

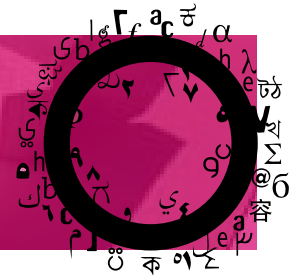


Linguamón The global language factory



Design:
Benedetta Tagliabue
Surface area: 7,000 m²

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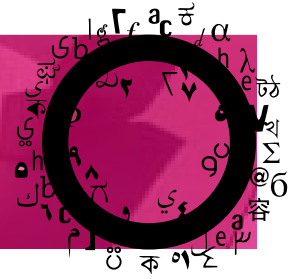
“kolik jazyků znáš, tolikrát jsi člověkem”

Czech proverb

“You live a new life for every language you speak. If you only speak one language, you only live once”



A FOUR-POINT GUIDE TO LINGUAMÓN



WHAT?

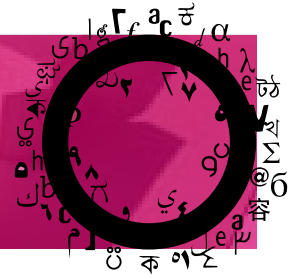
Linguamón – House of Languages is the world's first centre devoted to humankind's linguistic heritage for specialists and the general public alike. It is Catalonia's permanent contribution to the spread of the language-related principles endorsed by the United Nations.



Linguamón endeavours to convey the tremendous benefits that multilingualism entails in a society where it is a major factor in business and trade, social integration and harmonious coexistence. To fulfil its goals, Linguamón works with the United Nations, the European Union, cultural institutions, universities, foundations, the media, and national, regional and local government bodies.



CAN RICART, LINGUAMÓN'S NEW HQ



The House of Languages will be a unique culture and service centre devoted to multilingualism.

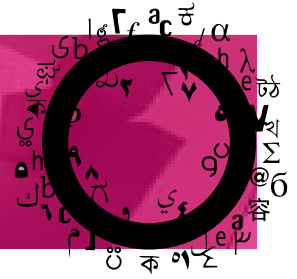
7.000m² devoted to languages

Established on the initiative of the Government of Catalonia, Linguamón – House of Languages organises cultural activities with universal appeal, and generates knowledge and cutting-edge services for a wide range of professionals among whom there is an ever-greater demand for specialised training on managing a diverse, multilingual society. Barcelona City Council has provided 7,000 m² of land for Linguamón's future headquarters at Can Ricart, formerly one of the first factories in Catalonia to mechanically print cotton fabrics and now a symbol of Barcelona's industrial past.

As of 2014, Linguamón – House of Languages will be based at Can Ricart, from where it will continue to arrange globally relevant cultural activities and nurture expertise in managing multilingualism.

