



Daniel
Carasso
Fellowship

Press pack
2021



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Fellowship

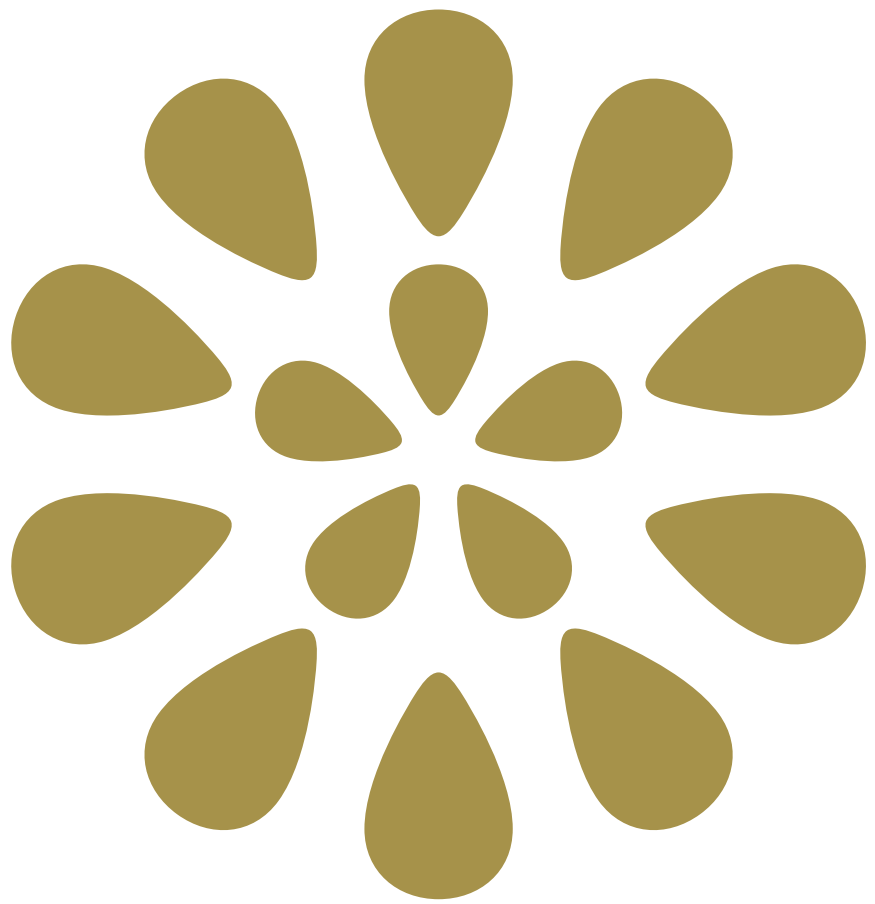
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Daniel Carasso Fellowship

Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso (“the Foundation”) established the *Daniel Carasso Fellowship* to foster research into Sustainable Food Systems and Diets. The aim of this new programme is to support young post-doctoral researchers of any nationality and scientific area of study engaged in systemic research into sustainable food systems and diets, in order to help bring about a profound and lasting transformation of the Spanish food system.

The nominations must be presented by researchers from host universities or research centres for candidates. The *Daniel Carasso Fellowship* includes funding of €160,000, consisting of €120,000 to cover the salary of the recipients over a 24-month period and a further €40,000 to support research activities. The recipients will also receive a sculpture designed by Jaume Plensa which symbolises the work these people do to improve other people’s lives.

Following a reformulation of its predecessor, the Premio Daniel Carasso, the Foundation is continuing with its commitment to research into Sustainable Food Systems and scientific excellence with an emphasis on fostering research in this field in Spain, a country which in recent years has reduced public funding for scientific research projects. The *Daniel Carasso Fellowship* helps to consolidate the scientific careers of young researchers who are committed to playing a part together with other members of the research community in the transition towards sustainable food systems over the coming years.

“We are delighted to launch this initiative to support young researchers in the field of Sustainable Food Systems. The Daniel Carasso Fellowship represents an opportunity to attract and consolidate research talent in Spain. The programme helps develop the careers of outstanding young researchers, whose contributions to society will pave the way for the transition towards sustainable food systems.”

