

## Robert Gerhard

2020 has been designated Gerhard Year by the Generalitat de Catalunya to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the composer's death.

Born in Valls in 1896, Robert Gerhard i Ottenwaelder studied with Enric Granados, and was pupil of Felip Pedrell, first, and Arnold Schönberg, later, who introduced him to dodecaphonic music. Afterwards, he became interested in electroacoustic and concrete music, being one of the precursors in Catalonia.

Gerhard was a teacher at the *Escola Normal* and collaborated with the Publications Committee of the Generalitat de Catalunya at the time of the Republic. Between 1934 and 1939 he was librarian of the Music Section of the *Biblioteca de Catalunya*, where he organized, together with the musicologist Higiní Anglès, the 3rd Congress of the SIM and the 14th Festival of the SIMC in Barcelona in 1936.

In 1939, to avoid possible reprisals, he remained in Paris until, with the help of friends and colleagues, he went into exile to Cambridge, where he died in 1970.

Open and free access

Registration available at

<http://www.bnc.cat/Visitas/Activitats/Recordant-Robert-Gerhard>

Live streaming of presentations at

[www.bnc.cat](http://www.bnc.cat)

 **Biblioteca  
de Catalunya**

 Generalitat de Catalunya  
**Departament de Cultura**

Seminar

## REMEMBERING ROBERT GERHARD (1896-1970)



Barcelona  
Biblioteca de Catalunya  
Thursday, 19th March 2020

# Seminar Program

## Biblioteca de Catalunya

Hospital, 56  
08001 Barcelona



### 9.00-9.30 h

Welcome. Eugènia Serra, director of the Biblioteca de Catalunya.

### 9.30-10.15 h

The reception of Gerhard in Catalonia.  
Edmon Colomer, conductor.

### 10.15-11.00 h

Gerhard and Schönberg.  
Paloma Ortiz de Urbina, professor of the Universidad de Alcalá.

### 11.00-11.30 h Coffee break

### 11.30-12.15 h

Gerhard and the sound experimentation.  
Gregorio García Karman, director of the Studio für Elektroakustische Musik der Akademie der Künste, Berlín.

### 12.15-12.45 h

Excerpts of "The Explorer" (1969), a Barrie Gavin documentary on Robert Gerhard produced by the BBC. With the kind support of Pietat Homs and Ramon Ribé.

### 12.45-13.30 h

The musical aesthetics of Robert Gerhard.  
Magda Polo, professor of the Universitat de Barcelona.

### 13.30-15.00 h Lunch time

### 15.0-15.45 h

A selection of incidental music by Gerhard.

Margarida Ullate i Estanyol, director of the Sound and Audiovisual Unit of the Biblioteca de Catalunya.

### 15.45-16.30 h

The roots of Gerhard into the Catalan folk music.  
Julian White, musicologist.

### 16.15-17.00 h

Exhibition of documents.

# Concert

## Teatre Principal de Valls

Jaume Huguet, 10  
43800 Valls

### 20.30 h

*L'art de la fuga*, with works by Bach, Gerhard and Beethoven, among which the *Concerto for clave, string and percussion* (1955-56) by Robert Gerhard

Camerata Eduard Toldrà.

Dani Espasa, clave.

Edmon Colomer, conductor.

