



“Media and Mediated Performances of Ethnicity”

## **MESEA**

**The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies:  
Europe and the Americas**

**8th Biennial Conference**

**“Media and Mediated Performances of Ethnicity”**

**Blanquerna School of Communication  
Ramon Llull University  
Barcelona, Spain**

**June 13–16, 2012**



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## Conference Information

1. MESEA: Society for Multi-ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas
2. Blanquerna Faculty of Communication
3. Local Organizers
4. Conference Venue: Location, Access, Addresses, Map
5. Registration and Welcome Dinner (details forthcoming soon)
6. Lunch and Coffee Breaks (details forthcoming soon)
7. Conference Reception (details forthcoming soon)
8. Conference Banquet (details forthcoming soon)
9. Young Scholars Excellence Award
10. Performance and Readings Evening (details forthcoming soon)
11. Conference Tour (details forthcoming soon)
12. The City of Barcelona and Ramon Llull University
13. Arriving at Barcelona Airport and Transport to City Center
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### 1. MESEA

#### The Society for **M**ulti-**E**thnic **S**tudies: **E**urope and the **A**mericas

MESEA was founded in 1998 in response to the challenge of ethnic studies in a time of increasing globalization to provide an international forum for interdisciplinary discussion on multiethnic studies. The Society promotes the study of the ethnic cultures of Europe, Africa, and the Americas in their circumatlantic relations from a transdisciplinary literary, historical and cultural studies perspective. The society acts as a forum for cooperation between universities, political institutions, and ethnic communities and supports the scholarly and cultural exchange among them in order to further intercultural understanding. MESEA currently has approximately 200 members from over 30 countries.



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MESEA holds its biennial conference in the spring, an event that brings together hundreds of international scholars to discuss issues related to the society’s concerns. Conference topics have included: the place of ethnic communities in democratic societies, comparative perspectives on ethnic studies, ethnic lifewritings and histories, questions of migration, and sites of ethnicity. MESEA Conferences have been held in Heidelberg, Germany (1998); Orleans, France (2000); Padua, Italy (2002); Thessaloniki, Greece (2004); Pamplona, Spain (2006); Leiden, Netherlands (2008); Pécs, Hungary (2010).

The Association also promotes lively publishing activities. Apart from its journal, *Atlantic Studies*, and the official volume of essays that develop from the conferences, other books have been published based on MESEA activities or specific panel sessions at the biennial meetings.

MESEA’s website: <http://mesea.org>

### ***Executive Board***

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## **2. Blanquerna Faculty of Communication, Ramon Llull University**

The Blanquerna Faculty of Communication is an undergraduate and graduate school of Ramon Llull University that provides job training in the arts, sciences and technical studies alongside tutoring and research.

The University trains journalists, audiovisual communication professionals, advertisers and public relations professionals through a personalised methodology which combines theory and practice and encourage students’ creativity, critical analysis and interdisciplinary work.

Blanquerna Faculty of Communication: <http://www.blanquerna.url.edu>

## **3. Local Organizers**

Dr. Josep Maria Carbonell Abelló (Dean of Communication)