Isabelle Le Galo Flores,
Director for Spain of the Fundación
Daniel y Nina Carasso.

Committed to research into sustainable food systems and diets

The *Daniel Carasso Fellowship* has emerged in a context characterised by a progressive decrease in the allocation of public funding to the R&D and innovation sector in Spain. Among other consequences, this decrease has triggered an exodus of young researchers to overseas destinations, weakening the research networks of Spanish universities and research centres and complicating the attraction of overseas talent.

“The Daniel Carasso Fellowship is a pioneering initiative in Spain designed to attract talent and foster excellence, offering a magnificent opportunity to form part of a research network at the highest international academic level. The transition towards sustainable food systems

is an essential step to change the economic and social model and allows us to adapt to the enormous climate challenges that await us in the coming decades.”

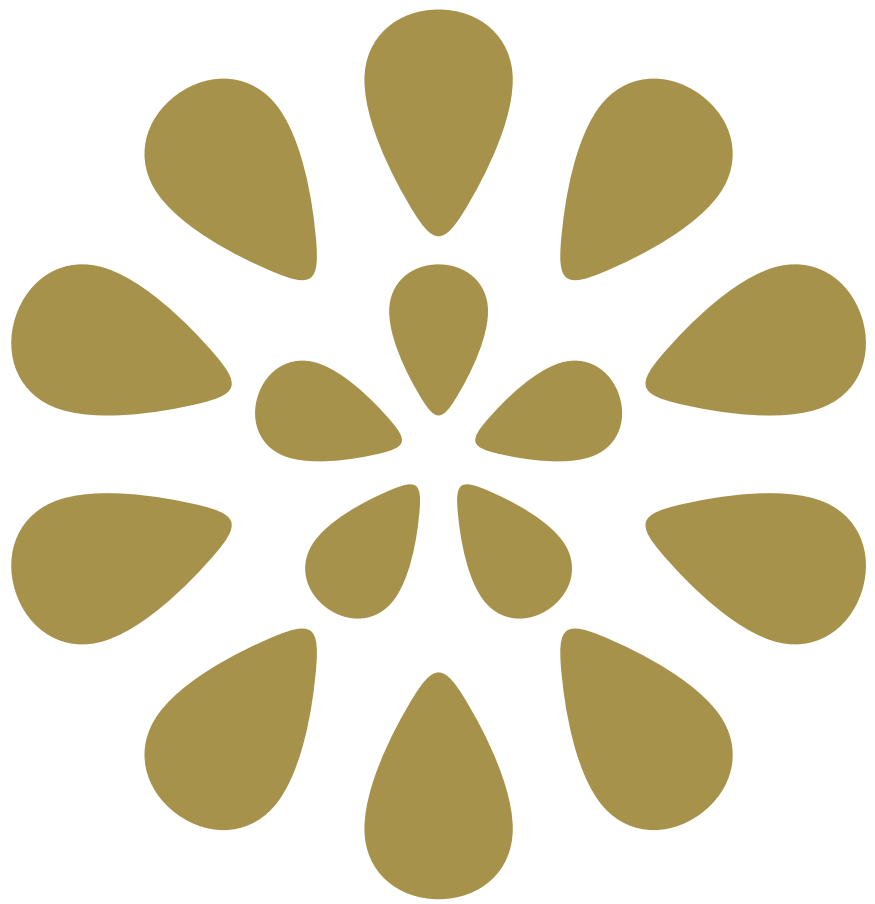
Dionisio Ortiz Miranda,
Rural and Agricultural Economics Researcher,
Polytechnic University of Valencia.
Member of the Steering Committees
of the foundation (COS)
and the Daniel Carasso Fellowship.

The *Daniel Carasso Fellowship* aims to consolidate its presence as a key source of support for research in Spain while at the same time maintaining its international character. The initiative will boost the career development of outstanding researchers at a critical stage for their consolidation as scientists. Meanwhile, it will also foster research into Sustainable Food Systems in Spain and the application of systemic and multi-disciplinary approaches to promote synergies between different fields and disciplines that are normally disconnected.

