PICASSO: THE SCULPTURE
Edited by Anna Coliva and Diana Widmaier-Picasso

In 1917 Pablo Picasso travelled to Rome and Naples with Jean Cocteau and Igor Stravinskij. During this trip, for the first time, he could admire in situ the sculpture of Antiquity, the Renaissance but also the Roman frescoes of Pompei. A visit to the Borghese Gallery allowed him to study the sculptures of Bernini, whose works Picasso then saw in the Basilica of St Peter in the Vatican, where he also was able to discover Michelangelo's mural paintings in the Sistine Chapel. He also saw Raphael's paintings in Florence and recognized Caravaggio as the master of the mise en scène.

The first exhibition dedicated to Picasso's sculpture to be held in Rome, and its accompanying catalogue, are conceived as a travel through the centuries that follows chronologically the interpretation of forms and different themes—stories and myths, bodies and figures, objects and fragments—in sculpture.

The exhibition of masterpieces of the great Spanish master will be accompanied by previously unpublished images of his sculpture studios and videos that narrate the context in which these works were born.

The catalogue includes essays that explore the visual and conceptual dialogue between the works of Picasso and works of the past, illustrating and examining over fifty works, some of which never exhibited before.