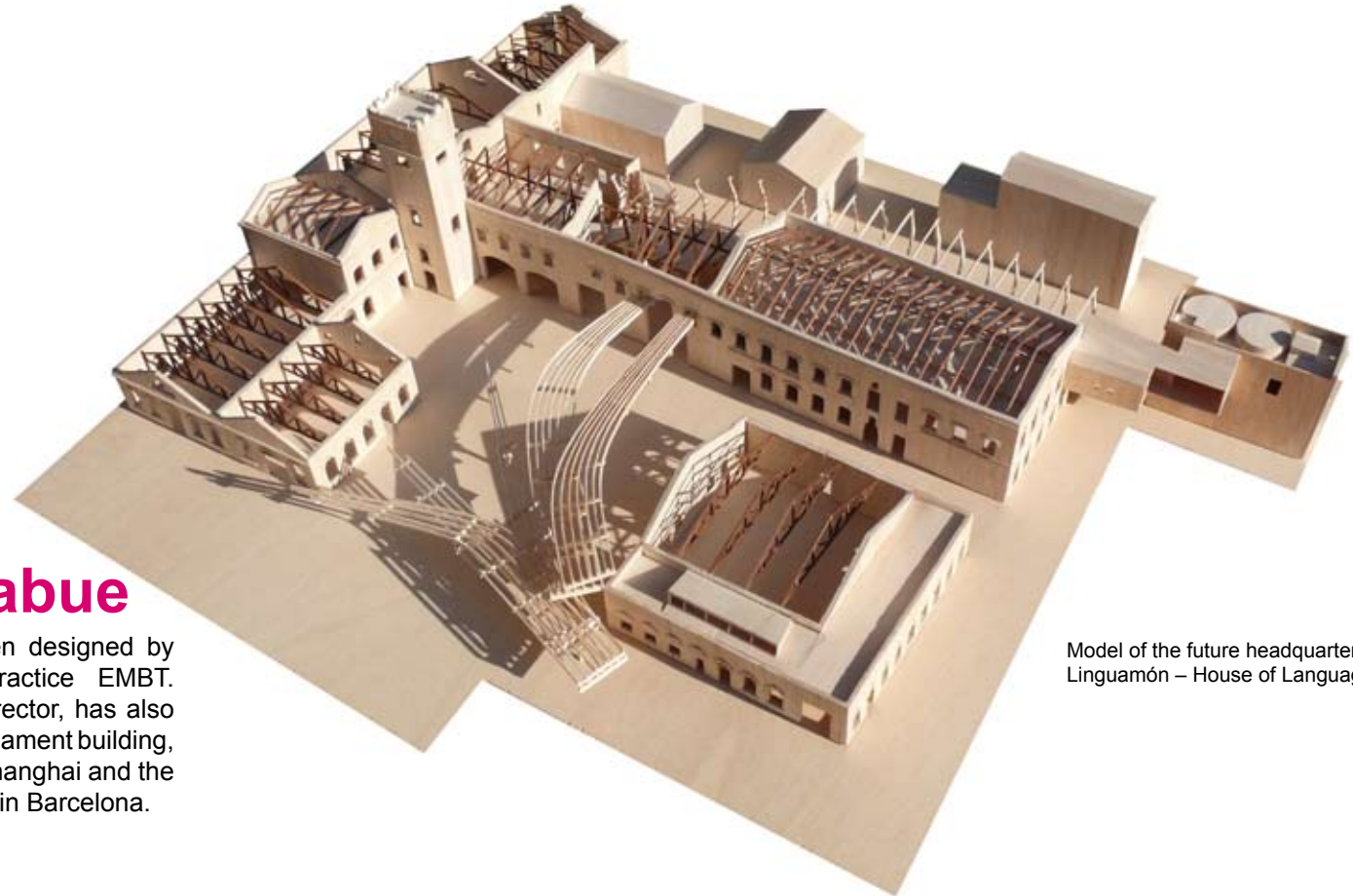


CAN RICART, LINGUAMÓN'S NEW HQ



Design by Benedetta Tagliabue

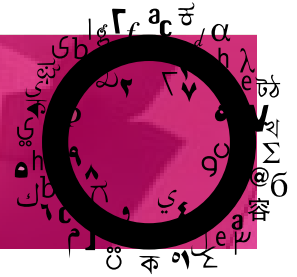
The House of Languages has been designed by Barcelona-based architectural practice EMBT. Benedetta Tagliabue, the firm's director, has also worked on the designs of the Scottish Parliament building, the Spain Pavilion at the Expo 2010 in Shanghai and the restoration of the Santa Caterina Market in Barcelona.



Model of the future headquarters of Linguamón – House of Languages.



CAN RICART, LINGUAMÓN'S NEW HQ



Aerial photo of work taking place at Can Ricart. January 2011. A spirited public campaign led to the former factory complex being declared a National Cultural Heritage Site in 2008.

Restoration work underway at Can Ricart

The first stage of the building work that will transform Can Ricart into the new headquarters of Linguamón – House of Languages began in January 2011.