The programme also promotes applied research and generation of knowledge to support decision-making aimed at guiding the transition towards sustainable food systems and the generation of networks, synergies and opportunities for collaboration between research groups at an international level.

“Young researchers have been trained in a more flexible, systemic and collaborative academic environment than previous generations. These characteristics and skills are necessary to address the significant complexity of food systems and build bridges between disciplines and stakeholders, all of which contributes to foster the transition towards more sustainable food systems.”

Professor Gloria Guzmán Casado
of Pablo de Olavide University,
coordinator of the Aliméntta think tank
promoted by the Foundation
and member of the Foundation Steering
Committee (COS)



sustainable Food,
one of the
two pillars of the
Fundación Daniel y Nina
Carasso

Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso is a family foundation created in 2010 as a tribute to Daniel Carasso – founder of the company Danone in France and Dannon Inc. in the USA – and Nina, his wife.

It is a Grant Maker foundation (solely financing initiatives of general public interest) affiliated with the Fondation de France and is independent to any business entity of any kind. Its activities in France and Spain are focused in two main areas: Sustainable Food Systems to provide universal access to healthy food with due respect for both society and the environment; and Citizen Art as a means of developing a critical viewpoint and reinforcing social cohesion.

The Foundation is committed to the transition towards sustainable food systems that also guarantee availability of a healthy diet for everyone and protection of the planet's resources. Far from being a common good like any other, our diets lie at a crossroads of multiple (im)balances. Food-related decisions in areas from production through to consumption can have a negative impact on our ecosystem as a whole, leading to loss of biodiversity, global warming and social inequalities.

**“Food is also a decisive factor
for the health of both society and its ecosystems.
Many illnesses are derived from
unsustainable, imbalanced eating habits.
Apart from obesity, many
health problems are derived from unsustainable,
imbalanced eating habits, including
endocrine disruptors, high blood pressure,
diabetes and cholesterol problems.
Food production, processing, distribution
and consumption models also have a significant
impact on social and environmental
well-being, making it essential to foster more
sustainable practices
throughout the food chain”**

Pilar Martínez, Project Coordinator –
Sustainable Food Spain,
Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso and responsible
for the Daniel Carasso Fellowship.

Promoting a systemic transition

Sustainable food systems are based on certain practices —from the farm or the sea to the table— that ensure universal access to healthy food with due respect for both society and the environment. This requires a systemic approach focusing on the ‘food value chain’, a central element of all food systems that embraces different dimensions of sustainability, whether environmental, social, economic or nutritional.

The Foundation's vision of food systems contemplates interactions between all the different elements (environment, people, inputs, processes, infrastructure and institutions) and activities involved in the production, extraction, processing, distribution, preparation and consumption of food products, along with the results of those activities.

This vision involves promoting a systemic transition supported by three pillars: research, action and dissemination. In this context, the *Daniel Carasso Fellowship* is an example of the Foundation's commitment to research networks and takes part in a wider range of initiatives in both France and Spain.

“Contributions by the scientific community are essential due to the urgent need to make the transition towards a more holistically sustainable system.

Diet constitutes a means of achieving progress towards full sustainability due to its key role as a link connecting economy, employment, business networks, schools, culture, families, civil society, innovation and research”

Isabelle Le Galo Flores,
Director for Spain of the Fundación
Daniel y Nina Carasso.

In terms of direct actions in this field, the Foundation supports pioneering food-related initiatives through annual programmes to raise awareness of more sustainable practices —ranging from seed production to compost made from the waste generated after food consumption— as a means of promoting universal access to healthy food with due respect for both society and the environment.

Another recent initiative is the Foundation's support for Alimentta. This *think tank* on sustainable food systems brings together a group of 10 experts from different fields (agroecology, sustainable agrifood systems, medicine, nutrition, climate change and agriculture, marine resources and conservation of ecosystems, marine sociological systems and public policies) to address the sustainability of the food system.

The Foundation also promotes IPES-FOOD, a panel established in 2015 working to promote debate regarding food system reform through research into policies and direct involvement in political processes worldwide.

