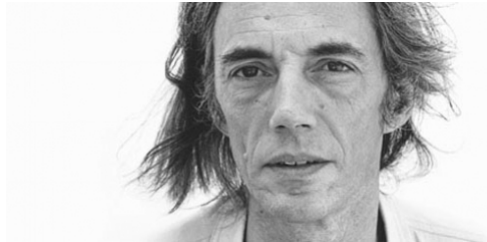


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## Enric Casassas



### Who I Am and Why I Write ...

Enric Casassas

A poet who has taken his inspiration from traditional sources, Enric Casassas blends elements of folklore and present-day pop culture in his work (with clear sympathies

for the underground and counterculture movements). His poetry reveals very heterogeneous influences (from medieval, Renaissance, Baroque through to avant-garde poetry), while experimenting with new forms or satirically reworking traditional genres.

This is a two-edged question: who am I and why do I write? The answer is easy. I write because I don't know who I am. Groping in the dark I find another two-edged question: what am I and because of whom do I write? It doesn't ask for whom but because of whom, which is like asking whose fault it is but, as we shall see below, the because-of-whom and the for-whom have the same answer in this case. Let's get to the point: what am I? I am something that is left of the soul of the old miller's wife, which on her death remained stuck as a tatter on an oleander twig, that scrap of white cloth, which, borne by the wind, blew into my face to blind me just as I went by on that crock of a motorbike that young Espinac had lent me and at first I was about to skid on the dirt track in the bare hills and then I was about to set the bike aright again and in the end I did indeed skid and gave myself a hell of a whack that didn't turn out to be anything either but nobody can ever get that fright out of me and that's why I write. The one who was most upset was Espinac because I don't know how or why but he loved that old wreck of a bike as if it was a little nanny-goat that would come running when it was called to be milked and, trying to avoid meeting up with him because he was looking right through me, I started staying at home and devoted myself to exploring the bare hills of writing, though not as a way of amusing myself but as an inquiry into ignorance because I am the wolf-man who leaps every time something unknown comes within reach of his claws. I am the goal-man on weekdays when he's not playing football, who gets strange ideas with magnetic forces that send the ball out: always the same damned nightmare. Alone in front of the goal, I kick straight and, just when it's about to go in, the ball goes off at a right angle into the high grass of the wide path, at least, or off to the chemist shop? and, okay, so off we go to get it. I am the micro-psychologist who, if you get an attack of madness in a millionth of a second, fixes it up before it's over and you can spend the rest of the millionth of a second thinking calmly about shrews, which is one of the forms of mental health that are still permitted. I am the stranger who goes along the street when everyone knows each other, or it seems to him that they all know each other, everyone except for him. I am the parrot that they always have on the balcony opening out onto the little square below and it's called Darwin (the parrot I mean). I am the foreign goatherd who takes the country's goats out to pasture and who longingly confides in them. And what if I am the only stone that by some chance will survive this civilisation? And if I am the left eyebrow of the esparto-eyebrowed man, the sandwich man of [Rodoreda's](#) war?

To sum up, I am one of those who are lost in a sea of chestnuts, one of the lost and that's it, and since the lost are perhaps the only ones who have the slightest notion of what this festival of stars among the branches is all about, we write about it for those who know where they are because we are generous and when we have doubts we like to share them. In order to write these things we make ourselves very small. First I make myself very small and then, without wanting to, I almost always

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remember that Espinac boy and then I think about a multipathic friend of mine and I only write phrases or things that he can understand, which is a system that almost never fails, but that was before because my friend died of lots of things, and I can aver and assure you that everything I had written until then I had written for him and that everything I have written since I have written for him. Having got to here I can answer the first question (who am I?) with a little more self-assurance. I am the familiar voice that seems to call you in the empty house, I am one of the many on the promenade of the forsaken, I am one of those who organises the intergalactic voyage of the poor, the despair of the rich, the consolation of the old. As for the second question (why do I write?), I don't know.

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## A selection of texts

### Text



**WEB: Selecció de Poesia Catalana**

28 poemes extrets de *Començament dels començaments...*, *Calç*, *No hi érem*, *La cosa aquella i D'equivocar-se així*.

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/especials/folch/casassas.htm>



**WEB: Magisteri Teatre-Mag Poesia**

Poemes extrets de deu llibres diferents i antologia per a l'escola.

<http://www.mallorcaweb.com/Mag-Teatre/casassas/index.html>



**WEB: Casasses a la Biblioteca Joan Lluís Vives**

Selecció de textos dins el Portal de Poesia Catalana Contemporània de la Biblioteca virtual Joan Lluís Vives.

