

## SOCIAL EVENTS

**MONDAY 5**

**GARDEN OF CATALONIA PALACE OF CONGRESSES**

**19:00 h**

### WELCOME RECEPTION

Cocktail will be served during the performance

#### THE GIANTS OF PALAMOS

The Palamos giants made their first public appearance in 1974 during the celebration of the Corpus Christi festivities. They were originally made of papier-mâché by the Valencian model-maker Vicenç Luna i Cervero. In 1992, a fibreglass replica was made and now these are the models that



travel around to appear in all types of celebrations and events. There is a group of volunteers that look after the giants, transporting them to other cities and towns and making them dance when they participate in street parades, dances and festivals.

The giants of Palamos represent Peter (Pere) II, "the Great", one of Catalonia's famous kings, and his wife Constance of Sicily. King Peter (Pere) "the Great" was the founder of Palamos as he considered the excellent strategic situation of the area made the coast of Palamos the ideal place for a port, behind which the maritime village of Palamos was established.



#### "GRALLER" AND "GRALLUTS" PLAYERS OF PALAMOS (Typical Catalan musical instrument)

The "gralles" are a popular instrument used extensively throughout Catalonia, they are very characteristic and symbolic of a strong sense of national pride. "Gralles" are a double reed instrument with a very peculiar sound and are often accompanied by a drum playing special rhythms. The "gralla" players of Palamos provide the music while the giants dance and also accompany them when they are parading through the streets. The Gralluts is comprised of a "tenora" (a typical Catalan instrument), the characteristic instrument in any Coblà Sardanista (Sardana Orchestra), and "tarotes" (another typical Catalan instrument), a predecessor of the "tenora". They are also accompanied by a large drum to provide powerful bass notes.

#### ESBART DANSAIRE MESTRE CIRES OF PALAFRUGELL

A troupe of dancers from the Palafrugell group (typical Catalan folk dancing).

The sardana and stick dancers is a very old dance that has extended itself throughout Catalonia and become a symbol of our land.

#### HAVANERES

The style of the Habanera was born in Cuba a century ago as a descendant rhythm of the European country-dance, known in the island since the XVII century. The country-dance was an English dance from England in the XVI century. Cuban musicians adapted new rhythms and formulas in the original melodic structure influenced by Negro Caribbean tradition. Cuba already owned rhythms and singable songs which were so popular. The roots are in the Spanish romances of the XIV century, brought to the island as a result of the Spanish influence. The professional musicians of the country knew how to develop a Son, Danzones, Country-dances and finally Habaneras. In Catalonia there has always been a tradition that groups of people sing the music of their times in the taverns, meaning that they sang fragments of the better-known zarzuelas, and therefore also their Habaneras.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY 7**

**CAVAS CODORNIU**

**20:00 h**

### GALA DINNER

Bus will depart at 20:00 h from all organization hotels to Sant Sadurní d'Anoia, where Cava CODORNIU are placed.

Return will be at 23:00 h to Barcelona.



Constructed by the modernist architect Josep Puig i Cadafalch, the impressive Codorníu cellars, in Sant Sadurní d'Anoia in the region of the Penedès (Barcelona), constitutes not only one of the greatest facilities of Spain in their type, but also a valuable architectonic set, whose value of genuine "cathedral of the wine" comes authenticated by its condition of Artistic Historical Monument assigned to the catalogue of the National Patrimony.