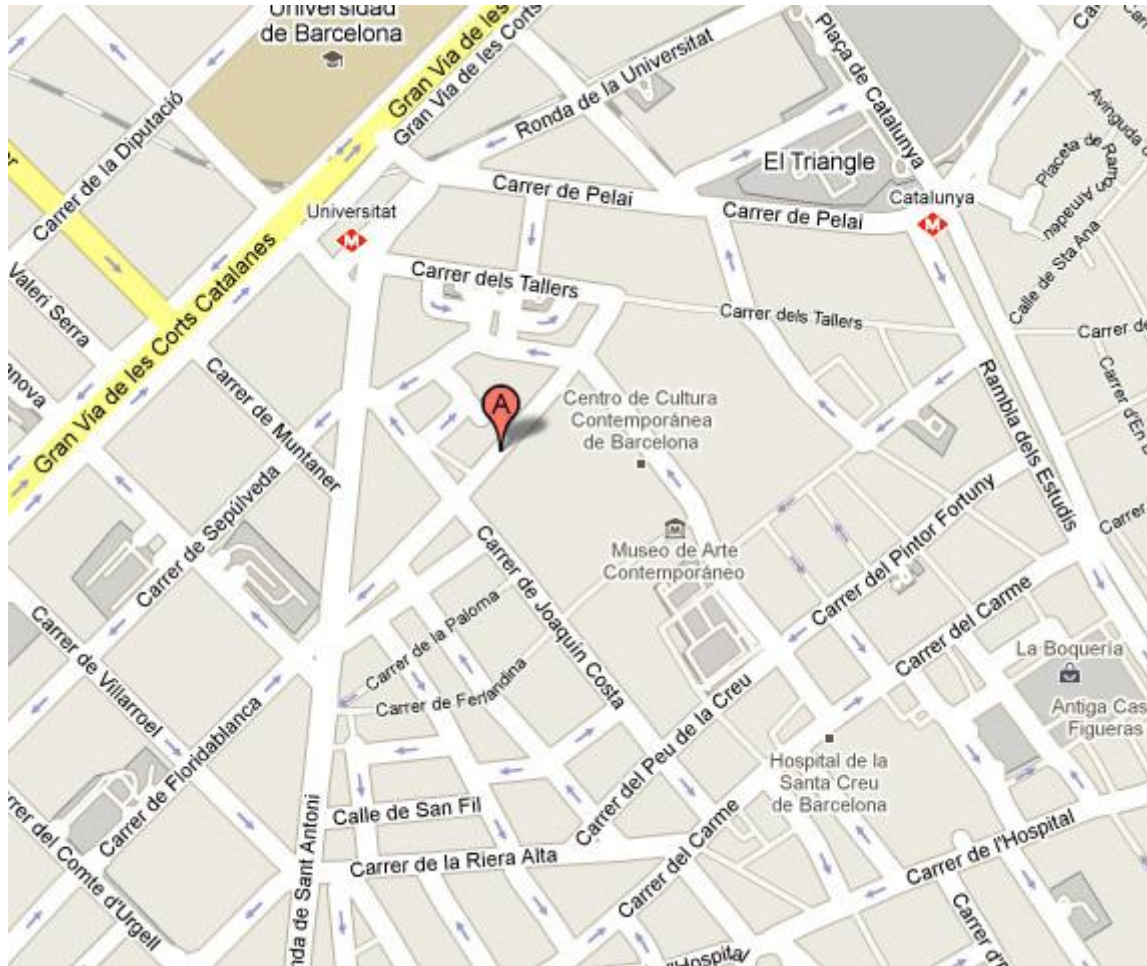
Dr. Pere Masip (Vice Dean of Research)

Dr. Joan Barata (Vice Dean of International Affairs)

Dr. Joan Cuenca (Local coordinator)

Dr. Klaus Zilles (Local coordinator)

#### 4. Conference Venue: Location, Access, Addresses, Map



#### **Points of interest:**

- Library of Communication Blanquerna, 12 Valldonzella Street. Reception, Main Conferences Venue, Opening, Keynotes and Parallel Sessions.
- Faculty of Communication Blanquerna, 23 Valldonzella Street. Parallel Sessions, coffee breaks and cafeteria. (A).
- National Trains RENFE Railway Station and local bus terminal, Plaça Catalunya.
- Underground: lines 1, 2 and 3, Plaça Catalunya and Plaça Universitat.



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The *Facultat de Ciències de la Comunicació Blanquerna* consists of two buildings. The main building with classrooms, administration, offices, and computer rooms is located at 23 Valldonzella Street. It is only a 3-minute walk to 12 Valldonzella Street, the Blanquerna Mediateque, library, and auditorium. Panel workshops will all be held at 23 Valldonzella Street, while all keynote lectures will be held in the auditorium in the basement of 12 Valldonzella Street.

The two buildings are located in the Raval district, one of the oldest neighborhoods in the Barcelona city center. The Ramblas Street, a wide Boulevard which connects Plaça Catalunya with the Columbus Monument, is within ten minutes walking distance along Tallers Street.

Barcelona’s major avenue, the Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, more commonly known simply as Gran Vía, is also within short walking distance.

The Faculty’s main building is connected by a large public courtyard with the **CCCB** (Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona) and the **MACBA** (The Barcelona Contemporary Art). The surrounding streets offer a wide variety of small shops, businesses, restaurants, and cafés.