<http://www.luisvives.com/FichaObra.html?Ref=25555&portal=1>



**WEB: "Cant viu" i "Alguns dimonis..."**

Nota biogràfica i dos poemes inèdits de l'autor al Daltabaix Poètic!

<http://www.sant-cugat.net/daltabaix/cas.htm>



**WEB: "Tal Tipus"**

Llegiu aquest poema en català i en anglès a *The Barcelona Review*, núm. 14 (agost-octubre 1999).

[http://www.barcelonareview.com/14/c\\_encas.htm](http://www.barcelonareview.com/14/c_encas.htm)



**WEB: "A crits"**

Transcripció del poema d'Enric Cassasses a *The Barcelona Review*, núm. 12 (abril-juny 1999).

[http://www.barcelonareview.com/12/c.\\_ec.htm](http://www.barcelonareview.com/12/c._ec.htm)



**PDF: "Poema del poema"**

Text de Casasses a la manera de poètica inclòs a l'antologia de poesia en prosa *Tenebra blanca*, a càrrec de Sam Abrams.

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< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/enric-casasses> >

[http://www.fundacionespriu.coop/pfw\\_files/cma/articulos/2002816121330pausa.pdf](http://www.fundacionespriu.coop/pfw_files/cma/articulos/2002816121330pausa.pdf)



**WEB: "Clac"**

Un poema de l'autor al web *Viu la poesia*.

[http://www.viulapoesia.com/pagina\\_2.php?itinerari=10&tipus=1&subtipus=2&idpoema=273](http://www.viulapoesia.com/pagina_2.php?itinerari=10&tipus=1&subtipus=2&idpoema=273)



**WEB: Selection of Catalan Poetry**

28 poems taken from *Començament dels començaments...* (Beginning of Beginnings), *Calç* (Lime) *No hi érem* (We Were Not There), *La cosa aquella* (That Thing) and *D'equivocar-se així* (On Getting it Wrong Like That).

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/especials/folch/casassas.htm>



**WEB: Magisteri Teatre-Mag Poetry**

Poems from ten different books by Casasses and an anthology for schools.

<http://www.mallorcaweb.com/Mag-Teatre/casassas/index.html>



**WEB: "Cant viu" (Live Song) and "Alguns dimonis..." (Some Demons...)**

Two unpublished poems in the poetry website Daltabaix Poètic!.

<http://www.sant-cugat.net/daltabaix/cas.htm>



**WEB: Casasses and Comelade**

The poet Enric Casasses recites the poem "Les cases del meu carrer" with Pascal Comelade.

<http://es.youtube.com/watch?v=tGSpa3SFGAI&feature=related>



**WEB: "Tal Tipus" (Such a Sort)**

Read this poem in Catalan and English in The Barcelona Review, N<sup>o</sup>. 14 (August - October 1999).

[http://www.barcelonareview.com/14/c\\_encas.htm](http://www.barcelonareview.com/14/c_encas.htm)



**WEB: "A crits" (Shouting Aloud)**

Transcription of Enric Casasses' poem in The Barcelona Review, N<sup>o</sup>. 12 (April - June 1999).

[http://www.barcelonareview.com/12/c.\\_ec.htm](http://www.barcelonareview.com/12/c._ec.htm)



**PDF: "Poema del poema" (Poem of the Poem)**

Poetic text by Casasses included in the anthology of prose poetry *Tenebra blanca* (White Darkness, 2001).

[http://www.fundacionespriu.coop/pfw\\_files/cma/articulos/2002816121330pausa.pdf](http://www.fundacionespriu.coop/pfw_files/cma/articulos/2002816121330pausa.pdf)

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## Audio



**AUDIO: "No plou", interpretat per Miquel Gil**

<http://www.musicadepoetes.cat/app/musicadepoetes/servlet/org.uoc.lletra.musicaDePoetes.Titol?aut or=67&titol=384>



**AUDIO: "L'home llop", interpretat per Santi Arisa**

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< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/enric-casasses> >

<http://www.musicadepoetes.cat/app/musicadepoetes/servlet/org.uoc.lletra.musicaDePoetes.Titol?autor=67&titol=380>



**AUDIO: L'autor recita dos poemes**

"Les presons naturals" i "Timbals!"

[http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/ecasasses/html\\_especials/enriccasassesrecita1.html](http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/ecasasses/html_especials/enriccasassesrecita1.html)



**AUDIO: L'autor recita un poema**

"És l'Enric Casasses..."

