



# Antoni Clavé

## L'esprit du guerrier

Edited by Silvana Editoriale

<b>ISBN</b>	9788836652075
<b>Publisher</b>	Silvana
<b>Binding</b>	Hardback
<b>Territory</b>	UK, Ireland, Scandinavia, Iceland, Germany, Greece, Eastern Europe, & Austria. Arab States non-exclusive. Selected territories in Asia, non-exclusive
<b>Size</b>	280 mm x 250 mm
<b>Pages</b>	200 Pages
<b>Illustrations</b>	100 color
<b>Price</b>	£29.00

- Accompanies exhibitions at ACP - Palazzo Franchetti, from 22 April - 23 October 2022 and Fondazione Donwahi from 23 March - 27 May 2023

Born in Barcelona in 1913, Antoni Clavé was first confronted by war in 1937. The theme of the warrior is found very early on in his art and is among the subjects that ensured him public recognition in Paris by 1958. In contact with the sculptures and African masks that he surrounded himself with in his ateliers, the figure of the warrior remained fundamental to Clavé's work and haunted him his whole life. It was the artist's favourite title and subject, and is an obsessive recurring image in Clavé's sculptures, paintings, textile and wood assemblages through to the early 2000s.

It is through the prism of the memory of African masks that this catalogue takes a new look at the art of Antoni Clavé. Homage, admiration, appropriation, his connection to the arts of Africa is multiple. Clavé takes up his artistic weaponry to assert his pictorial identity, which is one of absolute modernity, timeless and universal.

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Text in English and French.