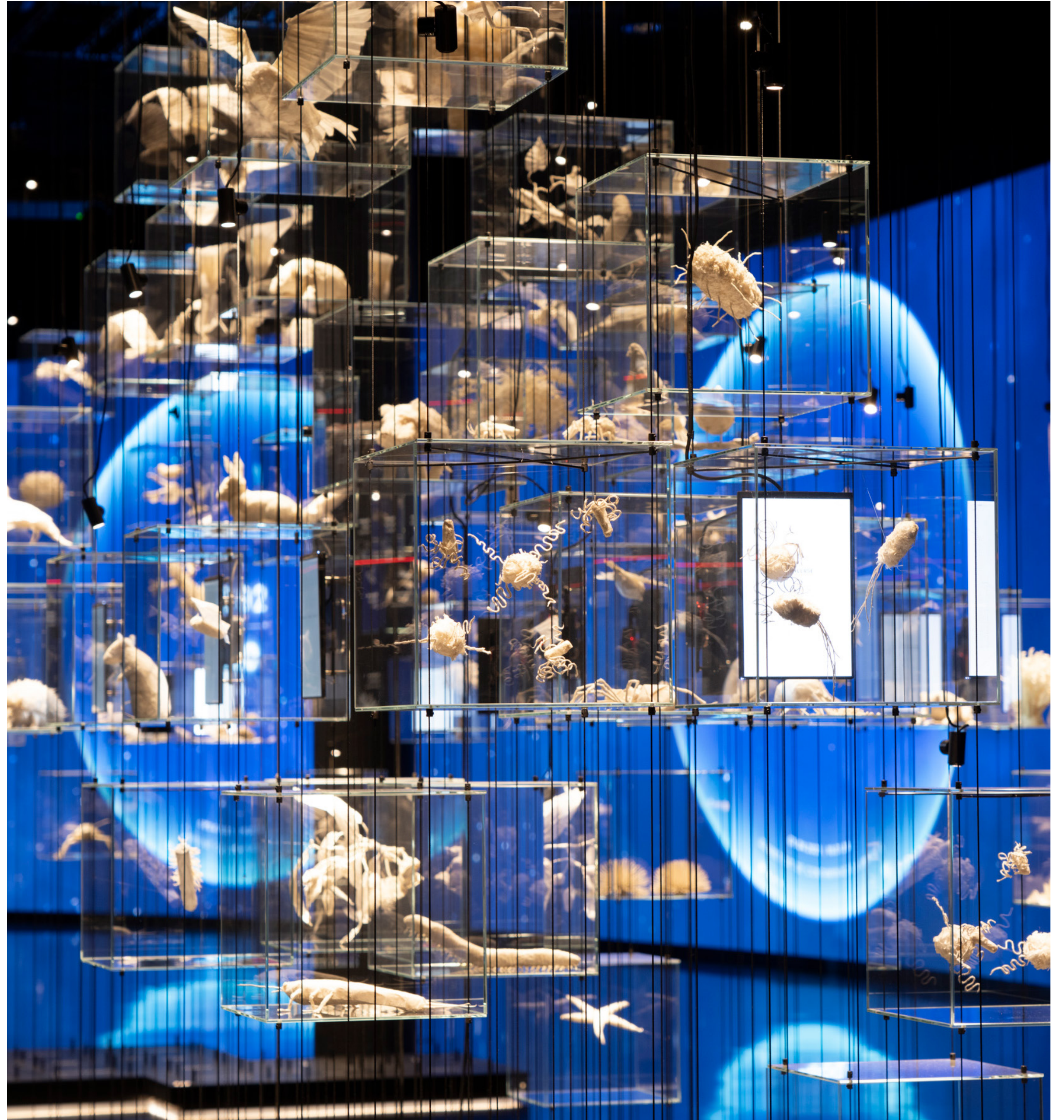
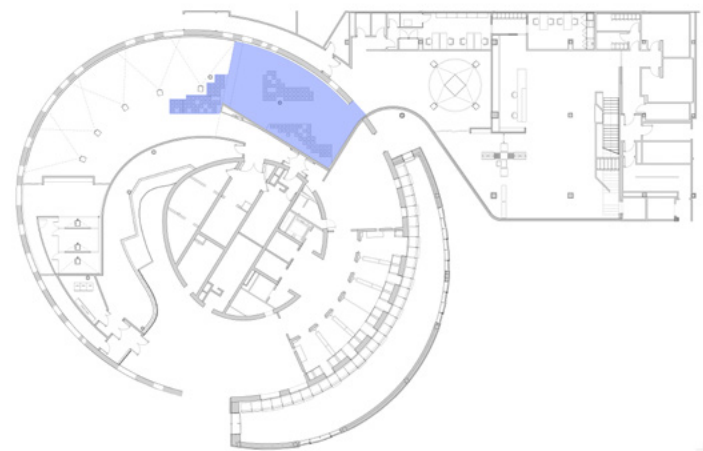
Barcelonians