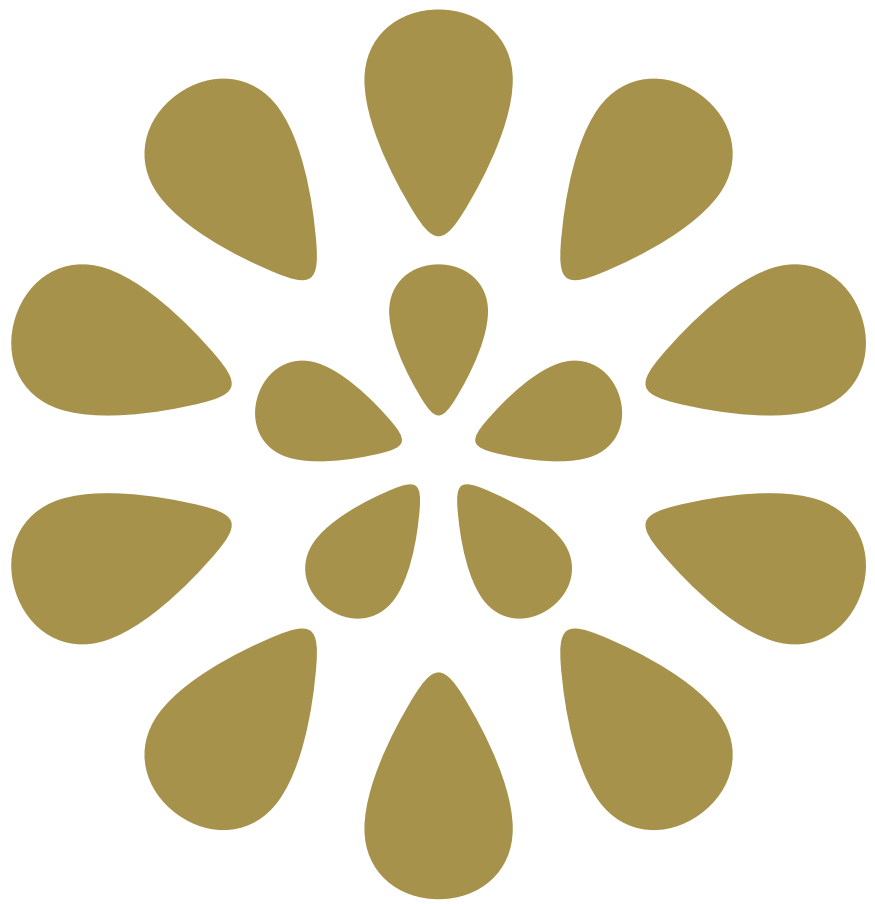
Through its support for mediation and citizen participation, the Foundation builds bridges between people to foster curiosity and enhance commitment with the overriding aim of achieving social impact through research, empirical know-how, experimentation, evaluation and knowledge sharing. The Foundation works closely with a wide range of parties to assist them with the transition and encourage innovative solutions, fostering links between different disciplines and approaches.



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Daniel Carasso,
generosity
and tolerance

