

Menorca Doc Fest pays tribute to Frank Adrover i Mercadal, the Menorcan photographer who made history in the Dominican Republic

The lecture '**Francesc (Frank) Adrover i Mercadal (1856-1924). From Menorca to the Caribbean: A pioneer of Menorcan and Dominican photography**' will take place on **September 25** at the Thalassa center (Es Castell), at 8 PM, given by photo-historian **Salvador Tió Sauleda**

Salvador Tió Sauleda, chemist and photo-historian, will present a talk dedicated to **Menorcan photographer Francesc (Frank) Adrover i Mercadal**, as part of the 8th [Menorca Doc Fest](#), the island's documentary film and photography festival, sponsored by the Menorca Tourism Development Foundation (FFTM).

The lecture, titled '**Francesc (Frank) Adrover i Mercadal (1856-1924). De Menorca al Carib: Un pioner de la fotografia menorquina i dominicana**' ('Francesc (Frank) Adrover i Mercadal (1856-1924). From Menorca to the Caribbean: A pioneer of Menorcan and Dominican photography'), will take place on **Friday, September 25, at 8 PM, at Thalassa - Centre del Patrimoni Marítim de Menorca**, in Es Castell. Admission is free.

At the same time, we present '**Retrospectiva d'un poble IV**' (Retrospective of a Village IV), on **Carrer d'Enmig, Es Mercadal, from September 25 to October 18**. This is an exhibition of photographs by this Maó-born photographer.

Francesc (Frank) Adrover i Mercadal (1861-1924) is, today, a virtually unknown photographer: very little material from his archive has survived, despite his having been a pioneering figure in photography on an international level. A native of Es Castell, he was the first Spanish photographer to settle in **Santo Domingo** (Dominican Republic), where he is considered a precursor of modern photography for having introduced techniques that were innovative for the time.

Salvador Tió Sauleda's research has focused primarily on the relationships between photography, science, and technique. He has taken part in conferences on the history of photography and has authored several publications in Catalan, Spanish, French, and English. His talk at Menorca Doc Fest offers a new opportunity to rescue the figure of Frank Adrover Mercadal from obscurity and bring him to the attention of the Menorcan public.

Retrospective exhibitions in previous editions

Menorca Doc Fest has previously held retrospective exhibitions in earlier editions, including '**Retrospectiva d'un poble I**', dedicated to **Josep Sintes Abril**, who ran a photo shop and

tailoring business in Es Mercadal from the early 1960s until 1973; '**Retrospectiva d'un poble II**', a tribute to Es Mercadal portrait photographer **Pere Cabacés**, who left his own distinctive mark as a village photographer; and '**Música, teatre i festa a la Menorca de 1973 a 1979**' (Music, Theatre and Festivity in Menorca from 1973 to 1979), presented by the **Arxiu d'Imatge i So de Menorca**, in memory of **Josep M. Vidal Hernández**, an intellectual and scientist who dedicated his life to the island's knowledge, culture, and science during the second half of the 20th century.

Menorca Doc Fest is an initiative by FAR Cultural, sponsored by the FFTM, the Menorca Island Council, and the Institut d'Estudis Baleàrics.

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