The second installation of Hyperview Barcelona is called Barcelonians and is formed by a forest of delicate folded-paper sculptures, created by Joan Sallas, which envelop the visitor from every direction and perspective. Each of the 132 folded paper figures is a poetic evocation of the species it represents. The sculptures are displayed in suspended cases and some also have a screen with a visual poem that gives these exquisite representations a voice.

Among the figures are hedgehogs, fungi, wild boar, waterlilies, fin whales, London planes, eels, Posidonia and robins, together with many others, in a thorough bid to make known the diversity of the species that live and comprise the city we inhabit and to reveal the different levels of cooperation, co-existence and frictions that emerge between us all.

Barcelonians highlights the stories of the other species that inhabit Barcelona. A way of presenting the city through a non-anthropocentric discourse that reinforces the idea that Barcelona cannot be explained without including pollen, jellyfish, the many species of birds and even the urban microbiome.

The texts for Barcelonians were created by Mediapro Exhibitions and then worked on by La Sullivan, with the participation of Mireia Calafell, poet and curator of the Barcelona Poesia festival, and Pol Guasch, poet and author of *Napalm en el corazón* (Premio Anagrama 2021).





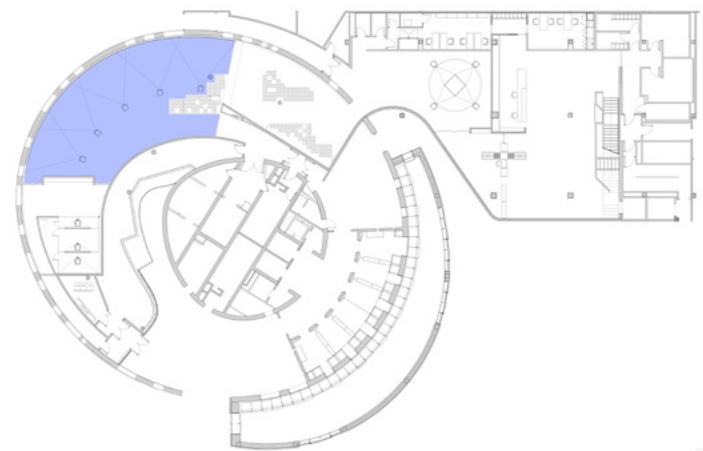
Atmospheres

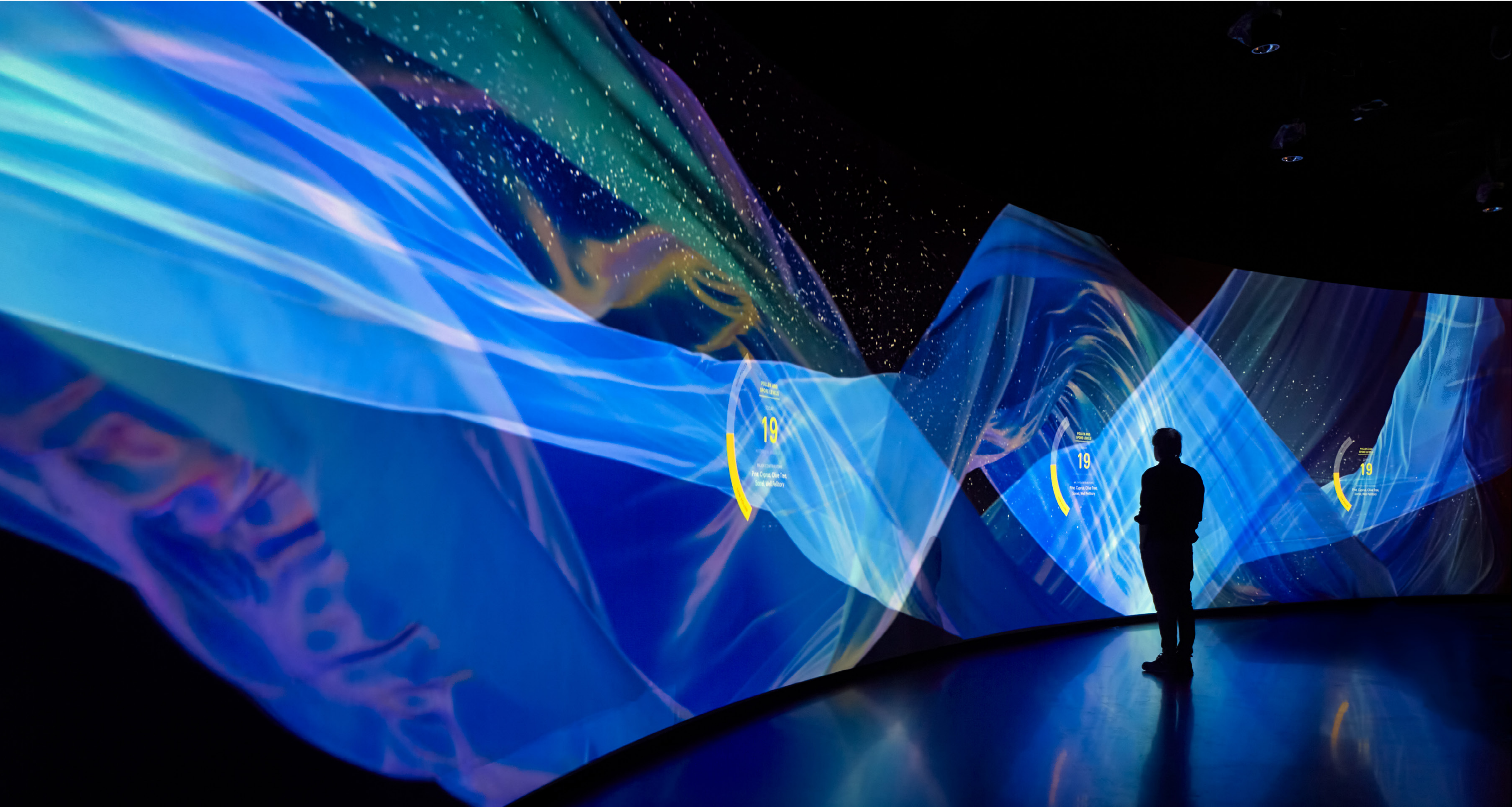
The third installation, Atmospheres, is a spectacular immersive projection on a large-format screen measuring 108 m2.

