

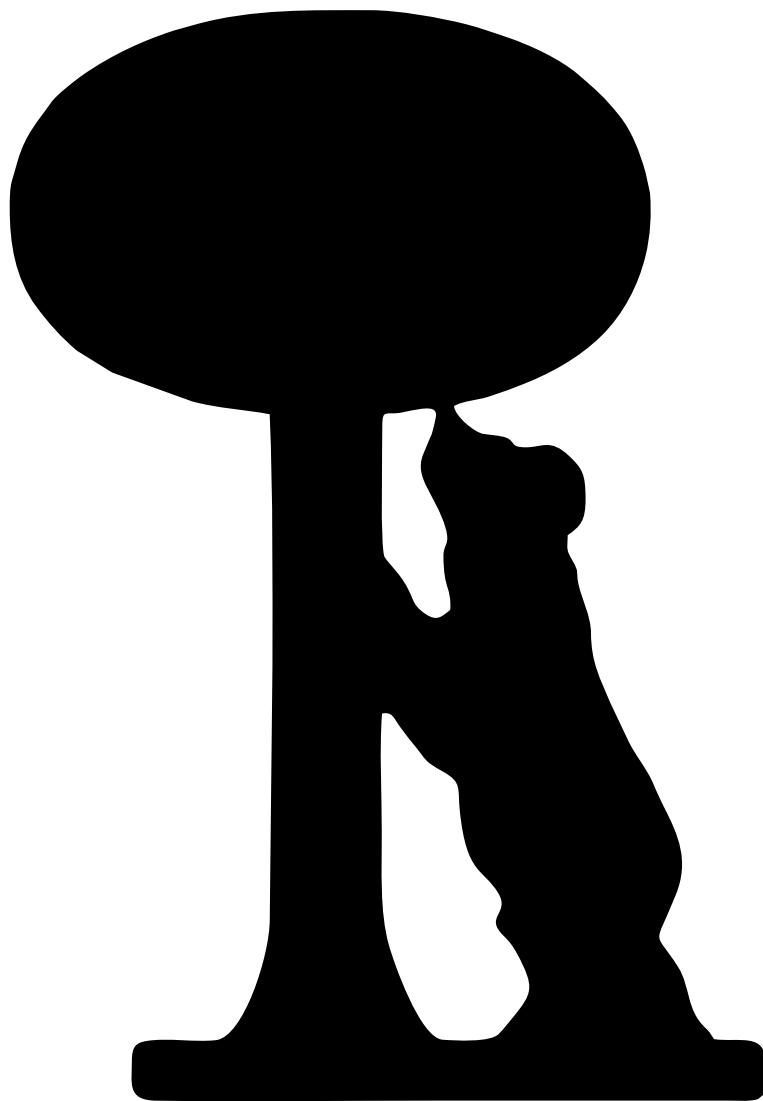
# The Tarot Of Madrid



*Carlos Pumariaga.*

# The Tarot of Madrid

A Journey through the Arcana to the  
City of Madrid - Spain



Cards are illustrated by Carlos Pumariega

Museo del Tarot

©Museo Del Tarot - Madrid, 2018

# Editorial *Pai João*®

© Original title: The Tarot of Madrid, 2018  
Editorial PaiJoao  
100 Granja Street. Alcobendas, Madrid - Spain 28108.

Tel.: 0034 91 279 81 53  
[Editorial.PaiJoao.com](http://Editorial.PaiJoao.com) - [Editorial@PaiJoao.com](mailto:Editorial@PaiJoao.com)  
Printed in Shenzhen - China - Year 2018  
ISBN: 978-84-944674-3-1

*All rights reserved. No part of these cards or this book maybe be reproduced, distributed and transformed in any form without the written consent of the copyright holder, except as otherwise provided by law. The infringement of the aforemen-tioned rights may constitute an offense against intellectual property (Art. 270 and following of the Penal Code)*

# MADRID THROUGH TAROT

## By Álvaro Martín

I am happy to welcome you to the Tarot of Madrid painted by Carlos Pumariega and, therefore, to the city of cats, the Bear and the Strawberry Tree, the old legends that coexist here together with cutting-edge technologies. A city that embraces you with its mixture of tradition and openness in which no one feels foreign.

I would like to invite you to take a walk around a different Madrid, to travel it through the arcana, which will help us dive deeper in our inner world, towards the transcendent. The cards will be our guides in this tarot experience with authentic atmosphere - although very mysterious – made in the unique and unmistakable style of Pumariega, who tried to retrieve some of the architectural gems and artistic treasures of the city. The arcana are already on the table and begin to talk. Are you ready for this journey?

We can start from the Spain Square (Plaza de España), a busy place equally frequented by tourists and locals, who daily enjoy their peaceful meadows with the fountains nearby. Here we meet **THE FOOL**, a timeless arcane embodied in a captivating character. Sir Quixote of La Mancha is shown in the form of a statue, in this enclave a bold hidalgo looking for adventures, sitting on the back of his steed Rocinante. His madness can also be interpreted as a combined impact of erudition and a powerful effect of literature. On the other hand, it also embodies the desire to get out of the known and his right to dream. The fool is sometimes the most rational. The monumental set is finished off with the inseparable Sancho Panza and the Platonic love of Sir Quixote embodied in Dulcinea. It is a tribute to the third centenary of the death of Miguel de Cervantes - which we can also see sculpted - through a review of his great literary works. It is curious that the gentleman is surrounded by giant buildings such as the Madrid Tower (Torre Madrid) or the Spain Building (Edificio España). What would this endearing fool have thought when he saw such "adversaries"?

From one captivating character we go to another, that gives name to a square: Christopher Columbus, the most famous admiral, an explorer, who found the so-called «New World» when he was looking for trade routes to the Indies. Rivers of ink have flowed over this navigator whose life is full of enigmas: it has been said that he was actually a corsair, that he was a relative of Ferdinand the Catholic, that he was not originally from Genoa, that he was a Jewish convert, or that he had much more information than he revealed, if he owned maps with routes that led him to America, it could make us think that others arrived before him. Because of his prodigies, his discoveries, his expertise and his life surrounded by an enigmatic halo, it is not surprising that he is represented as **THE MAGICIAN**. With his banner and his gaze

he points to the sky, while his left hand points to the ground. His body is oriented towards the south, from where the famous caravels departed.

Would you like to take some tapas? To make a journey it is necessary to have enough energy, and what better place could we find to fortify ourselves than the central square of Santa Ana, where we find our figure of **THE PRIESTESS**. In this cozy place, we can find endless number of terraces where you can stop by on your way and sit outdoors while watching the statue of the poet Federico García Lorca, which stands in front of the most emblematic building of the square: the Spanish Theater. Its origin is quite old, starting as a small corral of comedies authorized by Felipe II, although the current neoclassical building was designed by Román Guerrero at the end of the 19th century. They tell stories about ghosts inside this theater, strange phantoms, which sometimes interacted with the staff. It seems that it gets worse when the Day of the Dead approaches, and at that time Don Juan Tenorio de José Zorrilla, the work with the supernatural in it, is traditionally demonstrated. The Priestess takes from within us the intuitive, the natural, something hidden, that the actors and actresses, who meet in this room in their different functions, know very well.

The Royal Palace is your next destination if you take the journey that this tarot proposes. There are several monarchs who visited it or who lived inside it - since Philip V constructed this great building in the wake of the devastating fire that the old Alcázar suffered in 1734. Here, in the Plaza de Oriente, you will meet **THE EMPRESS** in the atmosphere of incomparable beauty. There were several queens who imprinted their character and whose names have been recorded in the history forever, like Isabella of Portugal, for example, who by marrying Charles I became the empress of the Holy Roman Empire and the Queen of Spain. Around the palace we can see dozens of statues belonging to the Spanish monarchs, but we will see very few inns on the cornice and in its place we will find a void that is sometimes filled with a stone pot. Legend says that Queen Isabel de Farnesio asked her son Carlos III not to place them after consulting his personal seer. She had had a dream in which the statues collapsed after a small earthquake and killed her. Somnologist interpreted this as a very bad sign, not only for her health, but also for the monarchy. Dozens and dozens of statues were held together for many years, until Isabel II - another great queen - decided to place them in various parts of Madrid, but never where they were conceived.

**THE EMPEROR** appears in the image of Neptune, the god of the sea in Roman mythology, equivalent to the Greek god of the sea, Poseidon. He is represented in a statue with a trident, a crown and in a chariot pulled by hippocampus, half-horse, half-fish, which seem to emerge from the waters. This enclave is located in the Plaza de Cánovas del Castillo, on the Paseo del Prado, surrounded by some of

the most luxurious hotels of Madrid and well-known museums where you can find works of art full of enigmas and symbolism. Very close by, there is an eternal flame that burns in a monument dedicated to the Spanish soldiers fallen in the course of duty, especially to those who were shot and killed by the French at this point on May 2, 1808.