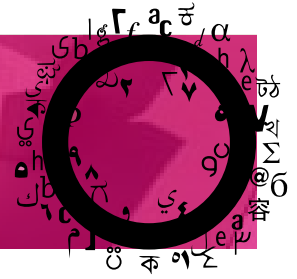
Expected to last 18 months, the stage in question encompasses various preliminary tasks, including site preparation, archaeological surveys, earthwork, laying foundations and erecting initial structures.

In 2008, Can Ricart was declared a National Cultural Heritage Site (the highest status the Catalan authorities can confer on a heritage site) as a result of a vigorous public campaign.

The canricart.linguamon.cat web page has been set up to provide all the latest news on Can Ricart's restoration, as well as information on the site's history.



THE GLOBAL LANGUAGE FACTORY



Arata Isozaki,
Japanese architect



Joan Massagué,
assistant director of the Institute
for Research in Biomedicine in
Barcelona



Luigi Cavalli-Sforza,
professor emeritus at Stanford
University



Paul Auster,
American writer and
film director



Sue Gardner,
Canadian journalist

A journey in 16 languages and 6 alphabets

Linguamón is fully aware that audiovisual media are crucial to the dissemination of knowledge and information in society. The institution has thus begun to develop its own audiovisual material in the form of its Voices collection, an initiative geared to establishing a record of linguistic diversity based on input from the general public. A particular highlight of the collection is the United Voices project, which showcases the views on languages and multilingualism of internationally renowned intellectuals, scientists and cultural figures. Contributors include the writer Paul Auster, the linguist Noam Chomsky, the actress Maria de Medeiros, the anthropologist Eudald Carbonell, and the assistant director of Barcelona's Institute for Research in Biomedicine, Joan Massagué.



Eudald Carbonell,
director of the Catalan
Institute of Human
Paleocology and Social
Evolution



Noam Chomsky,
American linguist and political
activist



Ursula Biemann,
artist



Maria De Medeiros,
actress, singer and
film director

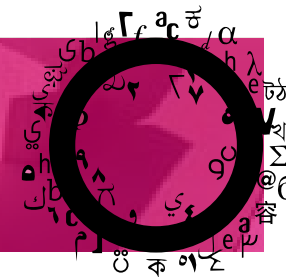


Leonard Orban,
European Commissioner
for Multilingualism

United Voices features renowned figures from all over the world placing their opinions on the importance of languages on record for Linguamón.



THE GLOBAL LANGUAGE FACTORY

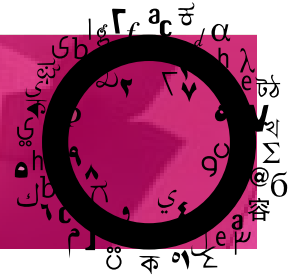


Timeline

- 2005** Linguamón – House of Languages Consortium created on the initiative of the Government of Catalonia.
- 2006** Government of Catalonia and Barcelona City Council establish agreement to base the House of Languages at Can Ricart.
- 2008** Barcelona City Council joins consortium.
- 2008** House of Languages presented to UN as Catalonia's permanent contribution to the principles endorsed through the proclamation of the International Year of Languages.
- 2009** Visitor Centre inaugurated at Can Ricart.
- January 2011** Restoration work begins at Can Ricart.



INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS: NEW YORK / SÃO PAULO / ALEXANDRIA



Linguamón: a world leader in managing multilingualism



Linguamón's global seminars enjoy the support of international bodies and figures leading efforts to promote and enhance the status of linguistic diversity, such as the UN, UNESCO and Gilberto Gil, singer, songwriter and former Brazilian minister of culture.

The Linguamón – House of Languages project is a local undertaking with an international outlook. The institution has played a high-profile role in three global seminars on linguistic diversity, globalisation and development, with a view to making its mark on international discussions on the subject matter in question.

The 1st Global Seminar on Linguistic Diversity, Globalisation and Development took place at the UN Headquarters in New York in December 2008, as part of the International Year of Languages. Linguamón subsequently organised global seminars in Brazil and Egypt in 2009 and 2010 respectively.

Each of the events analysed the role that the media and new technologies ought to play in disseminating and preserving languages.

Further information is available from **globalseminar.linguamon.cat**