With a duration of 7 minutes, this audiovisual experience is divided into four pieces that immerse the viewers in the different atmospheres that envelop the city of Barcelona (sky, wind, sea and sound). Most are shown in real-time, given that the projections are generated automatically thanks to the data recorded continuously by sensors around the city and taken from other sources of information.

- **Sky Above Us** is a view of the skies of Barcelona and shows, in real-time, the constellations, satellites and aircraft above Torre Glòries.
- **Wind** is an abstract representation that uses real-time data on the different aspects of this phenomenon, such as its speed and direction, the air quality index and amount of pollen and spores carried by it, together with proverbs about the wind that is blowing at that precise moment.
- **Our Sea** is a visualisation of real-time data about the sea, understood to be an extension of the city of Barcelona. Using a representation of the relief of the seabed (created from a scan provided by the Institut de Ciències del Mar-CSIC), it shows how the sea reacts to human activities in the city: temperature increase, acidification, impact on microorganisms, etc. It also shows the activity of vessels at sea in contrast to that of the aircraft in the sky presented in Sky Above Us.
- **Soundscapes** is an exhaustive attempt to reveal the sounds that pervade Barcelona: the Collserola mountain range, the sea on Barceloneta beach, the river in the Llobregat Delta and the city. It is a representation of the city's soundscapes, designed and created using acoustic ecology, which is based on three sources: biophonies, which are the sounds produced by non-human organisms; geophonies, the sounds of Earth; and anthropophonies, those generated by humans.

