

# Re-enactment: Lilly Reich's Work Occupies the Barcelona Pavilion

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Letter, Lilly (Lilli) Reich to Eduard Ludwig from 4.1.1944 (copy).

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Transcription and translation from German by Anke Blümm.

\**Note:* The archive only preserves a black and white copy of the letter.

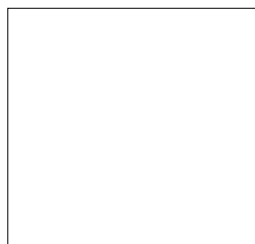
The whereabouts of the original is unknown.

“In der ersten Nacht brannten die Nachbarhäuser zum Ufer hin und die ganze Lützowstr. Meine Wohnung war so demoliert daß ich sie so schnell als möglich räumen mußte, aber erst mußte der Brand nebenan gelöscht werden um unser Haus zu retten. Als der dann in Ordnung war und ich alles Zur Abreise vorbereitet hatte, fiel eine Phosphor-Bombe durch meine Küche in die darunterliegende Wohnung und da kein Puffer da war, brannte sofort alles. Ich konnte nicht mehr in meine Wohnung Da die Rauchentwicklung zu stark war konnte also Nichts mehr retten. Es ist mir noch furchtbar viel Verbrannt und leider sehr viel mir sehr liebe persönliche Erinnerungen die ich z. Tl. zurechtgelegt hatte um sie Am nächsten Tag mitzunehmen. **Die großen Fotos von Barcelona**, die Briefe von Mies aus den letzten Jahren u.

noch immer viele Bücher. Und alle Möbel, Betten, darunter meine so gute Küchen-einrichtung und Bilder und Wäsche.”

“In the first night the neighboring houses were burning near to the shore and the whole Lützowstrasse. My apartment was so damaged that I had to empty it as soon as possible, but first the fire next-door had to be extinguished to rescue our house. When this was in order and I had prepared everything to leave, a phosphorous boom fell through my kitchen in the apartment below and as there was no buffer, everything burnt at once. I could not go back into my apartment because the smoke was so heavy I could not rescue anything. Unfortunately, many things burnt, many of them very valuable and personal: memories that I had partly prepared to take with me the following day. **The big photos of Barcelona**, the letters by Mies of the past years and

also many books. And all furniture, including my very nice kitchen-equipment, pictures, and linen.”



Plan of the series of Palaces of the 1929 Barcelona International Exposition, published in Lilly Reich (ed.), *Exposición Internacional de 1929. Catálogo Oficial de la Sección Alemana*. Berlin: Reichsdruckerei, 1929. Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona, AHCB.

\**Note:* The numbering of the Palaces in the layout (30, 7, 10, 11, 9, 6, 5, 4, 46) corresponds to a general order of the 1929 International Exposition. It is not coincident with the sequence of the itinerary of the German Sections originally installed in the different Palaces, which is reenacted in this intervention.

The documentary sequence constructed in this horizontal display-case corresponds to the order of the visits on the day of the official opening, which also coincides with the one kept along the pages of the catalogue.

**Architects of the Noucentista Palaces:** Palace of Metallurgy, Electricity and Motive Force: Amadeu Llopart, Alexandre Soler i March; Palace of Communications and Transport: Félix de Azúa, Adolf Florensa; Palace of Textile Arts: Joan Roig, Emili Canosa; Palace of Projections: Eusebi Bona, Francisco Aznar; Palace of Industrial and Applied Arts: Manuel Casas, Manuel Puig; Palace of Agriculture: Josep Maria Ribas i Casas, Manuel Maria Mayol; Palace of Graphic Arts: Raimon Duran i Reynals, Pelai Martínez; Southern Palace: Antoni Millàs.