[http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/ecasasses/html\\_especials/enriccasassesrecita2.html](http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/ecasasses/html_especials/enriccasassesrecita2.html)



**AUDIO: L'autor recita un poema**

"L'ham"

[http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/ecasasses/html\\_especials/enriccasassesrecita3.html](http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/ecasasses/html_especials/enriccasassesrecita3.html)



**AUDIO: The author recites three poems**

The author recites three poems

[http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/ecasasses/html\\_especials/enriccasassesrecita1.html](http://lletra.uoc.edu/anterior/noms/ecasasses/html_especials/enriccasassesrecita1.html)



**WEB: "He descobert l'amor"**

El web *Viu la poesia* edita aquest poema amb l'autor.

[http://www.viulapoesia.com/pagina\\_4.php?tipus=1&subtipus=2&itinerari=8&idpoema=49](http://www.viulapoesia.com/pagina_4.php?tipus=1&subtipus=2&itinerari=8&idpoema=49)



**WEB: Explicació de "He descobert l'amor"**

L'autor parla d'aquest poema al web *Viu la poesia*.

[http://www.viulapoesia.com/pagina\\_8.php?tipus=1&subtipus=2&itinerari=8&idpoema=49](http://www.viulapoesia.com/pagina_8.php?tipus=1&subtipus=2&itinerari=8&idpoema=49)



**VIDEO: Casasses i Comelade**

El poeta Enric Casasses recita el poema "Les cases del meu carrer" acompanyat de Pascal Comelade.

<http://es.youtube.com/watch?v=tGSpa3SFGAI&feature=related>

## Comments on the author

### Criticism



**WEB: Un dels Dotze sentits**

Casasses és un dels dotze poetes antologats al CD-ROM *Dotze sentits. Poesia catalana d'avui*.

[http://www.iua.upf.edu/dotze\\_sentits/entrada.html](http://www.iua.upf.edu/dotze_sentits/entrada.html)



**WEB: L'autor al Corpus Literari Ciutat de Barcelona**

Biografia, obra, enllaços i transcripció d'articles sobre Casasses.

[http://www.ducros.biz/corpus/index.php?command=show\\_news&news\\_id=430](http://www.ducros.biz/corpus/index.php?command=show_news&news_id=430)

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< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/enric-casasses> >



**WEB: Enric Casasses on the Lletra website in Catalan**

Including more resources and reading suggestions.

<http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/noms/ecasasses/index.html>



**WEB: One of the Dotze sentits (Twelve Senses)**

Casasses is one of the twelve poets in the CD-ROM anthology *Dotze sentits. Poesia catalana d'avui* (Twelve Senses. Catalan Poetry Today).

[http://www.iua.upf.es/dotze\\_sentits/entrada.html](http://www.iua.upf.es/dotze_sentits/entrada.html)



**WEB: Enric Casasses in the City of Barcelona Literary Corpus**

Biography, work, links and transcription of articles on this author.

[http://www.ducros.biz/corpus/index.php?command=show\\_news&news\\_id=430](http://www.ducros.biz/corpus/index.php?command=show_news&news_id=430)

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## Miscellaneous



**WEB: "Monòleg del perdó"**

Informació sobre aquest espectacle teatral de Casasses.

[http://www.ciutatoci.com/teatre/docs/d05/teatre\\_monoleg\\_050110.htm](http://www.ciutatoci.com/teatre/docs/d05/teatre_monoleg_050110.htm)



**WEB: Entrevista, poemes i àudio**

Entrevista a càrrec de Melcion Mateu, tres poemes i l'àudio d'un altre, a *The Barcelona Review*. En castellà.

<http://www.barcelonareview.com/cas/ec1s.htm>



**WEB: "Bob Dylan i Jacint Verdaguer són idèntics"**

Entrevista a Casasses per Víctor Colomer (29/01/99).

<http://www.drac.com/cac/199901/19990129.html>



**WEB: "Monòleg del perdó" (Monologue of Forgiveness)**

Information on a new theatrical work by Casasses.

[http://www.ciutatoci.com/teatre/docs/d05/teatre\\_monoleg\\_050110.htm](http://www.ciutatoci.com/teatre/docs/d05/teatre_monoleg_050110.htm)



**WEB: Interview, Poems and Audio**

Interview by Melcion Mateu, three poems and an audio version of another in *The Barcelona Review*. In Spanish.

<http://www.barcelonareview.com/cas/ec1s.htm>



**WEB: "Bob Dylan i Jacint Verdaguer són idèntics" (Bob Dylan and Jacint Verdaguer Are Identical)**

Interview with Casasses by Víctor Colomer (29/1/99).