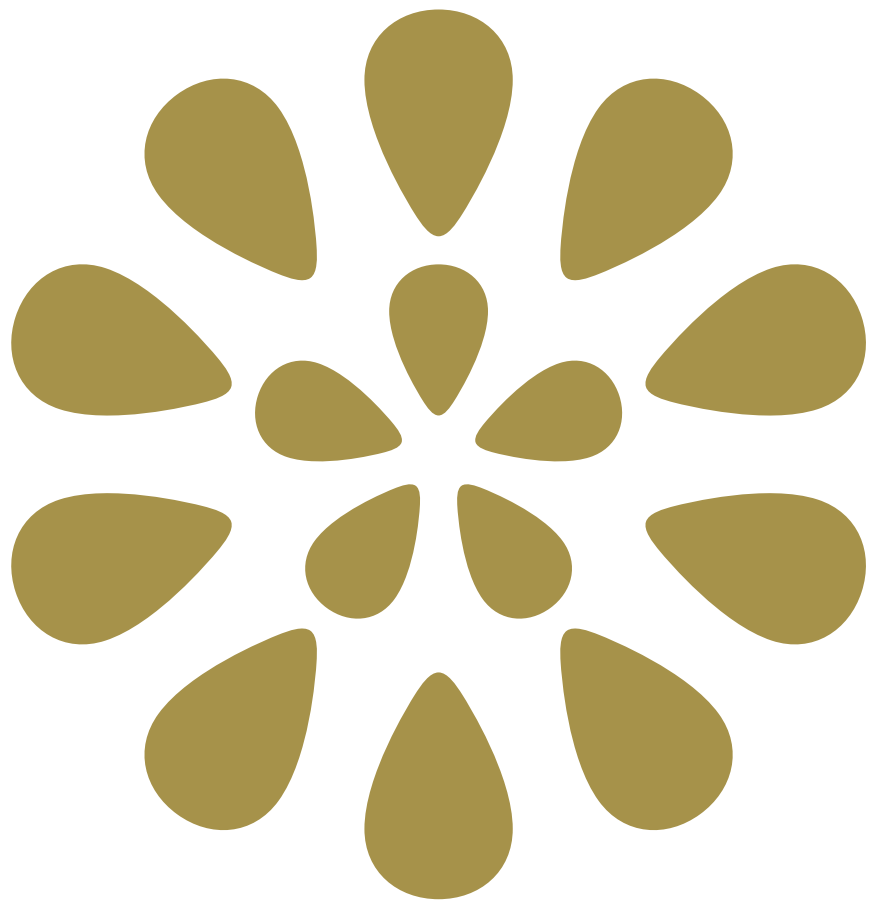
The Fellowship is named after Daniel Carasso, a methodical yet imaginative visionary concerned with the well-being of others.

Throughout their lives, both Daniel and his wife Nina were inspired by the values of curiosity, originality, confidence, excellence and happiness, which are now characteristic hallmarks of the Foundation named after them. The *Daniel Carasso Fellowship* distinguishes scientists who represent these values, not only as a way of honouring the Carasso legacy but also to perpetuate their spirit of generosity and tolerance.

Daniel Carasso was born in Thessaloniki, Greece, while Nina Covo was born in Barcelona. However, the roots of the future couple go back to the common history of their two families, which had to embark on the long path of exile from Spain during the Inquisition to take refuge in the Ottoman Empire. Four centuries later, the unrest in the early 20th century led them to abandon Greece. That was how the Carasso family ended up living in Barcelona, where Isaac, Daniel's father, created the Danone brand.

At the same time, the Covo family chose France as their adopted country. Daniel and Nina married in 1939, on the eve of a war that would force them into exile once again, but this time in the USA, where their only daughter Marina was born.

Due to their eventful past, both of them were very open-minded, with a curious spirit that saw them constantly travel all over the world as the Danone brand expanded its industrial presence.



History of the Premio Daniel Carasso

Promotion of scientific activity is a key aspect of the Foundation's work, with a strong emphasis on direct actions as well as support for research initiatives and their subsequent dissemination.

In pursuit of this aim, three researchers have received the Premio Daniel Carasso since its inception. The award previously focused on recognising established leaders in their respective fields to help them inspire young researchers to undertake transdisciplinary approaches to the study of food system sustainability.