The Cathedral of Saint Mary the Royal of La Almudena is situated next to Madrid's Palacio Real, the royal palace, in front of the courtyard. It is a peculiar building for several reasons. First of all, it does not have the usual East-West orientation for this type of temples. It was constructed this way to integrate seamlessly with the aforementioned palace. Besides that, it took more than a century to get build, being finished in 1993, it mixed several styles in a way that doesn't please everyone, but at the same time doesn't leave anybody indifferent. The legend that gives rise to the patron saint of Madrid, tells us about a statue of the Virgin that was lost when the Islamic armies arrived to these lands, and then it was miraculously found when the city took Alfonso's VI troops in the 11th century. After several years looking for it, the Almudena miraculously appeared in the year 1085 when a fragment of the Muslim wall collapsed on the slope of the Vega, showing the statuette with two candles that had been burning for almost three centuries. We find **THE HIEROPHANT** in the most sacred place of Madrid, because The Pope John Paul II was the one who blessed this cathedral.

Our next stop is Retiro Park, a true lung for the city and an oasis of peace to take some rest in the exciting journey that we are taking. The arcane that awaits us among the luxuriance is **THE LOVERS**, these gardens are the perfect place for a love story, or even to give free rein to the passion among the roses, signed by the statue of Cupid. This romantic use comes from afar, when El Retiro was only for the nobility, the aristocrats had long walks here, either in search of the treasures that Felipe IV had hidden, to see the animals of the now extinct Casa de Fieras, or to attend the performances (naumaquias) at the pond. The fact is that, according to a legend of the eighteenth century, they sometimes met with a strange creature, a gremlin who made the plants grow exuberant, fragrant and showy flowers were born wherever he passed. They say that the lucky lovers who came across this little creature would have a strong and lasting love. Nowadays we have a sculpture by José Noja dedicated to this creature, which since 1985 has been waiting for the curious ones, brandishing his flute, next to the cage of bears ... Do you dare to look for it?

Passing through the Paseo del Prado, starting from the aforementioned Neptune, we will find the fountain of Apollo, which usually goes unnoticed even being very delightful. The set topped by this god is associated with the arts and divination (pattern of the oracle of Delphi), and it is a part of the same neoclassical project ordered by

Carlos III in the eighteenth century for this area of Madrid. The goddess Cybele is located in the so-called “energy umbilicus” of Madrid, she majestically rises, she is like a distant Phrygian deity, who is believed to have been worshiped from the Neolithic age. This is **THE CHARIOT**, being pulled by lions. It is representing the ancient legend of Atalanta and Hippomen, two lovers who desecrated the temple of this deity and as a punishment, they were turned into these felines and condemned to pull the car of the goddess. Cybele represents the greatest feminine deity, the fertility and strength of wild nature. In the square, we can find magnificent Madrid buildings such as the Communications Palace, the House of America, the Bank of Spain or the Buenavista Palace, all of them with mysterious and spooky stories behind them.

The Constitutional Court is among the most peculiar and original constructions we have in the city. It is nicknamed “the cake” as it is a round building with 304 windows that interconnect with four other buildings. In its upper part, crowning this tower, we can see the skylight, a transparent window that with its solar form fills the space with light; it is like the insight light, which serves to make the right decision. It was built at the end of the 20th century, the building was designed by the architects Antonio Bonet and Francisco G. Valdés. Here we can find **JUSTICE**, she is blindfolded, and she has a scale and a sword as usual, and in this particular case she is surrounded by apple trees that represent the discernment between good and evil, and olive trees as a symbol of concord. Being impartial but also implacable, she will put each one in the place that corresponds to them based on their actions.

Continuing our journey, let us make a stop at the Manzanares River in a pathway near the hermitage of St. Anthony of The Florida, decorated with frescoes painted by the artist Francisco de Goya. Next to the temple-museum we will find the bridge of the Queen Victoria. And in this symbolic place of transit we will see our **HERMIT**: Ramón María de Valle-Inclán. This writer has a captivating personality, and he is the author of the modern classic Bohemian Lights. Grotesque tragedy, the text that perfectly fits in this arcane. It is about The wonderful lamp. Spiritual exercises which were recently reprinted, since its revision in 1922 – in which you can see his occult side and how passionate he was about esotericism. He is a man of worship, an intellectual and a spiritual person. It is not accidental that in the card we see him posing with a lamp that brings light...

Not far from that bridge and that hermitage we have an entrance to fly over Madrid, getting the best views available with a cable car. **THE WHEEL** turns without stopping, repeating cycle after cycle and transporting its passengers from the Pintor Rosales promenade to Casa de Campo. It floats for eleven minutes with its 80 cabins, which since 1969 have been connecting two green areas over the Manzanares.

There are two more lions in Madrid, these ones have more fierce and challenging appearance than those that we have seen in the “performing” Cybele. In this case, it is **THE FORCE** that is in charge of keeping them at bay so that they continue defending our house of democracy: the Congress of Deputies. These two animals, called Daoíz and Velarde, were made first of plaster, then of stone, and finally of bronze after melting several cannons of the war against Morocco. Pay attention to the group of seven stars that decorate this woman’s hat, later we will talk about them.

The figure of **THE HANGED MAN** is situated in a quite curious place; it is Puerta de Alcalá that all the tourists love to take photos of. When it was built in the 18th century by order of Carlos III it became the first triumphal and monumental gate in Europe since the times of the Roman Empire. Around it scary episodes occurred, among which the assassination of Eduardo Dato, also the head of one of the conspirators against Fernando VII was hanged there, in the time of the Inquisition, there was the main burner of Madrid, where people were sentenced to death. Actually, they even say that the ghost of Vicente Ramón Richardt appeared there, he was the main conspirator against the aforementioned Spanish monarch. But time passes and in the place where they saw baleful shadows, today there is a charming place full of tourists, very alive and pleasant. Puerta de Alcalá, seeing the flow of time, is still there, joining the Cibely with the Retiro Park.

We have spent a lot of time on the surface - even gliding over it - and now it is time to go down, to descend to the underground Madrid. Tirso de Molina metro station was inaugurated in 1920, but during its construction a strange event occurred. When there was less noise, some Masons heard that it seemed to be weeping from the old wall that they had found, and thinking that it could be the wind passing through the crack, they did not focus their attention on it, and left it. When cleaning the rubble, they found bone remains of several individuals, perhaps belonging to the crypt of a former monastery of Mercedarians, located in that same place. Currently, while we wait for the subway train to stop there, behind us there are still trapped ancient skeletons and, of course, paranormal activity around them. Unfortunately, **DEATH** has walked more than once through the metro and these skeletons add some more accidents and deaths related to the Spanish Civil War, and we will never forget the tragedy of the terrorist attacks of March 11, 2004, that took place in our suburban network and left hundreds of victims.

«I went on built water, my walls are made of fire». This is one of the slogans that describes this city when it was first founded upon the Muslim initiative; named Mayrit, back to the 8th century. The first part of this riddle makes reference to the streams and aquifers that Madrid had, and the second one tells us about the Islamic walls built with flint. When an enemy projectile would hit it, it would produce sparks.

The motto can be read in a mural in the Square of the Closed Door (Plaza de Puerta Cerrada), while we find **THE TEMPERANCE**, which pours her waters into the jugs. This square receives its name in honor to the Christian wall that used to be there and was a favorite one among thugs. This entrance used to be a meeting point for pickpockets and swindlers that it ended up closing, a closing that gave name to this square forever. It is one of the most recommended places to visit in the center, full of terraces, taverns and mystery.

Now we are going back to the Retiro Park, as one of the most captivating statues is waiting for us there. There are very few representations in the world of such fretwork dedicated to the **DEVIL**, or specifically to Lucifer, the Fallen Angel. The story of this curious character tells us that he was an angel of exceptional beauty, favored by God, but he sinned in arrogance and rebelled against his creator. Some people say that he wanted to bring light (secret knowledge) to mortals but as it was intended only for divine beings, he was punished. The fact is that he was sent down from heaven to become the leader of the cohorts of hell. The statue, which crowns the fountain, was designed by Ricardo Bellver in the 19th century, although before being in the Retiro it had been located on Paseo del Prado. It is an angel with an expression of horror and a certain sadness on his face looking up to the sky. He is facing the rising sun, which is quite symbolic - and there is a serpent wrapping around his leg, representing a sin for somebody, and hidden knowledge for others. This figure has always been controversial, and it has been misinterpreted by many people.

The next place we cannot visit because it no longer exists. All Madrid residents remember that 106-meter **TOWER** that was fiercely devoured by flames and shrouded in mystery. The Windsor building was destroyed on February 12, 2005 and, although it had been burning for hours, it was around three o'clock in the morning, - the firefighters were working in the street - some video amateurs could see and record some shadows inside the skyscraper. The images spread all over the world and no one ever found out who was inside the building while the heat and smoke were suffocating, it was practically impossible to bear. For future generations these towers will always remain "the ghosts of the Windsor".

Now I would like to talk about another intangible element, important for Madrid and for the tarot: **THE STAR**. In the decoration of this card, we can see the stars, there are eight of them here, but talking about the stars, we can find seven of them on the flag of the Community of Madrid and in the city coat of arms. Each star of the card has eight points, while those of the symbols of the city have five, since there are five provinces that border with Madrid. And seven are the main stars of the Big Dipper, a constellation that was very influential for the monarchs of the Reconquesta, and that is why it was presented in some visualizations of the standards. In addition, our

seventh arcane is the aforementioned goddess Cybele, another absolute icon of the city. But the most recognizable elements of this arcane are in nature, and in Madrid we have various places where we could find it: in the Retiro park we have a couple of ponds, in addition to the Manzanares River, accompanied by a beautiful and modern park always full of bicycles and runners, and finally we can mention the lake of the Casa de Campo to which some fishermen used to go carp fishing.