**Abbreviations:** **AFB:** Arxiu Fotogràfic de Barcelona / **AGFB:** Arxiu General de Fira de Barcelona / **ANC:** Arxiu Nacional de Catalunya / **AHCB:** Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona / **AHCB-FC:** Arxiu Històric de la Ciutat de Barcelona – Dipòsit Filmoteca de Catalunya / **BAH:** Bauhaus-Archiv | Museum für Gestaltung / **BNE:** Biblioteca Nacional de España / **IEFC:** Institut d'Estudis Fotogràfics de Catalunya / **BM-KSW:** Bauhaus Museum - Klassik Stiftung Weimar / **LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA:** Lilly Reich Collection, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe Archive. The Museum of Modern Art, New York / **OEPM:** Oficina Española de Patentes y Marcas / **PCF:** Private Collection Frankfurt / **SBD:** Stiftung Bauhaus Dessau, Bauhaus Dessau Foundation

1	4	7	10
2	5	8	11
3	6	9	12

**Layout of the stands | Chemical Section,  
Palace of Metallurgy, Electricity and Motive Force**

**Area: 2.300m<sup>2</sup> E: 1/300 | © AGFB**

**1** - Freestanding wall with samples of colorants and feedstocks for the industry of I.G. Farbenindustrie A.G. in the main area dedicated to chemical products.

© LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**2** - Patent of invention no. 114.388 for “A continuous extraction procedure,” in favour of registered name I.G. Farbenindustrie A.G., resident in Frankfurt am Main. Request submitted at 12.20 am on August 13, 1929 [fig. 1]. © OEPM

**3** - Perimeter paneling, freestanding textiles and M.R. furniture ensembles in the stand of I.G. Farbenindustrie A.G. Visit of Gustav Ernst Stresemann, German Minister of Foreign Affairs, on June 18, 1929. © ANC, Josep Maria Sagarra i Plana Fund, Josep Maria Sagarra i Plana

**4** - Wall display-cases on the perimeter of the area dedicated to pharmaceutical products. I.G. Farbenindustrie A.G. and Chemische Werke vorm H. & E. Albert stand out. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**5** - Patent of invention no. 110.743 for “A rotatory furnace to concentrate by evaporation of liquids” in favour of registered name Chemische Werke vorm H. & E. Albert, resident in Wiesbaden-Biebrich. Request submitted at 11.05 am on December 29, 1928 [fig. 1, 2]. © OEPM

**6** - Wall display-case and M.R. furniture ensemble in the stand of Chemische Werke vorm H. & E. Albert. © Unknown – PCF

**7** - Vertical screens and other freestanding elements in the stand of E. Merck toward the area of I.G. Farbenindustrie A.G, with an M.R. furniture ensemble at the foot of the cruciform column. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**8** - Patent of invention no. 116.153 for “A process and device for the manufacture of wood wool wrappers” in favour of E. Merck, resident in Darmstadt. Request submitted at 12.53 am on 19 December 29, 1929 [fig. 1, 2]. © OEPM

**9** - Vertical display-case and screen in the stand of Schering-Kahlbaum A.G., with reagents for analyses and camphor. © Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, VEGAP, Barcelona, 2020 – BAH

**10** - Wall display-case on the perimeter of the area dedicated to pharmaceutical products, including I.G. Farbenindustrie A.G. and Beiersdorf & Co A.G.

© LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**11** - International trademark no. 64.506 for “Medicines, chemical products for medicine and hygiene, drugs and pharmacy preparations, plaster, cloths for bandages, products for the destruction of animals and vegetables, disinfectants, products for the conservation of aliments, chemical products for the industry and the sciences, medical and hygienic instruments and bandaging” in favour of P. Beiersdorf & Co, A.G., Hamburg. Request submitted on August 26, 1929. © OEPM

**12** - Wall display-cases of Beiersdorf & Co. A.G. and Po-ho Sanitäts-Werk Otto Joh. Jul. Witt & Söhne companies. © ANC, Josep Maria Sagarra i Plana Fund, Josep Maria Sagarra i Plana