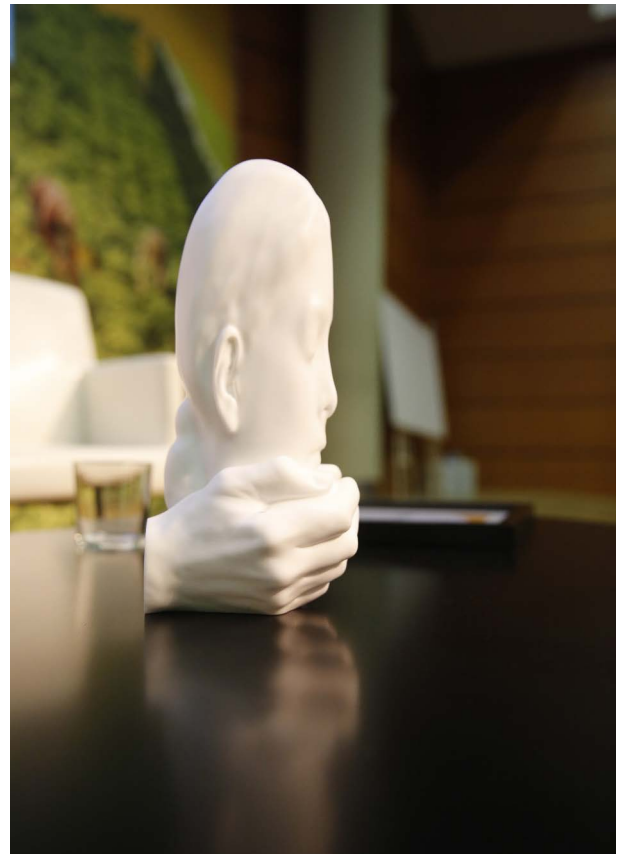
The previous winners were:

Jessica Fanzo (2012) – Professor of Global Food and Agricultural Ethics and Policy at Johns Hopkins University (USA).

Tara Garnett (2015) – Researcher at the Food and Climate Research Network Food and Climate Research Network, University of Oxford (UK).

Jane Battersby (2017) – Researcher at the African Centre for Cities and the African Urban Food Security Network at the University of Cape Town (South Africa).

©Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso





Doctor Jane Battersby Winner of the Premio Daniel Carasso 2017

Jane Battersby is an urban geographer currently working in the Department of Environmental and Geographical Science at University of Cape Town (UCT). A British citizen who has been living and working in South Africa for the last 15 years. Her current research fields include urban food systems and policies and critical analysis of construction of food security theory in Northern and Southern research contexts.

She received the award in 2017 for her work in the field of urban food security and the linkages between food, health and instability in rapidly growing urban areas, along with her defence of an approach to urban governance that addresses food challenges with an emphasis on social justice and her commitment to associations and local authorities for the development of food systems in South Africa to meet the needs of the underprivileged urban population.

Her work tackles crucial issues such as the rise of rapid urban growth as one of the most important challenges of the coming decades and the role of urban food supply as a vector for stability at a worldwide scale.

More information

<https://bit.ly/3bEMIFo>



Doctor Tara Garnett Winner of the Premio Daniel Carasso 2015

Dr Tara Garnett is a British researcher at the James Martin Institute of the University of Oxford and heads the Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Food. She received the award in 2015 for her research into sustainable food and climate change. Her work focuses on the multiple linkages existing between food systems and greenhouse gas emissions, along with research into the incentives and obstacles for the adoption of sustainable food regimes.

Dr Garnett is the Founder and Leader of the *Food Climate Research Network* (FCRN www.fcrn.org.uk/), an interdisciplinary network with over 1,500 members in 70 different countries. The FCRN facilitates constructive dialogue regarding food systems between the different stakeholders involved with the aim of finding common solutions to their environmental impacts.

With the support of the Foundation, Dr Garnett developed *FoodSource*, an educational resource for dissemination of scientific knowledge regarding food systems which has been available online since 2016 at www.foodsource.org.uk.