## **5. Registration and Welcome Dinner (Tuesday, June 12)**

Registration for the conference on Tuesday, June 12 will be from 18:00 to 19:00 in the lobby of 23 Valldonzella Street. Registration will continue on Wednesday, June 13, through Friday, June 15, starting at 9:00 daily.

**Details forthcoming**

## **6. Lunch and coffee breaks**

During coffee breaks, pastries and hot and cold drinks will be served in the cafeteria/dining room of the Faculty of Communication Blanquerna, 23 Valldonzella Street.

The cafeteria is also available for lunch. There are numerous choices for lunch around the university as well. Please consult the list of restaurants in your conference folder.



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## **7. Conference Reception (Wednesday, June 13)**

**Details forthcoming**

## **8. Conference Banquet**

The Conference folder includes, for those who have prepaid, a voucher for the **conference dinner** to be held at **Hotel Catalonia Ramblas**. Entrances: 62-64 Tallers / 28 Pelai.

Dinner will begin at 20.30 and will include food and wine, accompanied by live music. The event will be an opportunity to meet and share different experiences in a relaxed atmosphere.

**Details forthcoming.**

## **9. Young Scholars Excellence Award**

The winners of this year's **Young Scholars Excellence Award** will receive their award at the Opening Ceremony.

## **10. Performance and Readings Evening**

We will be hosting our traditional evening of performances and readings presented by some of our conference participants.

**Details forthcoming**



## **11. Conference Tour and Sightseeing**

A special tour of Barcelona’s Modernist architecture and parks will be arranged for our participants.

**Tour and booking details forthcoming**

## **12. The City of Barcelona and Ramon Llull University**

Barcelona is the capital of Catalonia. Less than two hundred kilometres from the French border, Barcelona is on the Mediterranean coast, which is the reason for the pleasant climate in the Catalan capital and its essentially Mediterranean culture and history.

As well as the sea, mountains are also part of Barcelona's landscape. The city, which covers an area of 100.4 square kilometres, is surrounded by the Collserola hills to the west and by the hill of Montjuïc, which climbs up from the coast. Numerous small hills, like Monterols, Putget, Carmel, Rovira and Peira, rise above the Barcelona plain, which is bordered by two rivers, the Llobregat to the south, and the Besòs to the north.

The origins of Barcelona date back to the first century BC, when the Romans established a small colony called Barcino around Mont Tàber (Taber Hill). The remains of two Roman walls bear witness to this time. From the 4th to the 13th centuries, Barcelona expanded and consolidated the urban centre established by the Romans. At the end of the 13th century, a second wall was built around the Santa Maria del Mar church, a symbol of medieval Barcelona. This was where the Ribera barri, the neighbourhood of craftspeople, arose.

The city's unstoppable growth was reinforced by trade with the Americas and nascent industrialization, which broke the Ancien Régime. However, the real revolution did not occur until centuries later when the walls were demolished to redevelop the city on the basis of Cerda's expansion plan, the Pla Cerdà de l'Eixample.

This was a time when the first railway united Barcelona and Mataró, symbolizing the industrial prosperity that would soon be reflected in architecture. Wealthy industrial families had Modernista icons built, including Parc Güell, Casa Milà and Casa Batlló.



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At the beginning of the 20th century, Barcelona was already a modern city, a melting pot of social and cultural movements. The outbreak of the Spanish Civil War in 1936 and the resulting Franco dictatorship meant the city lived through a bleak period, even though it continued to grow economically, especially from the 1950s onwards.

The return of democracy and the announcement that Barcelona would host the 1992 Olympic Games turned the city into an international reference point, marking the start of the transformation that has continued with events like the 2004 Forum of Cultures, urban redevelopment projects like the 22@ technology district, and buildings such as the Torre Agbar.

Catalan, the official language of Catalonia, is spoken in Barcelona, as is Spanish, the official language of Spain. The two Romance languages co-exist in Barcelona, where you can also hear many other languages, given the importance of tourism and the fact that the city is a meeting point for various cultures.

Barcelona, the capital of Catalonia, is Spain's second largest city in terms of inhabitants. Spain is a European Union member State and is divided into autonomous regions. In the case of Catalonia, self-government dates back to the Middle Ages. The *Ajuntament* is the City Council which represents, governs and administers the city's interests. In addition, Barcelona has a legal standing that guarantees and reinforces the city's autonomy, namely the *Carta Municipal*, the municipal charter approved by the parliaments of Catalonia and Spain.