After seeing the stars of Madrid, where can we see **THE MOON** framed between two sister towers? We have to go to the financial and business center Plaza de Castilla, where we will find the famous KIO Towers, which with their characteristic inclination of almost fifteen degrees and 114 meters high became the first inclined skyscrapers in the world. It is a modern place but you can feel there the magic of ancient constructions through symmetry and forms, which create an ensemble called Europe Gate (Puerta de Europa) topped with a monument to José Calvo Sotelo, and an imposing golden obelisk.

We are coming to the final stretch of our exciting journey through Madrid represented in the arcana and we cannot say that we have visited this city without passing through the Gate of **THE SUN** (Puerta del Sol). If we look at this enclave from the sky we will realize at first glance that its design is not trivial, as it has the shape of a rising sun. In this place where the Spanish road network is born, we find the Royal Post Office, which would be the base of that great rising sun. Ventura Rodriguez from Madrid was not able to finish the works of this building as he was replaced by the French Jaime Marquet. People got angry, and some people said that during the construction works an evil spirit appeared and warned the workers that they were constructing an evil building, because the new foreign architect was influenced by the devil. Marquet had to hire an exorcist priest to calm his workers with the help of the presence of this curious being with patriotic overtones. This mansion was built in 1768, but its iconic clock emerged only a century after that. Finally, it is worth mentioning that a very photogenic statue Osa and Madroño tells us about a conflict between civil and religious power for natural resources, that broke out back in the thirteenth century. Finally, the first ones stayed with the hunt and the trees (the madroño) and the second ones, with the pastures (the bear that tries to eat the leaves). And yes, the oldest data tells us about this female plantigrade.

**THE JUDGMENT** could not be anywhere else than in the cemetery of the Almudena, a huge cemetery with around five million people buried, a number that exceeds the living population of Madrid. As it happens in many cemeteries around its cypresses and gardens there is absolute peace and tranquility. And together with some impressive mausoleums and the most varied tombs in its civil area, this place has a strange beauty. Between tombs we will find the chapel of the cemetery, designed by the

great Francisco García Nava, with modernist touches and with a striking character sitting on the dome. It is an exterminating angel that once had a trumpet in his lips, as if he wanted to blow announcing by this the Final Judgment. In the past, they would say that according to the legend those who heard it would soon die. And the statue was restored out of fear and superstition with the idea to replace the musical instrument on his lap instead of in his lips.

We are going to finish this wonderful trip in **THE WORLD**, which offers us a global vision of Madrid that the major arcana have already given us. On that occasion we can see that communications are very important in this city and they are embodied in the Torrespaña building or “pirulí” - and that all the wealth is safely stored in the Bank of Spain, where ghost stories are also told in their basements. On the other hand, we are in a very cosmopolitan city with very photogenic buildings and some peculiar guardians in the form of statues of all types that we can see on the heights, especially in the Gran Vía and Alcalá street. A good example is the winged victory that we can see on the top of the Metropolis building. With all this, we have a proof that Madrid is full of sights, enigmas, esotericism, and magical places. And the final thing I want to wish you is to walk through my city with a different gaze, in other words the beginning of a new journey. Oh! And remember to take a deck of cards with you. These cards have been brought in line with the traditions of Madrid, since they have changed the Wands for **churros** (delicious sticks dipped in chocolate), the Cups for **beer glasses** (cañas), the Pentacles for **snails** (a typical delicacy of the taverns) and the swords for the **carnations** (typical flower used by the chulapos and chulapas (dancers), dressed in their traditional dress and shawl). Now it is your turn to live in Madrid and find the meaning of the phrase «From Madrid to heaven».

**Alvaro Martin** is the author of the book Enigmas and mysteries of Madrid (Almuzara), director of the radio program Echoes of the remote (Ecos de lo remoto) and the tour guide in Mysterious Routes (Rutas Misteriosas). He is a seeker and a passionate storyteller, and he attaches great importance to the intangible heritage that exists in his city in the form of different traditions and legends. To get more information visit his website [alvaromp.com](http://alvaromp.com).

## Major Arcana

### 0 THE FOOL

This card is represented by the *image of Alonso Quijano on his steed*, character of the most outstanding novel of Spanish literature and one of the main books of universal literature “The Ingenious Nobleman Sir Quixote of La Mancha” written by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra.

It is believed that about 500 million books have been sold around the world and it is the most translated Spanish book in the history (50 languages), surpassed only by the Bible. The Fool in this card represents the essence of Alonso Quijano as an extravagant man who suffered from madness, that made him believe in the reality of his own imagination, his adventures did not measure the consequences; while he was travelling the world; he was losing his mind and getting deeper and deeper into delusions of his own fantasies.

In the background you can see one of the most emblematic buildings in Madrid – The Building Spain (Edificio España), a neobaroque-style skyscraper which ends the Gran Vía street. It is the work of an architect Julián Otamendi and engineer José María Otamendi and it was inaugurated in 1953.

**Meaning:** Search for experiences, rush into a situation, explore new frontiers, break with routine, enthusiasm, illusion, lack of commitment, chaotic actions, overcome fears, madness.



**Monument to Miguel de Cervantes**

*Work of Rafael Martínez Zapatero in collaboration with Pedro Muguruza and Lorenzo Coullant Valera.*

**Inaugurated on October 12, 1929**

*Placed on Plaza de España*

## I THE MAGICIAN

This arcane is represented by the *Colombus Monument*, which is located in the square that bears his name. This project was born from the call to participate in the celebration of the royal marriage between Alonso XII and María de las Mercedes from Orleans in the year of 1878; after the death of the Monarch it was finally handed over to the Madrid City Council on the fourth centenary of the Discovery of America on October 12, 1892.

The historical figure that represents the magician is Christopher Columbus, who used everything what was in his power: communication skills, agility, etc. to reach his goal. His figure stands on the 3-legged table, in his right hand he holds the flag of Castile-La Mancha, in his left one coins that represent the acquisitions and riches of the new world; the glass of wine symbolizes the emotions and feelings, the sword - his mental agility and the globe acts as his project; 3 caravels from his project are floating around him. They are La niña, La Pinta y La Santa María.

**Meaning:** Ability to achieve goals, creativity, new projects, aspirations, search, initiation in the occult, skills to negotiate, work and even cheat.



**Monument to Columbus**

*Work of Arturo Mélida (project and pedestal) and Jerónimo Suñol (statue).*

**Opened on October 12, 1892**

*Placed on Plaza de Colón, Paseo de la Castellana*



## II THE PRIESTESS

The Priestess is depicted on the historic square *Plaza de Santa Ana*, in the district Barrio de Cortes in the center of Madrid. Behind there is the Spanish Theater that represents cultural temple of the city, which is the witness of the comedy theaters and the artistic life of dramatists like Calderón de la Barca, Lope de Vega or Cervantes between the XVI and XVII centuries.

The Plaza de Santa Ana today teems with life. As it holds mysteries in history as the priestess of the card does, it attracts many visitors of Madrid. Formerly in the center of this square, there was the Convent of Santa Ana of Carmelitas Descalzas, opened in 1586 and demolished during the reign of José Bonaparte in 1810.

The Priestess is rounded by tables and chairs, in her hands she has the book of knowledge with the symbols of “Yin and Yang” (harmony and balance with everything), above there are hanging keys that remind us that it will not be easy to access the knowledge, the Green and Red Apples above remind us about the mystery of knowledge as a symbol of life through growth.

**Meaning:** Have passivity and patience in different situations of life, being constant brings rewards, act correctly, be prudent, talents and intuitive ability, healing powers, acceptance, female receptivity, harmony.



**Plaza de Santa Ana**

*In its perimeter there are buildings such as the Spanish Theater and the Reina Victoria Hotel and sculptures such as Pedro Calderón de la Barca and Federico García Lorca.*

**It dates from 1810**

### III THE EMPRESS

This arcane is characterized by the image of a woman, which has the view of the Royal Palace from the main courtyard (Patio de Armas) as a background. *The Queen Isabella II of Spain* represents the Empress. During her reign, she surrendered political power to the parliament, she modernized important infrastructures such as the rail network and inaugurated important hydraulic works such as Canal de Isabel II. The Empress in this card is a woman with authority who envisioned and made material changes that gave prosperity to the Kingdom of Spain.

In the card, the Empress carries a shield with an eagle, a symbol of majesty, courage and connection with the spiritual world, a scepter in the other hand shows her material power. And all this comes with the splendor and femininity of her dress.

**Meaning:** Creative force, prosperity, Intelligence to plan, power to unite the material and spiritual, sexual energy, dominant power, femininity, ability to develop projects, intelligence and expressiveness.



**Patio de Armas (Palacio Real de Madrid)**

*Work of Arturo Mélida (project and pedestal) and Jerónimo Suñol (statue).*

**Built between 1738 and 1764**

## IV THE EMPEROR

The *Fountain of Neptune*, who is the God of water and the sea in Roman Mythology, is the architectural work of Madrid that represents the arcane The Emperor. This work was part of the modernization that Carlos III undertook in the eighteenth century to place Madrid at the height of such cities as Paris and St. Petersburg.