13		
14	16	17
15	18	19

## Layout of the stands | Machinery Section, Palace of Metallurgy, Electricity and Motive Force

**Area: 2.700m<sup>2</sup> E: 1/300 | © AGFB**

**13** - Circular tube railing and M.R. furniture ensemble. Close-up of a steam hammer of J. Banning, A.G. In the upper gallery, the Information Office of the German Official Centre of Fairs and Expositions. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**14** - Patent of invention no. 115.710 for a “Procedure to load electric fusion furnaces” in favour of the registered name Demag A.G., resident in Duisburg. Request submitted at 10.55 am on November 22, 1929 [fig. 1, 2]. © OEPM

**15** - Large horizontal display-cases at the stand of Demag A.G. Official opening, May 27, 1929. © ANC, Gabriel Casas and Galobardes Fund, Gabriel Casas and Galobardes

**16** - Patent of invention no. 110.476 for “A propeller drive” in favour of the Professor Dr. Ing. Hugo Junkers, resident in Dessau-Anhalt. Request submitted at 12.17 am on December 13, 1928 [fig. 1, 2, 3]. © OEPM

**17** - Patent of invention no. 110.476 [fig. 4, 5, 6, 7]. © OEPM

**18** - Circular tube railing, vertical display-cases and M.R. furniture ensembles in the central area with Junkers-Motorenbau G. m. b. H. and A. Borsig G. m. b. H. Upper gallery, at the rear, with the Information Office of the German Official Centre of Fairs and Expositions.

**19** - Circular tube railing in correspondence with the spatial structure of the Palace from the stand of Demag A.G. © Jaume Roca Oliva – IFNC

20			
21	22	26	
23	24	25	27

## Layout of the stands | Palace of Communications and Transport

**Area: 3.300m<sup>2</sup> E: 1/300 | © AGFB**

**20** - Circular tube railing and M.R. furniture ensemble distributed around the spatial structure of the Palace, from the stand of Daimler Benz A.G. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**21** - Patent of invention no. 116.232 for a “Device to automatically take and remove cars transported with the airway trolleys” in favour of Adolf Bleichert & Co., A.G., resident in Leipzig-Gohlis. Request submitted at 12.31 am on December 28, 1929 [fig. 1, 2, 3]. © OEPM

**22** - Patent of invention no. 116.232 [fig. 4, 5]. © OEPM

**23** - Circular tube railing and vertical display-cases. Aerial view from Adolf’s Bleichert & Co A.G. stand, published in the article “The Exposition and the German Week Viewed by a German New-comer.” © Pérez de Rozas – Diario Oficial de la Exposición Internacional de Barcelona 1929, BNE

**24** - Circular tube railing and M.R. furniture ensemble between Stoewer-Werk A.G. eight-cylinder automobiles. © ANC, Josep María Sagarra i Plana Fund, Josep María Sagarra i Plana

**25** - Circular tube railing around Daimler-Benz A.G. stand during the official opening. The NAG Nationale Automobil-Gesellschaft A.G. stand in the background. © Pérez de Rozas – AFB

**26** - Patent of invention no. 108.854 for “An auxiliary provision of additional front sled for large aeroplanes” in favour of Dornier Metallbauten G. m. b. H. and D. Claudius Dornier, residents in Friedrichshafen a. b. Request submitted at 12.36 am on August 9, 1928 [fig. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]. © OEPM

**27** - Stand of Dornier Metallbauten G.m.b.H. with models for airplanes. © Pérez de Rozas – AFB

28	33	34
29	30	35
31	32	36

### Layout of the stands | Palace of Textile Arts

**Area: 2.800m<sup>2</sup> E: 1/300 | © AGFB**

**28** - Circular tube railing between the stands of Mauser-Werke A.G. and Elite-Diamantwerke A.G., with rectilinear sewing machines. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA  
**29** - Patent of invention no. 104.689 for “An endless ribbon with pattern wheel for knitting and knitting machines” in favour of Chemnitzer Strickmaschinenfabrik A.G., resident in Chemnitz. Request submitted at 11:39 am on October 6, 1927 [fig. 1]. © OEPM