The city is bubbling all year round. Alternative art galleries, urban sport, festivals, fairs, exhibitions and more fill the calendar with ideas that bring us closer to a culture always hanging on the latest trends, not just personal but also urban, artistic, and culinary. Yet Barcelona people have fixed habits and therefore they like to look after and promote their history, preserving buildings and streets, while maintaining their traditions throughout the year. Celebrations like the Festa de la Mercè, literally the "Festival of Our Lady of Mercy", the city's patroness, is a very good example of this. It is also important to mention the folk festivals in each of the city neighbourhoods, notably those in Sants and Gràcia, where every year they follow the same traditions, with giant figures, human towers, and folk music.

Barcelona faces the sea and, as a result, became a large gateway through which, during the course of its history, knowledge, traditions, customs, and new consumer products have moved -- an inexhaustible source of wealth, not



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only from Europe, but also from all the lands around the Mediterranean and beyond. Although, culturally, Barcelonians have fed themselves through this always open window, they are people of habit, with fixed times and hours, as well as a family character. We can therefore assert that their cultural growth has always rested on a formula that is very much their own and which is difficult to copy: an interesting mix of local traditions and others that have come from outside.

**Ramon Llull University** was founded on March, 1 1990 and proclaimed by unanimous vote by the Parlament de Catalunya (Catalan Regional Parliament) on the May 10, 1991. It is a private, non profit-making university providing a public service. Its aim is to offer quality in training that is person-centred and meets society's needs.

Its founding centres are: the current Facultat de Filosofia (Faculty of Philosophy), which goes back to the last century; the Institut Quimic de Sarrià (Chemical Institute), founded in 1905; the Fundació Blanquerna (Blanquerna Foundation), set up in 1948 as "Escola de Magisteri" (Teacher Training College); La Salle, which goes back to 1903.

Ramon Llull University encompasses a series of federated higher education centres with a long history in Catalonia. These institutions, along with the Fundació del Cercle d'Economia and personalities of Catalan civil society, under the chairmanship of Cardinal Narcís Jubany, created the University on the 10th of October 1989.

In the years since it first opened its doors, the Ramon Llull University has extended its activities and, at present, it comprises the following federated institutions: the Chemical Institute, the Blanquerna Foundation, La Salle Engineering and Architecture, the Faculty of Philosophy, the Ebro Observatory, ESADE (Higher School of Business Management and Administration), the Pere Tarrés Faculty School of Social Education and Social Work, the Vidal i Barraquer Mental Health Institute, the Borja Bioethics Institute, and the ESDi Higher School of Design (as an affiliated centre).

The federal structure of Ramon Llull University supports the personality of its Centres and allows for a high degree of agility, flexibility and adaptability. It is a university option in tune with the demands of an increasingly dynamic and demanding society.



### **13. Arriving at Barcelona Airport and Transport to City Center**

#### **Arriving at Barcelona Airport (BCN).**

Barcelona International Airport (also known as El Prat de Llobregat Aeropuerto or Aeroport de Barcelona) is situated 13 KM South West of the city centre. The airport has 2 terminals: Terminal 1 (T1) and Terminal 2 which has 3 separate buildings called T2A, T2B and T2C.

<http://www.barcelona-tourist-guide.com/en/airport/barcelona-airport.html>

For a detailed review of all the transport methods between the airport and Barcelona city centre [click here](#) or click on the respective transport means below.

#### **Taxis**

[More information on Barcelona airport taxis](#)

A Taxi offers a low-cost and convenient way to get to the city centre. From Terminal 2 (T2A , T2B and T2C) - the fare is around 25 Euros and the journey takes around 25 - 30 minutes (depending on traffic).

From Terminal 1 a taxi takes about 30 – 35 minutes to the city centre and costs around 30 euros.

There is an extra charge for luggage which is added to the fare showing on the taxi meter.

#### **Aerobus A1 and A2**

[More information on the airport Express Bus Service](#)

The Aerobus is the express bus service that runs regularly between the airport and the city centre.