In this card, we can appreciate the God Neptune with his trident who takes the energy from the sky and the clouds and directs it to the earth as force and authority. He is standing on the chariot that has a shell form and two sea horses (hippocampi) pull this chariot, the wave that is rising has written the words - Victory, Leadership, Push and Effort, which describe the character of this arcane.

On his neck, you can see a scarf of the Athletic of Madrid, as this is the second most important place of Madrid where the fans of this Football Club celebrate their triumphs and victories; also, you can appreciate red and white team colors at the edges of the fountain.

In the background, you can see the Westin Palace Hotel, known as the Palace Hotel, which by the moment of its inauguration on September 12, 1912 became the biggest in Europe and now it is one of the most important hotels in the city.

**Meaning:** Authoritarianism, power over matter, strength, capacity for leadership and resistance, materializes reality, selfishness and possession, person or aggressive situation, father and lover, courage and talent to promote projects.



**Fountain of Neptune**

**Built between 1777 y 1786**

*Placed on Plaza de Cánovas del Castillo*

## V THE HIEROPHANT

In this card we can see a man sitting on a throne and in the background there is the *Cathedral of Saint Mary the Royal of La Almudena* with the sun rising from the east that gives splendor to the card. The Cathedral of the Almudena as everybody knows it was built on the site where old Mosque was situated and that is why the name of the cathedral was taken from the Arabic word “Almudayna” which means “Citadel”. Legend says that in 1085 once the Muslims were expelled from Madrid , the King Alfonso VI organized a procession to look for the image of the Virgin Mary that was hidden in the walls of the citadel, to prevent it from being desecrated. They say that the King started to pray with deep faith, and during the procession, the walls collapsed and the image of the virgin appeared with the candles burning and burning as if it had been buried centuries ago.

The Priest is shown on his throne in front of the Cathedral of the Almudena. The scrolls behind represent the knowledge acquired, on his head, he has a tiara of three levels. It symbolizes the material, spiritual and ethereal world. In his left hand, he holds a scepter of power, which helps him to act according to certain situations with restraint, conscience and moral dogmas. Under his tunic, there are keys that open spiritual knowledge and wisdom. With his right hand, he is pointing to two people to whom he gives instruction on prudence, morals and good habits. It is necessary to act wisely and correctly.

**Meaning:** Spiritual contact with our own being, acting in a morally correct way according to the doctrine of society, having faith, represents an older or wise person who can help both morally and spiritually, have a reflective attitude, be prudent, good work position, knowledge of listening.



**Catedral de La Almudena**

*The first stone was placed on April 4, 1883 (King Alfonso XII)*

**Its Construction dates between 1879 and 1993**

*Calle de Bailén, 10*

## VI THE LOVERS

This arcane has the famous *Big Pond of The Retiro Park* as its setting with the monument of Alfonso XII adorning it. The pond was built in the context of the Buen Retiro works for the enjoyment of King Felipe IV. Although according to historians Ramón de Mesoneros Romanos and Rodrigo Amador de los Ríos, formerly under the reign of Felipe II (1527 - 1598) there used to be a smaller pond at the same place. It was ordered to build this pond on Welcoming of his fourth wife, the Queen Anne of Austria (1549 - 1580) to Madrid. That pond gained the fame in the court of Philip IV for the representations of naval battles that recalled the triumph of the Spanish fleets.

Currently it is one of the symbols of Madrid, one of the most visited and photographed places in the city, a place of leisure and romance in the capital.

In the card, we can see an angel as a representation of the God Eros, who stands for a spiritual connection between the two complete opposites: a man and a woman. Both of them are lying in the surroundings of the pond in full flirtation or conquest. Their desire and attraction predominates over common sense, invading with sexual tension that make the protagonists go blind. Will they let themselves be swept away by passion? Will there be balance between them? What decision will they make?

**Meaning:** Attraction, union and balance of opposites, benefits, doubts, indecisions, romances, love, warning about jealousy, reaching alliances, solution to events that the client is living.



**Estanque Grande (Parque El Retiro)**

*Work of Conde-Duque de Olivares (1587 - 1645) Monument to the Spanish Homeland, personified by Alfonso XII. Architect José Grases Riera (1902 - 1922).*

## VII THE CHARIOT

In this arcane we can see the *Fountain of the Goddess Cybele*. This fountain, as well as the Fountain of Neptune, was part of the project of Carlos III to beautify the city. The Mother Goddess Cybele is a symbol of the land and fertility; she is sitting on the chariot pulled by two lions (Atalanta and Hipómenes) in the square called Plaza Cibeles, which used to have the name Plaza de Madrid (Madrid Square) and then Plaza Castelar.

In the card, you can see the Goddess Cybele, carrying a scepter, which symbolizes power of the Earth. The scepter has a banner of Real Madrid on it. The reason for that is that the celebrations of the triumphs and victories of one of the most famous football teams in the world **Real Madrid** take place in this square.

In the background, you can see the Madrid City Hall Building or Telecommunications Palace designed as the headquarters for the Post and Telegraph Society of Spain, inaugurated on March 14, 1919.

Both architectural structures symbolized an advance for the city, as well as the arcane which represents victory and progress, and nowadays this advance reaps a harvest as well as the Goddess Cybele does by enjoying her popularity among locals and tourists.

**Meaning:** Movements, actions that will succeed, fame and popularity, victory, happiness, income growth, harvest after planting, count on friends, realization of projects.



**Fountain of the Goddess Cybele (Plaza de Cibeles)**

Artists: Francisco Gutiérrez Arribas and Roberto Michel

Original Design: Ventura Rodríguez

Built between 1777 y 1782

## VIII JUSTICE

In this arcane we can see the *Roman Goddess of Justice* (Iustitia) who is the allegorical personification of moral power over judicial systems. The blindfold on her eyes symbolizes the belief that justice must be blind and towards favoritism, money, power and identity. Behind Justice there is a shadow tempting her to make the wrong decision. In the left hand, Justice is holding a pair of scales, which is a symbol of balance. In her right hand, she is holding a sword that represents the Force.

In the back of the card, there is the building of the Constitutional Court of Spain, constitutional authority that acts as a supreme interpreter of the Constitution. It may seem curious that this building was created for another purpose. It was going to be the headquarters of “Previsión Sanitaria Nacional”, a medical insurance for the members of several Professional Associations of the sanitary sector.

**Meaning:** This card tells us that we achieve in life only what we deserve, invites us to act with caution and use what we have learned to achieve better things in life, to act responsibly and with detachment. It tells us about the balance that generates harmony, emphasizing that whoever acts with honor and virtue will be very well rewarded.



**Constitutional Court of Spain**

*Constructed by the architects Antonio Bonet and Francisco G. Valdés between 1975 and 1980. The Headquarters of the Court was transferred to this building on September 16, 1981.*

**Built between 1975 y 1980**  
*6 Domenico Scarlatti Street*

## IX THE HERMIT

This arcane has as protagonist the representation of the sculpture of the character of Spanish literature: *Ramón José Simón Valle Peña*, better known as Ramón María del Valle-Inclán, a native of Villanueva de Arosa, Galicia. He was a novelist, poet, short story writer, essayist, dramatic author and journalist, who is also known as a complex and fascinating figure, a passionate man of the esoteric world, perhaps due to the influence of his childhood in the Land of Witches.

In the card, you can see a lantern that illuminates Valle-Inclán as a representation of the knowledge acquired. There is a serpent-shaped staff with 7 knots (allegorical to the 7 days of creation) on which he leans to travel its path of reflection, constantly entering a deep introspection that guides him to seek solutions for a promising future, obscurity. A misunderstood as Valle-Inclán was, he valued his plays, being considered one of the best dramatists of the Silver Age of Spanish literature (1900 - 1936).

In the back of the card, you can see "The Queen Victoria Bridge" on the Manzanares River, better known as "Puente de la Reina". On one side of the card you can see a detail that the painter has made to honor his great friend † Juan Manuel Sánchez Ríos, a Draftsman and a Ceramist, who had been the secretary of the Confraternity of the Burial of the Sardine in Madrid for decades. You can see a celebration that is taking place on Ash Wednesday that is announcing the end of Carnival. On that day, there is a tradition of burning or burial of a figure in the shape of a sardine. It symbolizes the purification of vicious and sinful things done during the holidays.

**Meaning:** Deep reflection, slow progress, analyze a situation with prudence, give importance to things that really have value, lighting, inner peace, perseverance in difficult times, search for spirituality.



**Ramón María del Valle-Inclán**

Work made by Francisco Toledo Sánchez, carried out between 1971 and 1972.