This installation was created by Rare Volume in New York. The concept, art direction, contents and documentation of the pieces were worked on jointly by Rare Volume and Mediapro Exhibitions.





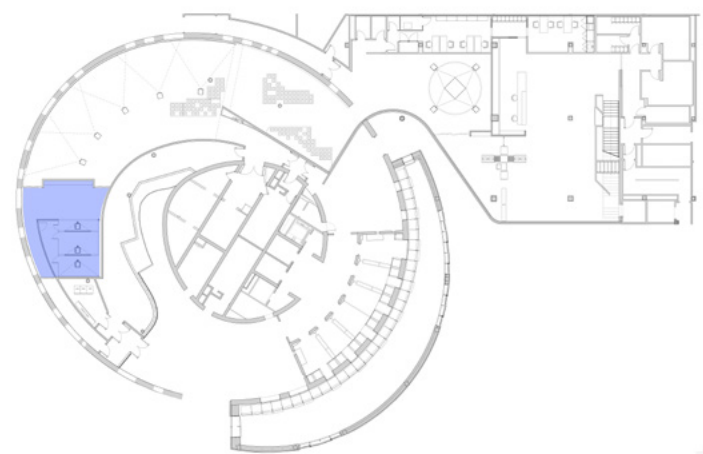
Rhythms

This is the fourth installation of Hyperview Barcelona. On a large holographic screen, the space shows Barcelona's many metabolic processes, understanding the city to be an organism that, in turn, is formed by other organisms.

This piece is divided into three main sections: *Flow*, *Pulse* and *Vibrations*.

- **Flow** shows the interaction between the polluting elements that float above the city and the air that absorbs them. It also reveals the air conditioning function of the trees in the city of Barcelona.
- **Pulse** traces the network of people, goods transport and infrastructures in the city, revealing the high level of daily fuel consumption and what this means for the city's carbon footprint.
- **Vibrations** presents the space we inhabit as a place full of information and shows the electromagnetic urban landscape that, although invisible, permanently surrounds the city and enables the exchange of digital information at all hours.

The concept, art direction and creation of this piece are the work of Richard Vijgen, an internationally acclaimed artist who works on data design. Part of the contents and the documentation were created by Mediapro Exhibitions.



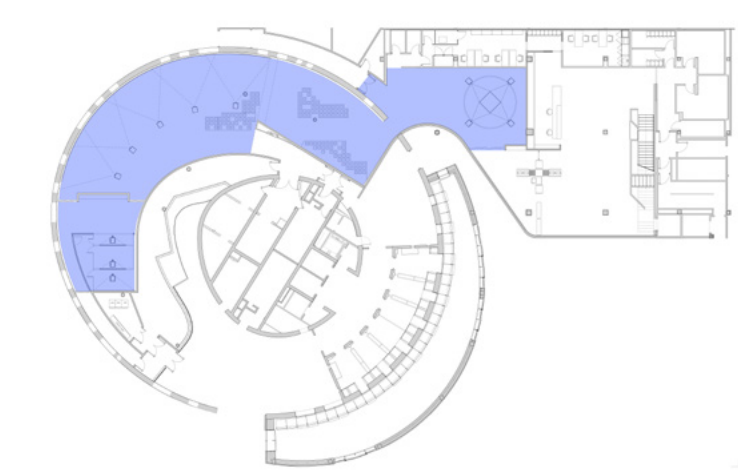
Sirena

The fifth installation is present throughout Hyperview Barcelona. It is called Sirena and is the music that accompanies the entire visit. It **was created, interpreted and set to music by Maria Arnal and John Talabot, two of the most highly acclaimed musicians on the Barcelona music scene. This piece of generative music is created daily in response to the beat and breathing of Barcelona.** The music mutates each day according to the wind speed, weather, phases of the moon, sea temperature, the level of particles in the air, etc. **A living soundtrack that changes according to the city's state.**

The music mixes the voice of Maria Arnal with layers of synthesisers, creating an organic performance with an atmospheric and emotional tone. The result is a unique and contemporary language that completes the exhibition proposal of Hyperview Barcelona.