**30** - Patent of invention no. 104.689 [fig. 2]. © OEPM

**31** - Circular tube railing, M.R. chair and armchair in the stand of Erich Barth, with automatic circular knitting machines. © ANC, Josep Maria Sagarra i Plana Fund, Josep Maria Sagarra i Plana

**32** - Circular tube railing and M.R. furniture ensemble in the C. G. Haubold A.G. stand with textile machinery. Wall display-cases in the Leo Lammertz stand in the background. Photograph published in “The German contribution in the Barcelona Exposition.” © Unknown – Diario Oficial de la Exposición Internacional de Barcelona 1929, BNE

**33** - Textiles as enclosures and structural elements in the central area of the stand of the German Silk Industry (Deutsche Seide). © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**34** - Wall display-cases with furniture textiles and artificial silk curtains of the I.P. Bemberg A.G. German Silk industry stand (Deutsche Seide) on the left side. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**35** - Certification of addition to the patent of invention no. 112.773 for a “A procedure for the wet treatment of artificial silk in the form of skeins” in favour of I.P. Bemberg A.G. established in Barmen-Rittershausen. Request submitted at 12:44 am on April 30, 1929 [fig. 1]. © OEPM

**36** - Entrance threshold at the stand of German Silk industry (Deutsche Seide). © Berliner Bild-Bericht – PCF

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### Layout of the stands | Palace of Projections

**Area: 680m<sup>2</sup> E: 1/300 | © AGFB**

**37** - Patent of exploitation no. 15 for the industry of paper, fabric, cardboard and all class of light sensible supports, through diazo-combinations. Request submitted at 11:53 am on September 16, 1929. © OEPM

**38** - Display-case with optical industry products of the Emil Busch A.G. company in the main space of the Palace. Reserved area for I.g. Farbenindustrie A.G. AGFA in the background. © *Die Bauegilde*, LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

*\*Note: Wrong caption in the original publication: “Chemie Palast” (Chemistry Palace).*

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### Layout of the stands | Palace of Industrial and Applied Arts

**Area: 1.000m<sup>2</sup> E: 1/300 | © AGFB**

**39** - Wall display-cases in the area of celluloid, porcelain, crystal, silver objects. P. Bruckmann Söhne A.G. stand, with “Silver cutlery, silver alpaca cutlery, silver plates, sport trophies, manufacturing silver, polished crystal and engraved crystal embedded in silver.” © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**40** - Trademark no. 72.444 to distinguish “General silverware” (sixth group, class 54) in favour of the Sirs. P. Bruckman Söhne A.g., residents in Heilbronn a/N. Request submitted on June 16, 1928. © OEPM

**41** - Wall display-cases in toys area. Staatsfachschnle für Spielwarenherstellung and Wendt & Kühn stands, around Gebr. Märklin & Cie G.m.b.h. stand. © ANC, Gabriel Casas and Galobardes Fund, Gabriel Casas and Galobardes

39

40

41

42	46
43	47
44	45

### Layout of the stands | Palace of Agriculture

**Area: 1.200 m<sup>2</sup> + 120 m<sup>2</sup> E: 1/300 | © AGFB**

**42** - Circular tube railing and vertical display-cases in the area of agricultural machinery and for alimentary purposes. Heinrich Lanz A.G. stand, with Schulte & Cie A.G and Seitz-Werke G.m.b.h stand in the background. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**43** - Patent of invention no. 113.217 for “Ice-cream machine with direct drive by electric motor” in favour of the registered name Schulte & Cie. A.G., resident in Teuerbach – Württemberg. Request submitted at 12.52 am on May 28, 1929 [fig. 1]. © OEPM

**44** - Schulte & Cie A.G. stand, with “Blender machines / Scracht and peeled almonds machines / Ice cream makers / Coffee roasters.” © ANC, Josep María Sagarra i Plana Fund, Josep María Sagarra i Plana

**45** - External porch of the area of agricultural machinery and for alimentary purposes, with the stands of Hartung A.G., Gebr. Claas, Stock Motorpflug A.G. © Sasha Stone, Berliner Bild-Bericht – BM-KSW

**46** - Freestanding walls and M.R. furniture ensemble in the Hackerbräu beer stand in the area of viticulture and beer fabrication, with pasteurized beer bottles and beer kegs patented for pasteurization. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**47** - Trademark no. 5.337 to distinguish “Beer” in favour of the society Actiengesellschaft Hackerbräu, resident in Munich. Request submitted on October 14, 1896. © OEPM

*\*Note:* Exception made outside the dates of development of the Exhibition project, to reveal the seniority with which some German companies were already established in Spain.

