FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 30, 2016

TWO EXHIBITIONS AT UC BERKELEY COMMEMORATE THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

GUERRA CIVIL @ 80
An exhibition commemorating the 80th anniversary of the start of the Spanish Civil War and honoring the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, the American volunteers who served.

September 1, 2016 - July 1, 2017
Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm*
2nd floor corridor between The Bancroft Library and Doe Library
University of California, Berkeley
Website: [http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library/current-exhibits](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library/current-exhibits)
*Library hours can vary; check [lib.berkeley.edu/hours](http://lib.berkeley.edu/hours).

INCITE THE SPIRIT: POSTER ART OF THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR
September 6 - December 16, 2016
Monday through Friday, 10 am to 4 pm*
Townsend Center for the Humanities, 220 Stephens Hall
University of California, Berkeley
Website: [http://townsendcenter.berkeley.edu/events/incite-spirit](http://townsendcenter.berkeley.edu/events/incite-spirit)
* The exhibit is located in a space also used for events and meetings; please call (510) 643-9670 or email in advance to confirm room availability.
Marking the 80th anniversary of the beginning of the Spanish Civil War, the exhibition Guerra Civil @ 80 features selections from The Bancroft Library's Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, Bay Area Post records and photographic collections, along with posters, books, pamphlets, and other ephemera. A visual and textual display of the struggle to defend the Second Spanish Republic, the exhibition documents the role of both the Republicans, who were defending the democratically elected government, and the Nationalists, the right-wing rebel forces led by General Francisco Franco. The exhibition also addresses how the war, which unfolded from 1936 to 1939, affected the lives of the people of Spain and American volunteers fighting on the front lines or assisting in the war effort, as well as how the conflict precipitated an intense creative response from within and outside Spain.

As the war progressed, the role of artists in formulating propaganda for the government took on a feverish pitch. Images and ideas that had been formulated in the context of the Second Republic were now brought out in defense of a government now under siege. Political posters constitute some of the most important artifacts that remain from the Spanish Civil War. While posters were produced by both sides of the conflict, this particular grouping of digital prints digitally reproduced from originals in The Bancroft Library and showcased in both the Bancroft exhibition and more prominently in the companion exhibition Incite the Spirit: Poster Art from the Spanish Civil War demonstrates those in support of the Republican cause. Encompassing the perspectives of the political parties, trade unions and various other organizations as well as some of the international groups supporting the cause, the posters and facsimiles of other unique primary sources on display provide a powerful testimony in the fight to save the Republic from fascism. Most of these materials were collected and brought back by members of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, volunteers from the United States who fought with the Republican army from 1936-1939.

These two exhibitions are made possible through generous support from and interdisciplinary collaboration between The Bancroft Library, the University Library, the Townsend Center for the Humanities, the Department of Theater, Dance & Performance Studies, and the Department of Spanish & Portuguese.

A complete list of events on the Berkeley campus commemorating the 80th anniversary of the start of the Spanish Civil War can be viewed at http://spanishcivilwar80.berkeley.edu.

Contacts

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