Maria Arnal is one of the most distinct voices of independent Spanish music. She has made a huge echo in mainstream music, whilst regularly collaborating with CCCB.

John Talabot is the most internationally acclaimed Spanish electronic music creator. He has made remixes of the band The XX and played at famous international festivals, such as Coachella.

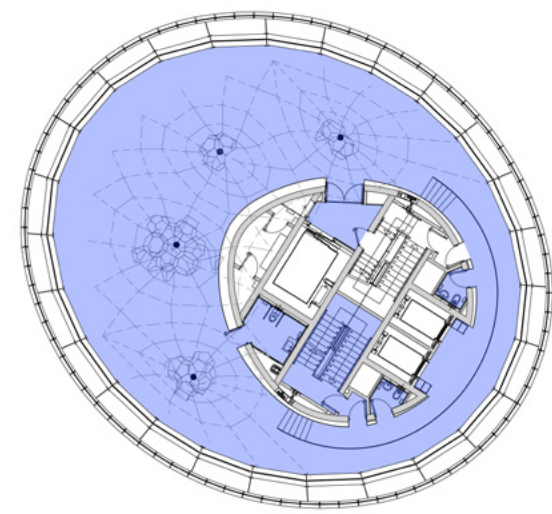


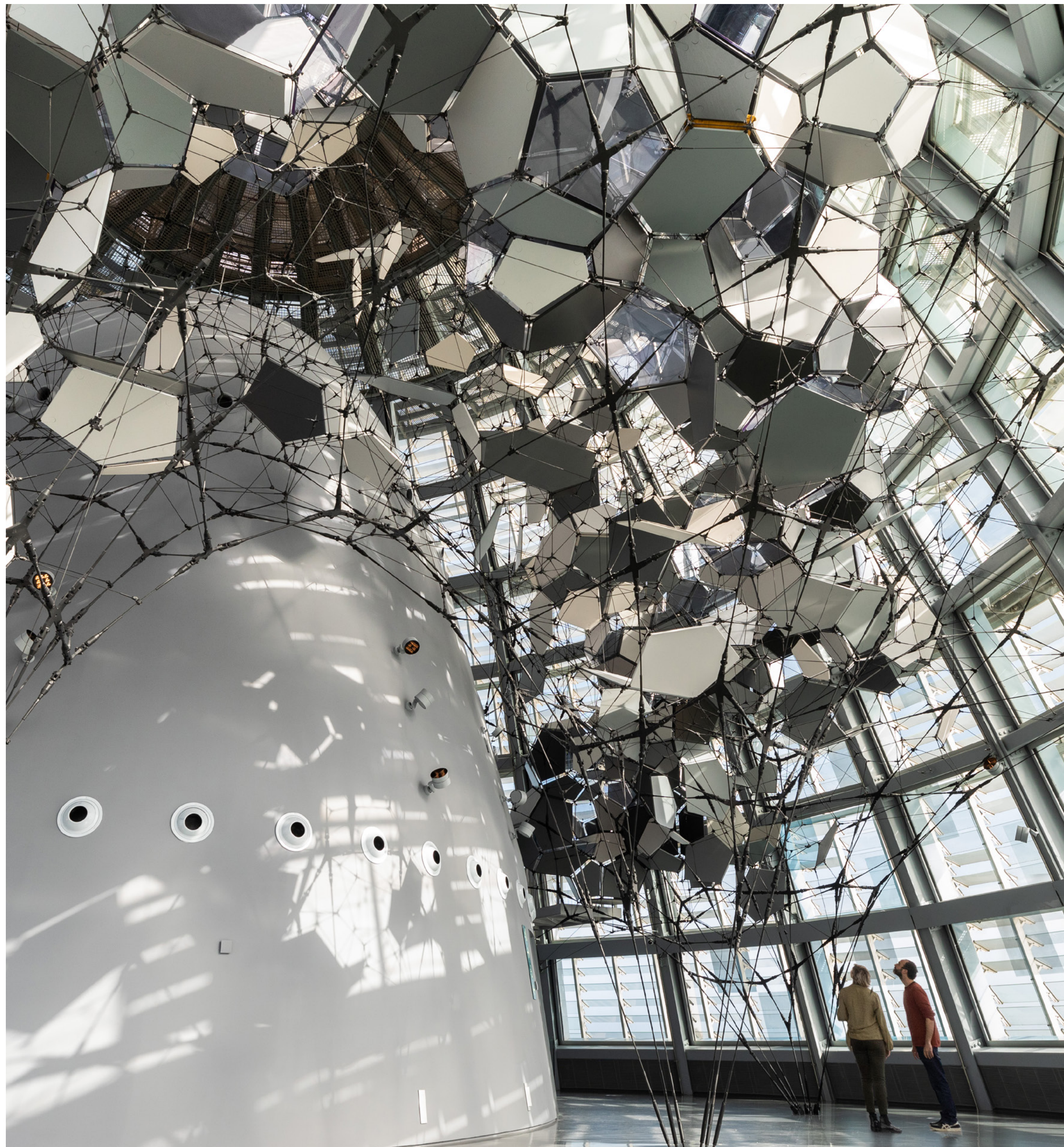
2. The Observation Deck, a spectacular 360° vantage point with Barcelona at its feet and the sky within arm's reach.

