

ORWELL MONEGROS PROJECT

PRESS CONFERENCE: MAY 16th 2017, 11AM

DPH PRESS ROOM | DIPUTACION PROVINCIAL DE HUESCA | HUESCA (SPAIN)

HOMENAJE A ARAGON

AN ART INSTALLATION FOR CDAN – CENTRO DE ARTE Y NATURALEZA

OPENING: MAY 18TH 2017, 7PM

CDAN | CENTRO DE ARTE Y NATURALEZA | HUESCA (SPAIN)

HOMENAJE A LOS MONEGROS

A LAND ART PROJECT IN THE ORWELL TRENCHES, MONEGROS

OPENING: MAY 20TH 2017, 11AM

RUTA ORWELL | SIERRA DE ALCUBIERRE | MONEGROS



PRESS RELEASE

Saturday May 20th 2017 at 11AM opening of "Homenaje a Los Monegros" ("Homage to The Monegros"), the first permanent land art installation in The Monegros, designed for the Spanish Civil War trenches where George Orwell fought against fascism 80 years ago.

Thursday May 18th 2017 at 7PM, opening and presentation of "Homenaje a Aragón", a site-specific extension of the Orwell trenches land art installation for the CDAN – Centro de Arte y Naturaleza of Huesca (Spain).

The Orwell Monegros Project, dedicated to the memory of George Orwell, includes more cultural events, and will be presented in details to media and journalists at a press conference on Tuesday May 16th 2017 at 11AM in the DPH Press Room - Diputación Provincial de Huesca, Calle Porches de Galicia, 4, 22002 Huesca (Spain).

The site-specific land art installation "Homenaje a Los Monegros", designed and created by the Italian artist **Burningmax** (art moniker of Massimo Burgio, who has been living in The Monegros over the last couple of years) is dedicated to the memory of one of the most inspirational writers of our times, **George Orwell**.

The British writer spent a few months in The Monegros, while fighting against fascism on the Aragon front of the Spanish civil war (1936-1939), as he reports in his book "Homage to Catalonia", and as recently celebrated by various local institutions in the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the presence of George Orwell in The Monegros. Thanks to Orwell's account of his experiences in the Spanish Civil War as reported in "Homage to Catalonia" it has been possible to localize the trenches where the British writer fought against fascism. The civil war trenches of Mt. Irazu in the Sierra of Alcubierre (Monegros) are known today as "Ruta Orwell", and became a popular tourist destination after the recent restoration of the historic site, and the creation of a hiking trail to reach it. The trenches of the Ruta Orwell have also been recently awarded, for the second year in a row, with the "Aragon seal of tourism excellence".

Homenaje a Los Monegros is a "site-specific" land art installation, expressly designed by the artist for the Orwell trenches. An installation based on a strong visual impact that reinterprets the horrors of the Spanish civil war (and of all wars) using contemporary languages. A tribute to the inspirational figure of George Orwell, to the historic memory of The Monegros, and to a culture of peace. The official opening of the art installation in the Orwell trenches is planned for **Saturday May 20th 2017 at 11AM in the Ruta Orwell**. The artist will be present, as well as representatives of the institutions and media that support the project, including the executive board of The Orwell Society and its patron Richard Blair, son of the British author (whose real name was Eric Arthur Blair).

Homenaje a Los Monegros is promoted and supported by Ayuntamiento de Alcubierre (Huesca), The Orwell Society, Diputación Provincial de Huesca (DPH), Comarca Los Monegros and CDAN – Centro De Arte y Naturaleza.

CDAN, the Huesca art foundation dedicated to Land Art, has a collection that includes works by masters such as Richard Long, Ulrich Rückriem, Siah Armajani, Fernando Casás, David Nash, Alberto Carneiro and Per Kirkeby, will be hosting an "extension" of the installation in the Orwell trenches, designed by Burningmax for their museum spaces in Huesca, Spain. The opening of the "satellite" art installation for the CDAN **Homenaje a Aragón** will take place on **Thursday May 18th, 2017 at 7PM at CDAN – Centro de Arte y Naturaleza**, with presentation of the work and a guided visit.

The two art installations are part of the wider **Orwell Monegros Project**, created by Burningmax as a multidisciplinary tribute to George Orwell and its relations with the land of The Monegros. The project includes other cultural initiatives that will get announced in detail soon, and that will enrich the cultural calendar of The Monegros with exhibition of historic photography, music concerts and the projection in Alcubierre of a documentary about George Orwell, plus a cycle of "dystopic cinema" in Sariñena, and educational initiatives for school kids across The Monegros. The Project will be presented to journalists and media in a **press conference**, on **Tuesday May 16th 2017 at 11AM in the DPH Press Room** - Diputación Provincial de Huesca, Calle Porches de Galicia, 4, 22002 Huesca, Spain.

More info is available at the project website <http://www.orwellmonegros.com> -

In English and Spanish, the site includes a gallery of mock-ups of the art installation, a blog that follows the development of the project, and maps with directions to reach the Orwell trenches in the Sierra of Alcubierre, and the installation for the Ruta Orwell.

Official Partners of the initiative:

Ayuntamiento de Alcubierre <http://www.alcubierre.es>

The Orwell Society <http://www.orwellsociety.com>

CDAN – Centro De Arte y Naturaleza <http://www.cdan.es>

DPH - Diputación Provincial de Huesca <http://www.dph.es>

Comarca Monegros <http://www.losmonegros.com>

Press contacts:

Phone: +39 339 8944088 | Email: burningmax@gmail.com | Web: <http://www.orwellmonegros.com>