If you are going to Terminal 1, you will need to catch the A1 Aerobus – this journey takes 25–30 minutes. If you are going to Terminal 2, you will need to catch the A2 Aerobus – this journey takes 30–35 minutes. Both buses look the same, but have different numbers on the front. The cost for the Aerobus service from both Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 is 5.30 Euros for a single and 9.15 Euros for a return journey (the ticket is valid for 9 days).

To get to the **Ramon Llull University**, get off at **Placa Universitat**.



### **Trains** from the Airport

[More information on train service](#)

The RENFE train will take you from Barcelona airport to the city centre where you can change for the metro system at either Barcelona Sants (Sants Estacio) or Passeig de Gracia stations. Tickets cost 3.15 Euros. Journey time is about 25 minutes. The Train station is based at T2, in-between T2A and T2B. Therefore, if you are arriving at T1 and want to catch the RENFE train into the town centre you will first need to catch the airport shuttle bus to the Train station at T2.

[FAQ: Frequently asked questions on Barcelona Airport](#)

## **14. Getting Around: Public Transportation, Taxis, and Bicycle rental**

The main public transport operator is the TMB (Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona). The Integrated Fare System means you can use different modes of transport (metro, urban, metropolitan and interurban buses, tram, Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat de Catalunya trains and Rodalies de Catalunya trains) on a single travel card, which means there is no need to pay again when changing from one to another. Under this system you can use four different modes of transport and make three changes within an area and period of time established for the number of zones for which the travel card is valid.

Fare information: <http://www.tmb.cat/en/bitllets-i-tarifes>.

**Taxis:** The yellow and black Barcelona taxis are ubiquitous and relatively inexpensive, and there is usually no need to order a taxi cab by telephone. (Though if you need to do so call 933 033 033 or 933 300 300.) Just wait at the curb and hail a taxi. The green light on the roof and the "libre" or "lliure" signs behind the windscreen indicate unoccupied cabs. Pay only the fare shown on the meter (unless you carry bulky luggage, for which an extra charge is added). You may add a tip of a Euro or two if you are satisfied with the service.



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**Bicycle rental:** Barcelona has a community bicycle rent program called "bicing" (generally pronounced "bee-thing"). You will see the bicing bikes and the rental stations all over the city. However, this system requires a yearlong membership and is not aimed at tourists. There are numerous commercial bike and scooter rental businesses that cater to visitors. Click on the following links to access their web sites:

<http://www.budgetbikes.eu/>

<http://www.vesping.com/>

<http://www.barcelonarentabike.com/>

There is also a scooter rental called Barcelona Moto Rent in the same street as the conference venue at 41 Valldonzella Street.

### **15. Use of computers & WiFi access**

Conference participants are invited to use both the computers in the reading rooms of 12 Valldonzella Street and the computers in the computer room in the basement of 23 Valldonzella Street. Also, all lecture and classrooms are equipped with computers and screening equipment.

Wireless Internet (WiFi) is accessible everywhere at the Faculty and Library. A password to access both WiFi and the computer terminals will be provided in your conference folder.

### **16. Copy and Print**

If you need to print a document, or make photocopies, we suggest you save it on a USB flash drive and make copies at one of the two copy shops right next door to the entrance of 23 Valldonzella Street.



### **17. Climate and Safety**

Temperatures in Barcelona in June and July may range from the mid-twenties to the low-thirties (centigrade). Hot weather is not an uncommon at this time of the year.

Barcelona is for the most part a very safe city, but do keep your belongings safe from some very clever and skilled pickpockets. Never leave your luggage, purse, or laptop unattended.

### **18. Sightseeing**

For those of you who are not already familiar with the city's layout and main sights, we recommend the Barcelona Bus Tours or "Hop on and hop off tourist buses", as they are colloquially known. These allow you to view the city from the open deck of a double-decker bus. You can hop on and off at whatever destinations you have chosen to reach, take your time to visit, get back on, and continue the tour. Alternatively, you may just choose to experience the full tour in one go, gaining an overview of what the city has to offer and taking note of particular places of interest to return to. Even visitors who are generally averse to "tourist bus tours" may be pleasantly surprised by the experience.

The buses leave from Plaça Catalunya and tickets are sold at the Tourist Office (located underground) at the corner of Plaça Catalunya just in front of the Corte Inglés department store. Also, see links to web sites below with more detailed information.