After the Hyperview Barcelona exhibition, where visitors have been able to see the other Barcelona that is forever present but often goes unnoticed, the visit to Mirador torre Glòries continues on floor 30, the top floor of the tower. Here, **at a height of 125 metres, is the second vantage point, which provides a 360° view like no other in the city.**

From the place that Ildefons Cerdà envisaged as the absolute centre of his urban plan, visitors can observe the city's two main mountains; its coastline from the Sant Andreu power plant to the hotel W Barcelona; its distinguished neighbour Sagrada Família; the most modern part of the city, 22@ which represents 21st-century Barcelona; and the intersection of its three main roads: Meridiana, Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes and Diagonal. **A unique and privileged observation deck from where the flow and harmony of the city of Barcelona can be admired, the movement of the birds, the clouds, the light and its reflections, the trees and the people.**

In addition to the exclusive views, the dome of Torre Glòries is dominated by an enormous multi-sensory work of art by contemporary artist Tomás Saraceno. A walk-in art installation that also allows visitors to enjoy views of Barcelona from an even greater height.





3. Cloud Cities Barcelona

Cloud Cities Barcelona, by artist Tomás Saraceno, invites participants into a space of communal encounter, discourse and critical speculation. Housed in the 360° observation deck of Mirador torre Glòries, it is Saraceno's first permanent interactive sculpture in southern Europe. The artwork occupies an area of 130 m³ and is composed of 113 cloud spaces, like droplets of water condensing along the strands of a three-dimensional spider's web, made of 5000 nodes connecting 6 km of tensile cables. Moving through the air at a height of between 4 and 10 m above the floor or becoming enveloped by the atmosphere of the cupola's apex, participants can open themselves to a novel sensory experience that converts this observatory into a suspended realm from where they look inwards and outwards, gather and dialogue, immersed in the multiplicity of worlds made manifest in the changing shapes of passing clouds. Wandering along the paths of varying levels of complexity, participants can pause to find a selection of books, an invitation to inhabit shared time and consider alternative constellations of the urban public sphere, speculative architectures, the environmental crisis and the entangled web of life.

For more than two decades, Saraceno has been imagining and activating a world free from fossil fuels, in collaboration with spiders and their webs, situated forms of knowledge and with the vibrant superorganism that is the cosmic web, building an artistic practice of unprecedented variety and scale. Informed by the ground-breaking long-term research and curiosity of the international and interdisciplinary Aerocene and Arachnophilia communities, founded by Saraceno, *Cloud Cities Barcelona* invites participants into a porous cloudscape of tensions in suspension, to engage in collective critical reflections, activate zones of emergence and reconsider worldwide networks of care.