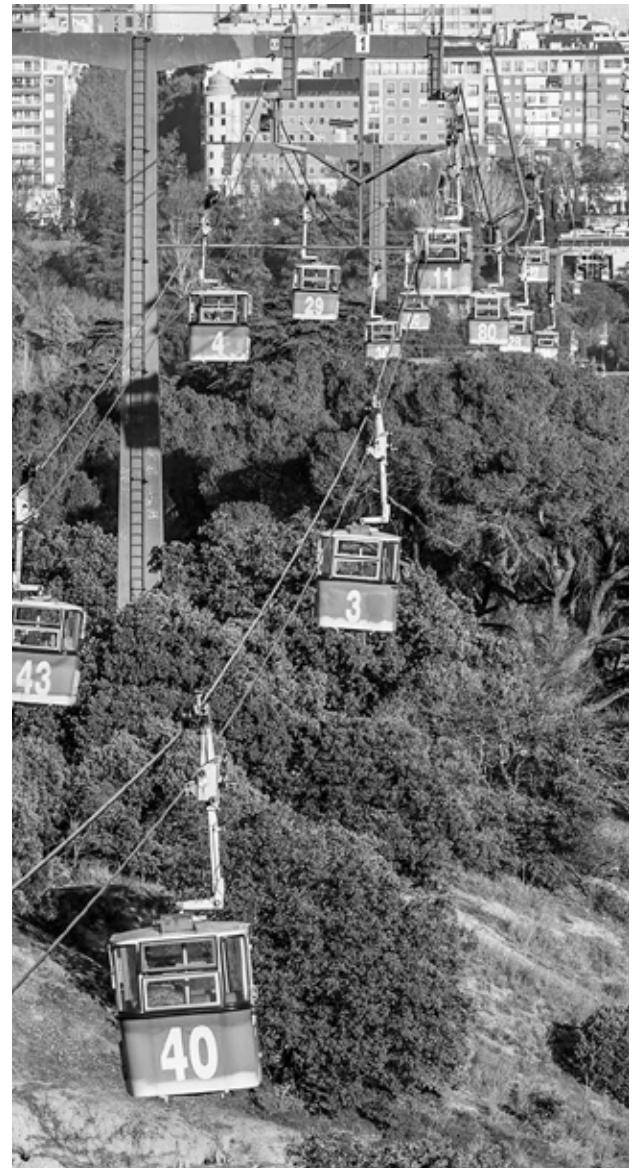
**Puente de la Reina Victoria**

Work of engineer José Eugenio Ribera Dutaste and architect Julio Martínez-Zapata constructed between 1908 -1909.

## X THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE

The representation of the card “The Wheel of Fortune” was inspired by the *Cable Car of Madrid* that takes its origin at the Paseo del Pintor Rosales and ends at the Casa de Campo. On its way it flies over La Rosaleda del Parque del Oeste, the city rail station of Príncipe Pío, the Hermitage of San Antonio of The Florida and the Manzanares River, ending its journey in the Garabitas Hill of the Casa de Campo opening unbeatable panoramic views from the city.

In this card different symbols appear. Such as monkeys: one with legs tied letting itself be carried by the fate of destiny, and another one is dropped with the movement without making any effort, or the rabbits that climb skillfully without being confused, boosting the movement in their lives. On the wheel, there is a being that reminds us that everything can be fulfilled on the material plane. Also we can see that the cable car has three cabins: one with the number 10 that represents the arcane and the master numbers 11 and 33. The number 11 that we see on the monkey side (in its negative phase) shows us an allusion to the waste of a person's potential, self-consciousness and lack of self-confidence; while the cabin 33 located on the right side stands for balance, charisma, generosity and ability to undertake life projects.



**Madrid Cable Car**

*Construction Company: Von Roll (Switzerland) - Managing Company when it was built: Teleférico de Rosales S.A (Spain)*

**Opened on June 20, 1969**

*Paseo de Pintor Rosales S/N*

*Source: ViajeJet.com*

**Meaning:** Cycle of changes that may be favorable or not, good luck (depending on the accompanying cards), Law of Cause and Effect, new employment.

## XI THE FORCE

In this arcane we can see a woman who is controlling Daoíz, the lion that adorns the right side of the entrance to the *Palace of Las Cortes*, the building that houses the Congress of Deputies. She has taken the lion out of his abode without any physical effort, using her skill for dominance and intelligence. She is influencing him and attracting him to herself while Velarde (the other lion) witnesses how the woman is holding Daoíz by the jaw without using any force.

Both lions have the names of the captains of the Barracks of Monteleón in the Maravillas district (Spanish: Barrio de Maravillas) that fought to the death against the French troops on May 2, 1808. The sculptures were the result of melting enemy cannons at the Royal Artillery Factory in Seville. These cannons were captured in the Battle of Wad-Ras in the African War of 1860.

**Meaning:** properly channel the energy in situations of conflict, intelligence that overcomes brute force, intuition about others, obtaining results in the course of the struggle and not giving up, warning about abuse of power, power, success in business, making unforeseen decisions, satisfactory sexual activity.



**Palacio de las Cortes**

Architect Narciso Pascual Colomer.

Built between 1843 y 1850

Between Calle Zorrilla and Calle San Jerónimo

## XII THE HANGED MAN

The *Puerta de Alcalá* serves as the background for the arcane THE HANGED MAN. Charles III ordered to build this Neo-classical monument as a commemorative symbol of his official entry to Madrid as a King on December 13, 1760. This gate is a replacement of one of the five ancient doors. They all were built in the sixteenth century and they were giving the access to the Villa de Madrid. Its name takes its origin from the old path from Madrid to the nearby town of Alcalá de Henares.

In the card, we can see the vivid light of summer sunsets coming through the arches, which have made this monument one of the most visited in Madrid. The gate was declared a National Historic-Artistic Monument in 1976.

The Man who represents this arcane is hanging by his right foot, his left leg is bent at the knee, and his hands are tied. It is impossible to move being in this position, it makes him suffer, his pain is growing, and any movement is unrealizable. At this moment, the situation is in hands of the Chaos and the man has to come to terms with it. The man is hanging on a branch, which is supported by two trunks. These trunks represent suffering; each of them has 12 pruned branches. In numerology the sum of 1 and 2 gives number 3, which is the result of reflection and illumination and allows us to find our own truths and principles.

**Meaning:** Moment of inertia, feeling empty, it is time to look at life from a different perspective, evolution due to sacrifice, tying that helps to give another vision of the moment, necessary trials that will make the future better, suffering, bitterness, meditation, acceptance and renunciation.



**Puerta de Alcalá**

Architect Narciso Pascual Colomer with the participation of Francisco Gutiérrez Arribas y Roberto Michel.

**Built between 1769 y 1778**

*Place on Plaza de la Independencia*

## XIII DEATH

The figure of Death with a sickle invades the *Madrid Metro* tracks in the *Tirso de Molina station* in the Central District. In the square that is on the surface of the subway station was a site that used to belong to the Convent of Mercy. After its abandonment and demolition years gave way to the Plaza del Progreso which was renamed Tirso de Molina, pseudonym of Gabriel Téllez (1579 - 1648), one of the monks who lived in the convent and who stood out as a dramatist and poet with profane works that caused more than one dislike to the church.

They believe that in this subway station there are hidden tombs of Mercedarian monks and that when the construction of this station began, the remains of the corpses of the monks were appearing and as they did not know at the time what to do with them, they say that they were put on the station platforms and covered with tiles.

In the card you can see the exit to Conde de Romanones, where the painter has highlighted the signs with special emotional character that remind him of the time he lived in this area. The remains of the human bodies on the tracks are related to that transformation, the old concepts giving way to the new. The old convent of La Merced with time gave way to engineering and technology with the construction of this station, which has become an improvement for the life of the citizens of the capital.

**Meaning:** Transformation, changes in favor of the person who is told the fortune, abandon ideas from the past that will lead to a renewal for the future, changes of residence, employment or partner, reflections on the extent to which we must maintain or not a certain situation when we are warned that the end of that cycle is finished.



**Metro de Tirso de Molina**

Inaugurated on December 26, 1921  
Línea 1 – Plaza Tirso de Molina – Madrid

## XIV TEMPERANCE

In this arcane action takes place at the Square of the Closed Door (*Plaza de Puerta Cerrada*), legends say that the cross-shaped landmark is located on the place of the original door to the walled enclosure of Madrid, which served as an access during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. This space is known for its famous trompe-l'oeil mural of climbing plants, painted by the author Alberto Corazón in 1983.

The name “Puerta Cerrada” (“Closed Door”) comes from the incidents of robberies and assaults that were happening in that area. So in the end it was decided to close the door at night.

In the card, you can see a winged figure (angel) that is lying in the square, the cross-shaped landmark behind her, historic buildings and on one of them there is the trompe l'oeil by Alberto Corazón.

The angel is posing with two jars: the silver one in her left hand and the golden one in her right hand. Both represent the universal duality (yin and yang, positive and negative, past and present, active and passive). The transfer of liquid refers to the transmutation of negative energies into positive ones without any force, but only deep awareness and balance will change our lives.

**Meaning:** Self-control, awareness, reflection that implies regeneration, internal changes, ability to focus on situations with calmness and from an internal vision, turn unbalanced energies into harmony.



**Plaza de Puerta Cerrada**

*Historic District of Madrid*

**It dates from the 12th century**

*Barrio La Latina*

## XV THE DEVIL

The *statue of the fallen angel* located in *The Retiro Park*, is the Madrid icon that represents the arcane XV.

The figure is located 666 meters above sea level in reference to the sea level point in Alicante. It awakens the enigma of the people of Madrid to see Lucifer falling from the sky, imprisoned by snakes that are tying his legs and his right arm.

