

# ES\_ ARQ

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**Exhibition design:**

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Bernat Ginot

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**Sala: 1**

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**ES\_ LA CASA DE LA  
ARQUITECTURA**

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## HABITAR ESPAÑA

### HALF A CENTURY OF HOUSING

## ES\_ LA CASA DE LA ARQUITECTURA

# HABITAR ESPAÑA

HALF A CENTURY OF HOUSING

*Habitar España* offers a journey through some of the most relevant housing projects in the country over the past fifty years (1975-2025), reflecting the challenge of designing self-contained worlds that are also shared with others. The exhibition is structured into five sections, each dedicated to a decade, highlighting different socioeconomic, political, and environmental contexts. It includes both built works and unbuilt projects, offering a glimpse into the ideals of Spanish domestic architecture, whose influence extends from local ways of living to the international architectural field.

The decision to display models—85 have been gathered—aims to underscore their value as tools of synthesis with tangible qualities. This collective landscape of models allows us to appreciate their documentary significance and the many insights they offer into architectural design processes. Additionally, the exhibition presents a selection of housing projects that lack physical models but are nonetheless essential for completing this retrospective view of the last 25 years of the 20th century and the first 25 years of the 21st, as represented through 100 residential projects.

Together, the models form a kind of tapestry of singular episodes that have shaped ways of life and the relationship between people and their environment, clearly showing that residential form defines urban form. Most of the selected projects belong to the realm of collective housing, although a number of single-family homes are also included, considered in line with Alejandro de la Sota's view of the single-family house as a testing ground for

collective dwelling solutions. The intention is to expand the meaning of the term *user*, so that it not only refers to those who live in a home, but also to those left outside.

In the main gallery, the models are grouped and displayed on a large surface that forms a kind of suspended table or collective swing, conceived by clarasolamoraes studio, to emphasize that buildings, no matter how individual they may seem, are all hanging by the same thread.

At the entrance to the exhibition, the installation *Bedroom* by artist Isidro Blasco dissects the interior of a home and incorporates movement to remind us of the everyday life that unfolds in small spaces, that shape both personal biographies and the quality of life of a country. The mezzanine level functions as an epilogue of the exhibition in order to present additional projects that complete the narrative, and the model *Hotel Welcome*, by Arquitecturas Afectivas, that addresses the implications of evictions and the lack of affordable housing.

The list of projects includes 80 collective housing developments and 20 single-family houses; over 50% are authored by women, and the models represent every autonomous community in Spain, as well as the two autonomous cities, Ceuta and Melilla. Despite the differences, all proposals respond to the desire to help more people live better.