<http://www.barcelona-tourist-guide.com/en/tour/barcelona-bus-tour.html>

<http://www.viator.com/Barcelona-tours/Hop-on-Hop-off-Tours/d562-g12-c97?pref=02&aid=g1856>

### **19. Hotel Information**



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## Hotel and Hostel suggestions

Barcelona is a wonderful city but it also has its price. MESEA has reserved a number of rooms at special conditions. These hotels/hostels are available on a first-come-first-served basis. Please mention the MESEA conference when you make your reservations. All hotels are close to Plaza Universitat, Plaza Catalunya and Las Ramblas, i.e. within walking distance of the conference. You can, of course, hunt for your own special deals using the Internet.

## University student residences

Prices vary from residence to residence according to season, occupation, and special discounts. Please visit the English-language website for details and to make your reservation.

<http://resa.es/eng/Residences/Investigadors/location>.

### **Residencia d'Investigadors**

(12 double rooms and 15 singles)

### **Residencia Campus del Mar**

(17 doubles and 27 singles)

### **Residencia Torre Girona**

(21 doubles and 7 singles)

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### **Residencia Lesseps**

[http://www.resa.es/eng/content/search?SearchText=Lesseps&enviar=+&SubTreeArray\[\]=2](http://www.resa.es/eng/content/search?SearchText=Lesseps&enviar=+&SubTreeArray[]=2)

Double room as single: Monday-Friday 59.50 EUR, weekends 45 EUR

Double room: Monday-Friday 86 EUR, weekends 63 EUR

Tax included

Additional services: Fold out bed 26 EUR per night for children under 12.

Crib (no charge under 2).

Conchita Pamplona

Residència Universitària Lesseps

Plaça Lesseps, 12

08023 Barcelona

Tel. 933 941 600

Fax 933 941 601

[lesseps@resa.es](mailto:lesseps@resa.es)



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## Hotels

### Hotel Mesón Castilla-Barcelona

<http://www.mesoncastilla.com/>

Single room: 91.20 EUR

Double for single use: 109 EUR

Double room: 120.80 EUR

All rooms have a private bath/shower.

Tax included.

Breakfast buffet included

A credit card number is required to guarantee a reservation.

Contact code: MESEA Reservation reference 69012

These rooms will be available until March 31

Amparo

5 Valldoncella Street

08001 Barcelona

Tel: +34 933182182

Fax: +34 934124020

[info@mesoncastilla.com](mailto:info@mesoncastilla.com)

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### Hotel CiutatVella

<http://www.ciutathotels.com/en/hoteles-apartamentos/hotel-ciutat-barcelona/>

Double room: 123 EUR + 8% VAT per night

Double room for single use: 113 EUR + 8% VAT per night

Breakfast included.

A credit card number is required to guarantee a reservation.

Elena Eizaguirre

Cap de Recepció

Tel: 93.481.37.99

Fax: 93.481.38.05

Contact code: MESEA

10 rooms will be available until April 10.

[e.eizaguirre@ciutathotels.com](mailto:e.eizaguirre@ciutathotels.com)



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### Hotel Turin

<http://www.hotelturin.com/>

Double for single use:  
Without breakfast: 103.16 EUR  
With breakfast included: 114.17 EUR

Double:  
Without breakfast: 115.06 EUR  
With breakfast: 137.10 EUR  
Tax included

A credit card number is required to guarantee a reservation.  
These rooms will be available until May 10, 2012  
Reservation reference: 75692 MESEA

Anna  
HOTEL TURIN  
C/ Pintor Fortuny 9  
08001 BARCELONA  
Tel 933024812  
Fax 933021005  
[reservas@hotelturin.com](mailto:reservas@hotelturin.com)

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### Silken Hotel

[www.silkenramblas.com](http://www.silkenramblas.com)

“Comfort” class rooms  
Double used as single: 107 EUR  
Double: 110 EUR  
Breakfast included  
Tax included

MESEA reservation reference: Congreso MESEA  
These rooms will be available until May 12

Rony Villarroel  
Hotel Silken Ramblas  
c/ Pintor Fortuny, 13  
08001 Barcelona  
Tel. +34 93 342 61 80  
Fax. +34 93 302 79 77

[reservas.ramblas@hoteles-silken.com](mailto:reservas.ramblas@hoteles-silken.com)