Throughout history, the roundabout where the statue is located has been occupied by the famous Chapel of San Antón, then the Porcelain Factory of Buen Retiro and later another fountain built before that of the Fallen Angel, the latter being an initiative of Duke Fernan Nuñez in 1874.

Numerous protests of the Madrilenian society of that time were raised for erecting a statue dedicated to Satan.

According to Angel del Río, the historian from Madrid, in the 1940s and 1950s this place was a meeting point for satanic rituals and it was even considered to be removed from the park. Nowadays, those who love the occult and the supernatural do not stop being attracted to this sculptural group of the city.

In the card, you can see the representation of Satan as a goat imprisoned by a snake on a pedestal, beneath there are two chained up figures of imps. The one on the left has feminine features and the one on the right has masculine ones.

**Meaning:** Creative energy at the material level, being tied to an emotional or earthly situation, intense and uncontrolled sexual attraction, greed, selfishness, pleasure, power of conquest, ambition of power and fortune, control over others, fears, traps, aberrations, slavery.



**Fuente del Ángel Caído**

*Original statue of Ricardo Bellver.*

*Pedestal: Francisco Jareño*

**Inaugurated in 1885**

*Glorieta del Ángel Caído - Parque El Retiro*

## XVI THE TOWER

This arcane is commemorative to the *Windsor Tower*, a 32-storey office building located in the financial center of Madrid (AZCA). A fire destroyed it on February 12, 2005. It was a building owned by Asón Inmobiliaria de Arriendos, controlled by "El Corte Inglés" and it served as headquarters of the Deloitte, a company that audited the FG Group and whose reports had been requested by the Anti-Corruption Prosecutor a day before the incident. The fire destroyed everything, leaving no physical data according to the representatives of the company. The fire started around 23:08 on the 21st floor and all the information that the prosecution needed was kept on the 23rd floor.

As a curious anecdote during the fire an amateur video recorded "The Ghosts of Windsor" the figure of two people on the 16th floor inside the burning building, occupied by the Deloitte company. Madrilenian imagination fed the mysteries of this event. Were there really ghosts in the Windsor? The firefighters could not do anything. Questions like: Why was the water pressure so low that night? How could a cigarette butt have caused this fire? Why was a gas leak caused that same night while the firefighters struggled with the fire? Why are there still mysteries in this fire? An unresolved puzzle.

In the card, you can see a tower burning in flames where the words War, Collapse, Brusqueness, Pain and Rupture are related to the meaning of the tower, two characters that are not the ghosts of the Windsor are falling from the tower as a symbol of drastic liberation that will generate changes in their lives.

**Meaning:** Old structures of thought and action are falling apart; bonds are dissolved; pain, ruptures, changes without return; our foundations are put to the test and they give us lessons to create solid foundations in the future.



**Torre Windsor**

*It was located in 65 Raimundo Fernández Villaverde Street, It collapsed after a fire in 2005.*

**Construido entre 1975 y 1979**

*Source: Ermanno Zanoli*

## XVII THE STAR

A young woman with two amphorae in her hands empties their contents and it works as a symbol of exteriorizing and releasing the past. Behind there is a grove that reminds us of the green spaces of the capital, which are located next to the banks of the *Manzanares River* and five globes that cross the sky of Madrid. We especially can highlight the one with the Madrid coat of arms, which has the bear and strawberry tree on it, surrounded by seven Stars that represent the constellation Ursa Minor.

Around the woman's figure, you can see her aura in yellow that represents inner strength connected with the Universe that makes her glow. Eight stars are shining above her head and it symbolizes the hope and the confidence to achieve the goals that you set. Her understanding makes her reflect and be in harmony with her thoughts and emotions. Now she is more rational and balanced, because she has gone through a process of transformation and healing that will allow her to face life with its fluidity, a sense of justice and full harmony with universal energy.

**Meaning:** Renewal, healing, gift of charm, creative person, confidence in the future, tranquility, new projects, announcement of pregnancies, favorable situations to bet on, guidance and wishes fulfilled.



Río Manzanares

## XVIII THE MOON

*"The Gate of Europe"* inclined Towers are the icon of Madrid, and they represent the arcane "The Moon". The towers are well known as Las Torres Kio, a nickname that comes from the initials of the company that develops the project: Kuwait Investments Office. They are the second largest twin towers in Spain and one of the most important architectural complexes in the Madrid skyline.

In the center of the card, you can see a fountain featuring the monument to José Calvo Sotelo, which redirects the energy from the moon towards two towers and under them - to two howling dogs, which receive her influence. The Moon transmits calmness and prudence. A crab emerges from the depths representing all our internal fears and demons. It is our wildest beast that allows us to experience the most hidden and forbidden of our mind, letting us let go and overcome our fears.

**Meaning:** fear of the unknown, our subconscious, phobias, vices, acting with caution because reality is not what it seems, letting yourself be influenced by emotions, false perceptions (illusions), face a new sublime consciousness, corruption, deception, false friendships, transformation and occultism.



**Torres "Puerta de Europa"**

Architects Phillips Jhonson y John Burgee.

Built between 1989 y 1996

Paseo de la castellana, 119 y 216

## XIX THE SUN

This arcane is represented by the most emblematic square of Madrid “Gate of the Sun” (*Puerta del Sol*); it is an important meeting point in the city for locals and visitors. One of the theories about the origin of its name goes back to the year 1520, according to some historians, to the times of the Rebellion of the townspeople during the Rebellion of the Comuneros, which caused discontent and indignation against Carlos I. Faced with the situation of violence and hunger that existed at this time the authorities of Madrid decided to erect a protection fort whose door faced east. Although some unconfirmed reviews indicate that a Sun was drawn on this door, others say that there was a castle behind the fort on whose door a stone with the relief of a sun was carved. There are many speculations that are made on the drawing of the king of the sky; the certain thing is that the castle was demolished in 1570, disappearing together with the vestiges of the famous door that was looking to the east.

The Royal Post Office, built in the eighteenth century, is the oldest building in The Gate of the Sun, and it serves as the background in the card. On its roof there is a tower with a clock, although this clock is not the first one that was placed there. The one that is at present moment located there was donated by the well-known Watchmaker Losada (José Rodríguez Conejero) to the people of Madrid. The twelve chimes of this clock are the protagonists of the old night in Spain, people eat the grapes in front of the post office building. Another icon that we can see here is The Bear and The Strawberry Tree. It is the heraldic symbol of the city that is represented in a statue, that was inaugurated for the square in 1967. In the card, two characters enjoy the energy that the king of the sky emanates from above, filling them with vitality and offering emotion to their lives, because now they celebrate their transcendence.

**Meaning:** News that brings joy to our lives, feeling blessed, happy unions or associations, good omen, high spirituality, triumph, creativity, gift of healing, time of clarity, success.



**Puerta del Sol**

*Km 0 of the radial Roads (National of Spain).*

## XX JUDGEMENT

The *Cemetery of the Almudena* is the largest necropolis in the city and one of the biggest in Western Europe. It is the icon of Madrid that represents the arcane The Judgment. It was named in honor of the patron saint of the capital "The Virgin of the Almudena". Its origins go back to 1860, due to the growth of the population and the plan of expansion of the city.

There are pantheons, chapels, monuments of artistic interest, sculptures and architectures of neogothic, neoclassical, modernist styles, among others in 120 hectares which occupies the territory of the cemetery. It is considered a center of Necrotourism, where guided tours are offered to places of cultural interest with more than 130 years of history.

In the background of the card the main entrance to the cemetery is depicted. In the foreground there is an angel that flies over a grave resuscitating the body of a man who lies in a coffin. The others around him have already been returned to life. They are all naked. It shows that they are in the stage of changes, where nothing is hidden, the past is released, blame and errors are all gone away. Everything that could be repressed is overcome; hence, this card is considered to be related to success, enlightenment, understanding and a constructive vision of what you have lived and what you need to start a new period, a new rebirth, and a new life.

**Meaning:** Positive Change, economic expansion, new opportunities, rebirth, enlightenment, spirituality, new ideas and experiences, the good comes just when you are ready receive it, challenges which you will be prepared for, a great awakening.



**Cementerio de La Almudena**

Architects Fernando Arbós y Tremanti, José Urioste y Velada (initial project).

Opened in 1884

Avenida de Daroca, 90

## XXI The World

In this card, we can see a female figure in the center, pointing to a globe that is above her head. Around her, we can see the laurel wreath in the shape of an egg, which symbolizes success.

**In the upper right:** we can see the image of an eagle that represents the water element and the sign of Scorpio as a symbol of profound transformations in life. Below it we can find the *Carrión Building or Capitol Building* declared as the cultural heritage site of Spain; well known for the neons that illuminate the brand of the Schweppes drink and that has become one of the icons of the Gran Vía street.



**Carrión Building**



**Metropolis Building**

**In the lower right:** we see the image of an Ox representing the earth element and the fixed sign of Taurus as a symbol of prosperity achieved through effort and work. Above we can see the *Metropolis Building* located in the corner that joins Calle Alcalá (Alcalá Street) with Gran Vía and asserts itself with its French style, crowned by a Winged Victory of Samothrace. The work by Coullaut-Valera and his shiny slate dome adorned with golden plaits.

