

## May 2019



*But there's a story behind everything.*

*How a picture got on a wall. How a scar got on your face.  
Sometimes the stories are simple, and sometimes they are hard  
and heartbreaking. But behind all your stories is always your  
mother's story, because hers is where yours begins.*

*—Mitch Albom*

**SPECIAL EVENING CULTURAL EVENT  
FOCUS ON PHOTOGRAPHY  
A MASTER PIONEER**

Date: Friday, May 24

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: AWC clubhouse



AWC member Mercedes Puchol will give a talk and presentation in Spanish on her great-grandfather Vicente Martínez Sanz, an important photographer in the avant-garde period. We are asking everyone to please RSVP with Nancy and bring a bottle and/or tapa to share. This event is open to guests; we only ask that they also bring food or drink to share. After Mercedes' presentation, there will be time for questions and socializing.

### VICENTE MARTINEZ SANZ

Vicente Martínez-Sanz was a Valencian photographer of the early 20th century whose work is included within the avant-garde period. His greatest effort was directed towards the search for experimentation that led to a new photographic language as a new form of aesthetic approach in the field of photography. He was born in Valencia in 1874 and studied fine arts at the Academy of San Carlos. He had Agrassot as his teacher and maintained relationships with some of the most famous painters of his time, such as Ramón Stolz Seguí, Manuel Benedito, Fillol, Beut, and others.

He was in contact with the different international avant-garde movements of the interwar period, which was reflected in his photographic technique and the themes addressed in his work. Because of his approach to painting, part of his work is related to pictorialism, although he is an artist difficult to classify as he experimented with different techniques and themes of his time. He was the first photographer in Spain to work in color, using the three primary colors impregnated in grains of starch. As a photographer, he was awarded many first prizes in international photography shows, including the 14th Annual Competition of American Photography. At the end of the Spanish Civil War, he abandoned photography and limited himself to recording his family's private moments. He was named president of the Valencia Photo Club, holding a collective exhibition which showed his work alongside other Valencian artists. Vincente passed away in Valencia in 1947.