More information

<https://bit.ly/3cqJTXq>



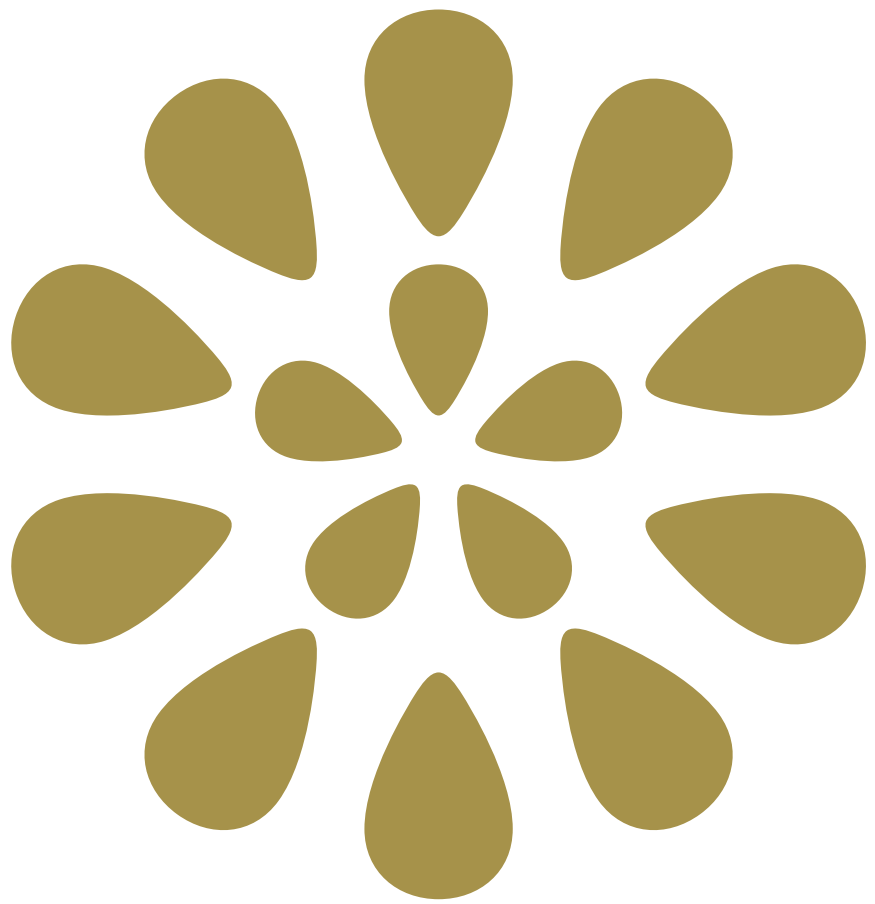
Doctor Jessica Fanzo Winner of the Premio Daniel Carasso 2012

The US researcher Dr Jessica Fanzo received the award in 2012 for her work on the relationships between agricultural biodiversity and meeting the nutritional needs of developing countries. At the time, she was working on nutrition policies for the *Earth Institute* at Columbia University (USA). Currently she is the *Bloomberg Distinguished Professor* of Global Food Policy and Ethics at the Berman Institute of Bioethics, the Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at the Johns Hopkins University in the USA. She is also the Director of the Johns Hopkins Global Food Ethics and Policy Programme.

Her research seeks to develop an understanding of the linkages between nutritional, environmental, agricultural, social, economic, political and ethical aspects of development. Her prior research has been characterised by her innovative solutions to major issues concerning the interaction between nutrition, ecology and agriculture in food systems to improve the health of women and children in poorer rural zones, particularly in conflict regions. She is currently interested in nutrition governance metrics and ethics associated with food value chains and regimes.

More information

<https://bit.ly/3qCpynf>



sculpture designed by
Jaume Plensa,
an award representing
the principles of
the Daniel Carasso
Fellowship

Made of acrylic resin, its white colour symbolises a future yet to be defined. According to the artist, the sculpture represents the work carried out by people to improve the lives of others

The artist Jaume Plensa was responsible for designing the award received by the three postdoctoral researchers recognised by the Foundation since 2012. With the aim of establishing a dialogue between the two complementary and cross-cutting lines of work of the Foundation — Citizen Art and Sustainable Food — the Catalanian artist was chosen to design the award due to his interest in representing the diversity of the human figure and the languages that unite people, common themes shared by both the Foundation and the *Daniel Carasso Fellowship*.

The award consists of a sculpture representing a girl's face held by interlinked hands that present her to the world. It is made of white acrylic resin, a colour that symbolises a future yet to be defined. Meanwhile, the figure itself represents the idea of a future that arises from humanity itself, a future that must be protected and nurtured.

“From the moment I came into contact with the Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso, I understood that we both shared very similar ideas about the responsibility we all owe to society and the world. This sculpture is fully in keeping with my work on the human figure,” said **Jaume Plensa**. “In terms of its meaning, I've always been interested in the dualism between the body and soul; the visible and the invisible. In symbolic terms, they say that the face is a mirror of the soul, but it also offers the most accurate and perfect image of all the information that makes up a person's life in its permanent state of transformation. A person's face is a document in itself.”