**In the upper left:** we can see the figure of an angel that represents the air element and the sign of Aquarius, as a symbol of universal fraternity and eternal engine. Below we can see the *Torrespaña telecommunications tower*, known as the Pirulí and the headquarters of the Spanish Radio and Television Corporation (RTVE). It is there where the news and information of the Spanish public channels (TVE) are produced and broadcast.

**In the lower left:** we can see the *Bank of Spain Building* that represents the Spanish architecture of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is the headquarters of government institution of Spanish state that serves as the nation's central bank. Below it, we can find the image of a lion that represents the Leo sign, a fixed element of fire as a symbol of active energy.



**Torrespaña telecommunications tower**

**Meaning:** Realization and successful completion of projects, acquired experience, good luck, good results, completion of a stage, evolution, favorable situation, guaranteed success, spiritual growth, improvement of a situation, trust, fulfillment and travel.



**Bank of Spain Building**

## Minor Arcana

### Cups

The Suit of cups is represented by illustrations of beer, served in beer mugs and pints, which give rise to an active lifestyle in Madrid. The city has the honor of being the city with the largest number of bars in Spain and one of the cities where beer is served best.

**Correspondence:** Water element

**Ace of Cups:** Moment of fullness on an emotional level, projects with strength and good energy, fertility, promotions, new opportunities, unions, associations, favorable economic situation.

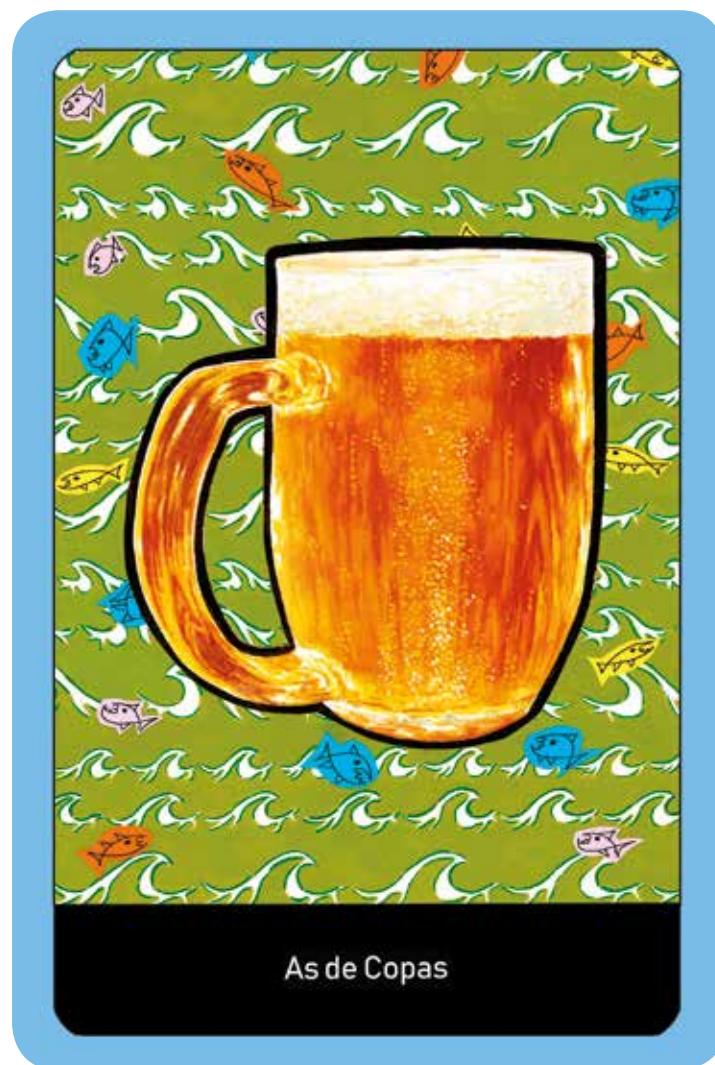
**Two of Cups:** Balance, trust and collaboration between partners and/or associations, attraction, romanticism, good news, achievement of objectives, giving and receiving blessings.

**Three of Cups:** Celebration, good friendships, family union, beneficial associations, positive energy that allows to recover strength, positive work environment, wedding announcement and new people on a sensual level.

**Four of Cups:** Exhaustion, invasion of contradictory and negative feelings, disappointment, defensive attitude that does not allow to see the good opportunities, stubbornness and obstinacy.

**Five of Cups:** Disappointment, emotional losses, pessimism towards the future, self-punishment, associations that generate sadness, bad situation at work and in terms of emotions.

**Six of Cups:** New meeting with old friends, meetings with ex-partners, escape to the past positive experiences, that bring nostalgia, comparisons with the past, search for the lost inner child.



**Seven of Cups:** Fantasies and illusions that will bring losses, utopias that lead to failure, escape from reality, temptations and falsehood.

**Eight of Cups:** Deceptions, failures, leaving the past behind, exhaustion, battle without meaning, loneliness and loss.

**Nine of Cups:** Well-being, happiness in all aspects of life, strengthening of associations, stability, progress, luck and success in projects, resolution of problems.

**Ten of Cups:** Family harmony, understanding, important meeting with family and friends, abundance, right path, relationship and associations that reach the commitment; the predominant importance of emotional versus the material, family support.

**Page of Cups:** Inspiration, new beginnings, wishes for happiness, sensitivity to art, good news about the family, optimism and hope.

**Horse of Cups:** Man, romantic and full of sensitivity woman, magnetism; announcement of a person that comes into your life, filling it with fantasies; good economic news.

**Queen of Cups:** Woman deeply attached to her emotions, intuition, capacity for maternal compassion, announcement of motherhood, and moments of passivity.

**King of Cups:** Person of perfect balance and control of his emotions, emotional maturity; intelligent behavior, that allows to resolve conflicts both at work and in the family; diplomacy.



## Swords

The Suit of Swords is represented by illustrations of Carnations, a flower that adorns the dress of Chulapos and Chulapas every May 15th in honor of the patron of Madrid: "San Isidro Labrador". During the holidays these racy characters adorn the streets of the capital. During La Pradera de San Isidro and La Ermita del Santo they wear their beautiful carnations attire.

**Correspondence:** Air Element

**Ace of Swords:** Energy and Will to test everything, doubts are clearing, persuasion, mental clarity that leads to new beginnings and closure of cycles, new vision.

**Two of Swords:** Evade responsibility to decide, difficulty to make a decision, dilemmas, rivalry, contemplate different points of view before making a decision, feeling of being trapped, mental struggle.

**Three of Swords:** Emotional pain, break up, disappointments, betrayal, arguments and incomprehension.

**Four of Swords:** Need to rest and recover, re-evaluate the different aspects of your life, loneliness.

**Five of Swords:** Failure, confrontations and battles where obstacles occur, false victory, arrogance, struggles that bring losses, negativity.

**Six of Swords:** Take important decisions in the short term, after the fight the best decision is to make a change, upcoming trips, evolve, change course, overcome conflicts, new dawn.

**Seven of Swords:** Deception, betrayal, think well before saying a lie, danger to be a victim of fraud or deception, unrealizable dreams, problems in family or with partners.



**Eight of Swords:** Conflicts, arguments, bad news, possibility to be trapped in a wrong emotional condition, search for a logical way out, bad time to make decisions.

**Nine of Swords:** Fear, anguish, anxieties, fear of the future, lack of energy, harbinger of a crisis, suffering.

**Ten of Swords:** Painful life stage, death and end of a cycle, a relationship that ends, betrayals that generate a lot of pain, clarity once the pain is over, deep life changes.

**Page of Swords:** Energy and enthusiasm to carry out any action, vanity, informality with the words, person who watches, poor reliability.

**Horse of Swords:** Courage and great enthusiasm to reach objectives, an impetuous and mind-blowing person; the claim of responsibility because of such energy, new projects, good news and success.

**Queen of Swords:** Woman with control of her emotions, coldness, maturity, giving more importance to logic than to emotions, distrustfulness, excellence in business.

**King of Swords:** Intellectual person with authority and military power, strategist, arrogant, keeps emotions under control, resolves everything with firm decisions.



## Pentacles

The suit of Pentacles is represented by illustrations of snails which have become a classic delicacy of the bars in Madrid and worship for the Gourmets of the city. They enjoy it, served in casseroles, pinchos or tapas. One of the most famous dishes among these is "Los Caracoles a la Madrileña"

**Correspondence:** Earth element

**Ace de Pentacles:** Prosperous investments, business, receiving money, economic success, welfare, promotion, new projects, joy.

**Two of Pentacles:** Conflict and confusion of ideas, duality, obstacles that will bring concerns, doubts, diversity, delayed projects.

**Three of Pentacles:** Projects that take shape and give encouragement to continue, growth, expansion of ideas and projects, teamwork that generates good results.

