

ART at HOME

#ArtacasaSuñolSoler

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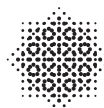
**LOOK, THINK, FEEL, EXPERIMENT,
LEARN, ENJOY**

the art of the Josep Suñol Collection from home and with your family.

GO AHEAD!



Fundació Suñol



Fundació Glòria Soler

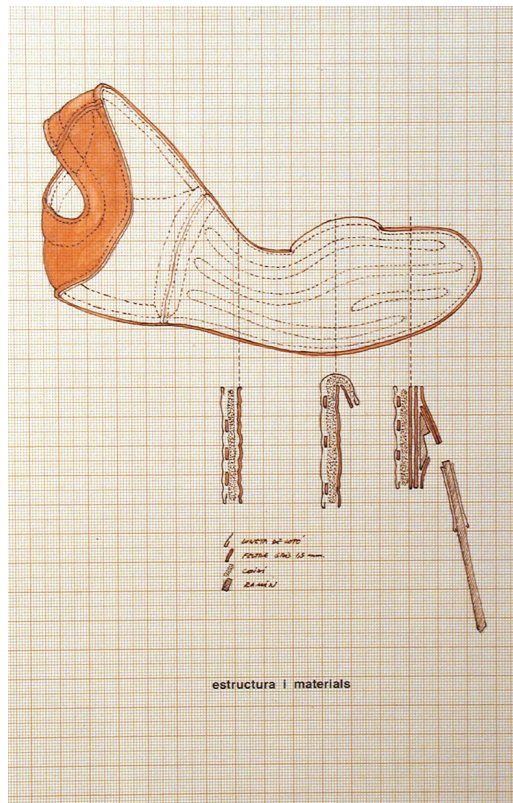
PROSTHESIS FOR THE SOUL

A prosthesis is an addition to the human body of an artificial part or device that replaces a missing organ or part of an organ. It is a functional element that proposes an improvement in bodies considered incomplete or imperfect. It is often considered that art does not have a utilitarian dimension. It would therefore be the antithesis of what a prosthesis represents... But what if art was a prosthesis for the soul?



[Photography by Roberto Ruiz]

RAMON GUILLEN-BALMES | *Small support for Txema Retana* | 1993



RAMON GUILLEN-BALMES | *Small support for Txema Retana* | 1993

LOOK AND DISCUSS

Analyse all the elements that make up the piece: three documents and an object leaning on the wall. What sense do you give to the whole?

How does the object relate to the photograph?

What does the name of the work suggest to you? This piece, moreover, corresponds to the artist's series *Use Models*: What does this name refer you to?

The object includes a sculpture made out of felt: a soft, warm and tender material. How do you interpret the use of this material in relation to the global meaning of the proposal?

THE ARTIST SAYS

"I speak of the prosthesis especially in those pieces that were conceived for a certain function, what I call proposals or commissions. There is a direct relationship with the person who shares his or her desire with me, who I respond to with a proposal for a piece, a 'use model' that has to work, even if only once. I am interested in the useful side of things that I would like to grant to the artistic object, to the sculpture. What is essential is not the piece itself, but the relationship I end up having with the person commissioning it."

EXPERIMENT

The origin of this piece is a wish expressed in writing by a friend of the artist, asking for support to deal with his entry into prison as a consequence of an act of passive resistance. The artist's response was to make an object out of felt that would be a prolongation of the body, like a prosthesis, with the idea of dealing with this physical and emotional problem.

We invite you to carry out a similar experiment.



Write down a wish, a dream or a personal, physical or emotional necessity. Ask your companion or someone near to you to think of an object that could synthesize a way of responding to it or fulfilling what you have written. Swap roles, now you think about a "prosthesis" to fulfill the wish that someone expresses to you.

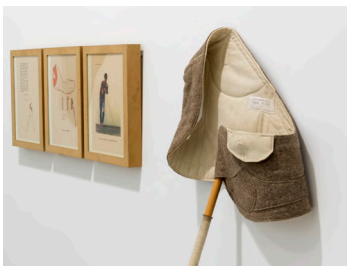


If you want, send us a photograph of the drawing or share it on social media. [f](#) [i](#) [t](#)

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WISH

DRAWING



Ramon Guillen-Balmes works on the assembly of various objects, as well as on the use of materials of natural origin, often in relation to the body. In the 1990s he started to elaborate the *Use Models* from the proposals the artist would make to people close to him and the commands he received from friends and people he knew, to make “something” that helped them fulfill a wish or solve any lack. His work, therefore, combines poetic experience, transformation of matter and a certain utopian character with a political dimension.