### Layout of the stands | Palace of Graphic Arts

**Area: 690m<sup>2</sup> E: 1/300 | © AGFB**

**48** - Horizontal and vertical display-cases in the Deutsche Buchkunst der Gegenwart and Direktion der Reichsdruckerei stands, printers of the official guide edited by Lilly Reich. Chr. Hostmann- Steinberg’sche Farbenfabriken G.m.b.h. stand on the side. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**49** - Horizontal and vertical display-cases in the Deutsche Buchkunst der Gegenwart and Direktion der Reichsdruckerei stands, printers of the official guide edited by Lilly Reich, view from behind the Graphic Arts and the book Section. © LRC, LMvdR Arch. MoMA

**50** - Patent of invention no. 114.538 for “A new device for the manufacture of carbon black, by dissociation of gases prone to decomposition” in favour of the registered name Chr. Hostmann Stenberg’sche Farbenfabriken G.m.b.h. Request submitted at 12.10 am on August 19, 1929 [fig. 1]. © OEPM

**51** - View from behind the Graphic Arts and the book Section published in the article “German Books on Spain.” © Photo “Sport” Diario Oficial de la Exposición Internacional de Barcelona 1929, BNE

**52** - Vertical display-case from behind the Graphic Arts and the book Section published in the article “German Books on Spain.” © Photo “Sport” – Diario Oficial de la Exposición Internacional de Barcelona 1929, BNE

**53** - International trademark no. 58.336 for “Coverage of sheets, of walls and tables”: Stragula, in favour of Deutsche Linoleum-Werke, A.G., Bietigheim. Request submitted on October 10, 1928. © OEPM

*\*Note:* DLW provided the linoleum floor for the Palaces of Metallurgy, Electricity and Motive Force, Communications and Transports, Textile Arts and Graphic Arts.

48	49
50	53
51	52

54	56
55	57

## Layout of the stands | Southern Palace

**Area: 1.550m<sup>2</sup> E: 1/300 | © AGFB**

**54** - Patent of invention no. 109.711 for “Part of table of contents for printing moulds of machines for addresses’ printing” in favour of Adrema Maschinenbauges. m. b. H. resident in Berlin. Request submitted at 11:53 am on October 4, 1928. © OEPM

**55** - Circular tube railing, M.R. furniture ensemble and vertical display-cases in the German Section in the background of the Southern Palace, viewed from the United States Section. © ANC, Gabriel Casas and Galobardes Fund, Gabriel Casas and Galobardes

**56** - Patent of invention no. 106.125 for “A water purge head” in favour of the registered name Flottmann A.G., resident in Herme. Request submitted at 11:13 am on January 26, 1928. © OEPM

**57** - M.R. furniture ensemble, circular tube railing and vertical display-cases in the Flottmann A.G. stand, with pneumatic tools and hammers. © ANC, Josep María Sagarra i Plana Fund, Josep María Sagarra i Plana



Trademark no. 77.084 to distinguish “all class of furniture with specialty [sic] in armchair, chairs, stools, and tables” in favour of Mr. Mies van der Rohe. Request submitted at 11.00 am on July 15, 1929. © OEPM

Barcelona Pavilion occupied by M.R. chairs and armchairs.  
© Unknown, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe – BM-KSW

The photograph includes a note on the back written by Eduard Ludwig:  
“*Mies or. G (von) Kettler vor der Eröffnung*”  
(Mies and [von] Kettler before the opening)