



New light on the Thyssen

With the collaboration of Fundación Bancaria “la Caixa” and Sylvania, the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza has embarked on an ambitious project to update the lighting in its permanent collection and temporary exhibition galleries. This is scheduled to be completed in the first quarter of the present year.

The fact that the Museum’s lighting system was outdated, together with the new potential offered by the most advanced LED technology, encouraged the decision to embark on this project which will ensure greater energy saving, improve the conservation of the works on display and optimise the experience of looking at them in conditions as close as possible to natural light. Fundamental to the “New light on the Thyssen” project is the support of Fundación Bancaria “la Caixa”, which has supported the museum in the past, for example with its sponsorship of the exhibition *Pissarro* in 2013, and with which it will undoubtedly continue to work in the future.

The museum is now replacing all its lights with cutting-edge LED units, which offer the highest chromatic performance, lower energy consumption and a more precise degree of adjustment in brightness. The project involves the installation of three types of **Concord projectors by Sylvania**, which have been adapted to the museum’s specific requirements: the **Beacon Muse II** (a focal projector), the **Beacon XL Muse** (offering high power), and the **Beacon Wallwash** (for covering entire walls). Together they offer the following advantages:

More information and images:

Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza
Press office
Paseo del Prado, 8. 28014 Madrid.
Tel. +34 913600236
prensa@museothyssen.org



- Uniform illumination of the works and the galleries.
- Ability to highlight colours and tonal nuances, with a high degree of chromatic fidelity that boosts dark zones and produces more luminous and intense colours, particularly reds. Small details are also easier to appreciate.
- Reduction in glare produced by reflections.
- More visually comfortable to look at works thanks to the strategic location of the light sources.
- Reduction of the number of projectors, which have more versatile accessories. These are long-lasting lighting units and accessories which offer a wider range of lighting solutions.
- More attractive lighting units, which are better integrated into the museum, more compact and less intrusive.
- A versatile, self-focusing projector with a photographic camera particularly recommended for temporary exhibitions.
- Lights no longer blink, which makes the visitor's viewing experience more comfortable and allows for video filming without a stroboscopic effect.
- Warm lighting (2,700 K), which better integrates the collection and its setting.

When compared to the amount of energy required by the halogen system used in the museum up to now, and in relation to energy consumption on lighting in 2017, the estimated saving with the new LED system will be 60%. The cost of lighting the works of art has represented 12% of the museum's energy consumption up to now. This will go down to 5% with the new LED system, for which reason with the present "New light on the Thyssen" project, the total energy saving at the museum will be 7%, representing a saving of approximately 29,000 Euros a year (298,600 Kwh in comparison to the present 4 million).

This year, 2018, **Fundación Bancarí "la Caixa"** (of which the current president and director are Isidro Fainé and Jaume Giró, respectively) has increased funding for its Obra Social [Social Collaboration] activities to 520 million euros. This amount makes Fundación Bancarí "la Caixa" Spain's leading private foundation and one of the most important in the world. Its social programmes, which are focused on the major challenges of today's society, including unemployment, combatting social exclusion and access to housing, continue to account for a large percentage of its efforts. The majority of its spending (59% of the total budget) goes to running these social and assistance programmes: 23% is allocated to the promotion of culture and education; and 18% to research and grants.

Sylvania is a leading supplier that offers a complete range of professional and architectural lighting solutions. With a century of experience in the sector of lights and lighting systems, Sylvania provides cutting-edge products and systems to the public sector, private companies and individuals on an international level. The company offers optimum products, services and professional advice. Clients include Volvo, the Hilton hotel chain, Decathlon, the Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando and numerous other prestigious names. Across the world Sylvania's clients place their entire confidence in the firm's different brands (including Concord) due to their high quality solutions and effectiveness, which are furthermore adapted to each customer's particular lighting requirements.