This sculpture constitutes both a celebration and recognition for the recipients, “who devote their lives to improving the lives of others far from the spotlight.” The girl's eyes appear to be dreaming of a better world, in a permanent search for knowledge deriving from excellence.

Jaume Plensa (Barcelona, 1955) is an artist who combines materials, sensations and ideas in his works. He draws his influences from literature, poetry, music and thought.

Although he considers himself first and foremost a sculptor, his creative process has taken him down multiple paths. His works address the physical and spiritual essence of human beings, their self-awareness, their legacy and their ethics and dogmas in their relationships with nature.

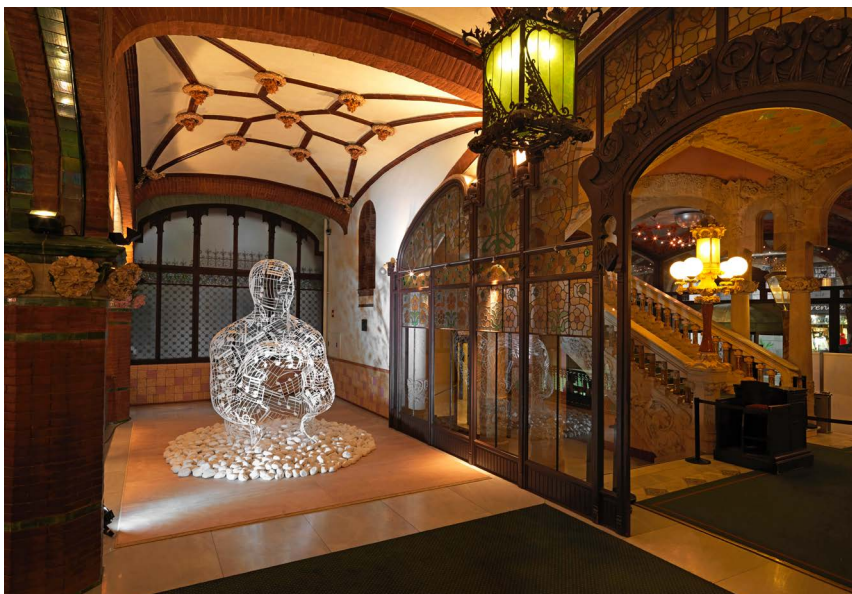
Jaume Plensa was born in Barcelona in 1955 and completed his studies in La Llotja and the Sant Jordi School of Fine Arts. Since 1980, the year of his first exhibition in Barcelona, he has forged a career living and working in Germany, Belgium, England, France and the USA. He currently lives in Barcelona.

Jaume Plensa features regularly in exhibitions in galleries and museums across Europe, the USA and Asia, although a large part of his work can be found in public spaces. He has works permanently installed in Spain, France, Japan, England, South Korea, Germany, Canada, the USA and China, among other countries.

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1
Awilda & Irma, 2014, Stainless steel, 400 x 400 x 300 cm each element
 View of the installation: *Human Landscape*. Cheekwood Botanical Garden & Museum of Art, Tennessee, USA 2015 – Photo: Dean Dixon © Cheekwood Botanical Garden & Museum of Art

2
 View of the installation: *La Forêt blanche*. Galerie Lelong Paris, Francia 2016 – Photo: Fabrice Gibert © Galerie Lelong Paris

3
Silent Music III, 2014
 Painted stainless steel and marble, 310 x 230 x 290 cm
 View of the installation: Jaume Plensa. Palau de la Música Catalana, Barcelona, España 2016 – Photo: Gasull Fotografia © Plensa Studio Barcelona

4
 Jaume Plensa in his studio, 2016 – Photo: Inés Baucells © Plensa Studio Barcelona

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Contact Fundación Daniel y Nina Carasso

The present rules can be downloaded

from the [Foundation's website](#)

For further information

Please contact the Foundation
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“Daniel Carasso Fellowship 2021”

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