<http://www.drac.com/cac/199901/19990129.html>

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## Bio-bibliography

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< <http://lletra.uoc.edu/en/author/enric-casasses> >

## Biography



**WEB: A la Hiperenciclopèdia**

[http://www.enciclopedia.cat/fitxa\\_v2.jsp?NDCHEC=0244745](http://www.enciclopedia.cat/fitxa_v2.jsp?NDCHEC=0244745)



**WEB: Fitxa al "Qui és qui a les lletres catalanes"**

<http://cultura.gencat.net/ilc/qeq/FitxaAutors.asp?nom1=cas&cerca=Cerca&quinform=form1&NRegistre=23&idregistre=829>



**WEB: A la Viquipèdia**

Biografia, obra i enllaços sobre l'autor al web de l'enciclopèdia lliure.

[http://ca.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enric\\_Casasses](http://ca.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enric_Casasses)



**WEB: Enric Casasses a l'Institut Ramon Llull**

Nota biobibliogràfica dins l'espai dedicat a la Fira Internacional del Llibre de Guadalajara 2004.

<http://fil04.llull.cat/cat/02protagonistes/CasassesEnric.shtm>



**WEB: The author in the Who's Who of Catalan Literature**

<http://cultura.gencat.net/ilc/qeq/fitxaAutorsuk.asp?nom1=Casasses&cercauk2=Search&quinform=form1&NRegistre=&idregistre=829>



**WEB: Poetes catalans d'ara**

Exposició amb referències biobibliogràfiques i enllaços d'Internet, elaborada per la Biblioteca d'Humanitats de la UAB.

<http://ddd.uab.cat/pub/expbib/2009/poetes/casasses.htm>



**WEB: Enric Casasses in the Ramon Llull Institute**

Biobibliographical note on this author on a page devoted to the Guadalajara International Book Fair.

<http://fil04.llull.cat/eng/02protagonistes/CasassesEnric.shtm>



**WEB: Catalan Poets Today**

Exhibition with bio-bibliographic references and Internet links, produced by the Humanities Library of the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

<http://ddd.uab.cat/pub/expbib/2009/poetes/casasses.htm>

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## Bibliography



**WEB: Què hi ha a la Biblioteca de Catalunya**

[http://cataleg.bnc.cat/search\\*cat/?searchtype=a&searcharg=Casasses+Enric&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=13&searchscope2=13&SORT=D](http://cataleg.bnc.cat/search*cat/?searchtype=a&searcharg=Casasses+Enric&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=13&searchscope2=13&SORT=D)



**WEB: Què hi ha a les biblioteques universitàries catalanes (CCUC)**

[http://ccuc.cbuc.cat/search\\*cat/a?SEARCH=Casasses+Enric&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=23](http://ccuc.cbuc.cat/search*cat/a?SEARCH=Casasses+Enric&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=23)

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**WEB: Què hi ha a les biblioteques públiques**

<http://argus.biblioteques.gencat.cat/iii/encore/search/C|SCasasses+Enric|Orightresult|U1?!lang=cat&suite=pearl>



**WEB: Per comprar-ne llibres**

<http://www.llibres.cat/ca/detall-autor/casasses-i-figueres-enric>



**WEB: Per llegir a internet (BVJLV)**

<http://www.lluisvives.com/FichaAutor.html?Ref=13631&portal=1>



**WEB: Articles sobre l'autor (Traces)**

[http://traces.uab.cat/search?In=ca&p=Casasses%2C+Enric&f=keyword&action\\_search=Cerca&c=Traces+%3A+base+de+dades+de+lengua+i+literatura+catalanes&sf=&so=d&rm=&rg=10&sc=1&of=hb](http://traces.uab.cat/search?In=ca&p=Casasses%2C+Enric&f=keyword&action_search=Cerca&c=Traces+%3A+base+de+dades+de+lengua+i+literatura+catalanes&sf=&so=d&rm=&rg=10&sc=1&of=hb)



**WEB: Works in the Biblioteca de Catalunya**

[http://catalog.bnc.cat/search\\*eng/?searchtype=a&searcharg=+Casasses%2C+Enric&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=13&searchscope2=13&SORT=D](http://catalog.bnc.cat/search*eng/?searchtype=a&searcharg=+Casasses%2C+Enric&sortdropdown=-&searchscope=13&searchscope2=13&SORT=D)



**WEB: The author in The European Library**

<http://search.theeuropeanlibrary.org/portal/en/search/%28%22creator%22+all+%22casasses+enric%22%29.query>



**WEB: The author in the Congress Library (US)**

<http://catalog.loc.gov/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=First>



**WEB: Activitats per treballar poemes**

Dos poemes amb propostes al web *Viu la poesia*.

[http://www.viulapoesia.com/membrespocio/arxius/lletra/ecasasses\\_index\\_props.html](http://www.viulapoesia.com/membrespocio/arxius/lletra/ecasasses_index_props.html)