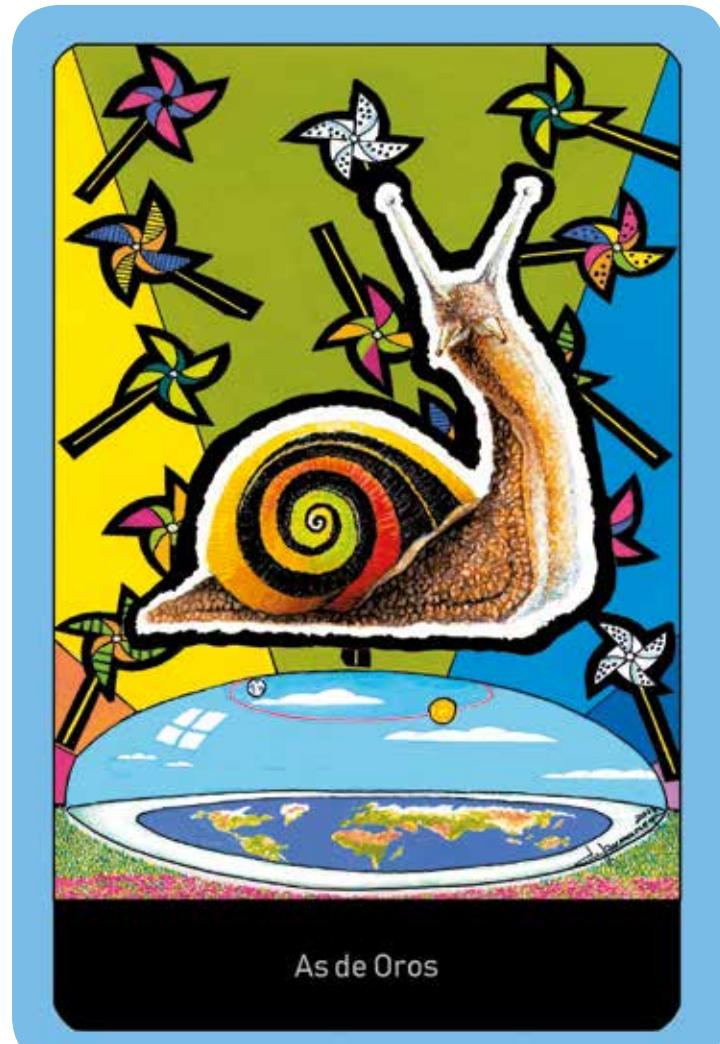
**Four of Pentacles:** Greed, importance of material possessions, saving, person with cold and calculated feelings, anxiety caused by finances and selfishness.

**Five of Pentacles:** Economic adversities, poverty, financial imbalance, abandonment, rejection and sadness.

**Six of Pentacles:** Luck in an unstable period, receiving help or financial support from someone, charity and consideration, offering and being willing to receive.

**Seven of Pentacles:** Consistency that bears fruit, societies that will bring progress, family reconciliations, unions, good news, good business and success.

**Eight of Pentacles:** Beneficial changes that are coming, opening of roads, luck that is achieved with a lot of effort and dedication, money issues that will be solved, need to be careful with money.



**Nine of Pentacles:** Triumph obtained through effort, enjoyment as a reward for struggles, harmonic life, resolution of problems and evolution.

**Ten of Pentacles:** Abundance, stability and family harmony, protection, wealth, gratitude to the ancestors, births.

**Page of Pentacles:** Young person with enthusiasm, start of projects in life, studies, work, usage of resources.

**Horse of Pentacles:** Slow but sure progress that augurs success, meticulousness, astuteness in the business world, progressive projects, greed.

**Queen of Pentacles:** Independent, safe and influential woman, matriarch, achievement of economic objectives, fertility and excellent time for business.

**King of Pentacles:** Authority, abundance and prosperity, achievement of goals, planning, man that represents help, stability and trust.



## Wands

The Suit of Wands is represented by illustrations of Churros (bow shape) and Porras (vertical shape), two components of the typical Madrid breakfast, made with water and wheat flour. They provide energy and vitality to start the day in the city.

**Correspondence:** Fire Element

**Ace of Wands:** Creativity, fertility, new ideas, new work activity or new stage in your life; key moment and opportunities.

**Two of Wands:** Plan an action, make decisions, go forward, projects that require development.

**Three of Wands:** Confidence to move forward, development of negotiations to achieve objectives, transfers or trips, union and associations.

**Four of Wands:** Celebration of the victory, completion of a difficult stage, commitments, active sexuality, open doors for positive changes or movements.

**Five of Wands:** Conflicts that will generate positive changes, learn to listen to opinions to evaluate them and make decisions, disorganization.

**Six de Wands:** Triumph, achievement of the goals despite the difficulties, recognition and appreciation, happiness.

**Seven of Wands:** Challenges with obstacles that will lead to victory, despite all the fears; presence of sufficient strength and courage to overcome difficulties.

**Eight of Wands:** Energy free of obstacles, ideal time to meet objectives, moment of optimism and vitality, what you want is achieved with good rhythm.

**Nine of Wands:** Moment of obstacles that delays your projects, fatigue after fights, attacks by other people, anxiety and negative impact.



As de Bastos

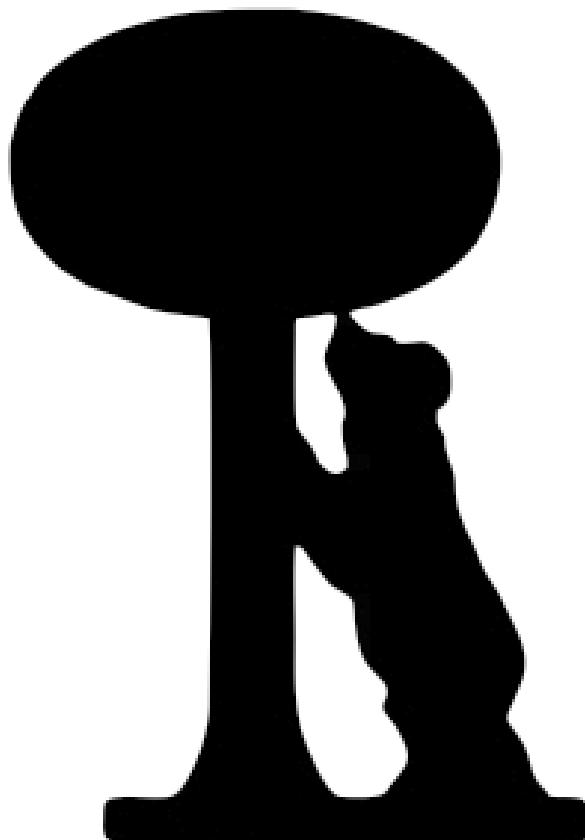
**Ten of Wands:** Overload of work that generates fatigue, labor oppression, burden, and desire to achieve the goal and succeed, despite the obstacles.

**Page of Wands:** Young person with potential and talent, with good intentions and desire to learn. It is a letter of progress and new opportunities in life.

**Horse of Wands:** It is time to pursue your dreams and go for what you want; obstacles are overcome, it is recommended to think well before acting, appearance of a young man that helps achieve goals.

**Queen of Wands:** Dominant woman of decisive character, independent, who puts into practice creative ideas, which are profitable and prosperous; leader by nature, stubborn, possibility of pregnancies.

**King of Wands:** Man that represents action and power, a leader by nature, visionary; the obstacles are opportunities for this man; productivity, fertile and virile stage, warning of selfishness.



## Backside of the cards

Carlos Pumariega has chosen a special design for the backside of the cards opting for a red background, because this color is associated with the city of Madrid for being the color of its flag.

In the center we can see an illustration of the Bear and the Strawberry tree, the icon of Madrid. This statue is located in the central axis of the capital, at the beginning of Calle Alcalá on Puerta del Sol Square.

The four corners of the cards are illustrated with the same representation of the tetramorph that we can see in the card "The World" composed of the four signs of the zodiac, which symbolize the four elements or forces. By coming together, these elements create life.

They are also associated with the vision of the Jewish prophet Ezekiel, with the four evangelists: Luke, Mark, John and Matthew with characteristic features of birds of prey, bulls, lions and human forms.

Beyond this biblical relationship, we refer to the fact that these traits were common in some Sphinges of Babylon, from where Ezekiel was exiled. The Tetramorph on the back side of the cards is composed of:

- **The Eagle** (*water sign Scorpio*), attributed to the visions that Ezequiel had of Juan Evangelista.
- **The Ox** (*earth sign Taurus*), attributed to Saint Luke the Evangelist.
- **The Lion** (*fire sign Leo*), attributed to St. Mark the Evangelist.
- **The Angel** or human representation (*air sign Aquarius*), which is attributed to the Evangelist Saint Matthew.



## Biography of the painter

1951 Born in Madrid

1978 Begins studying at the Faculty of Fine Arts of San Fernando, University Complutense of Madrid.

1979 Exhibition at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Madrid.

1979 Exhibition at the Zosso Gallery, Friburg, Switzerland.

1979 Exhibition in the Spit Gallery, Santander

1980 Exhibition at the Chaminade High School, Madrid.

1981 Exhibition at the Liceo Orensano.

1981 Exhibition at the Municipal Savings Bank of Vigo.

1981 Exhibition at the Municipal Savings Bank of Villa García de Arosa, Vigo.

1981 Participates with the Aida-Films Society in the making of a short film about Bosch as a scriptwriter, decorator and actor.

1982 Participates with the company Aida Films in the making of the short film "Me buscaste la Ruina" as an actor.

1982 He finishes his studies at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Madrid. Finalist in the following national and international competitions:

1982 III Art Biennial City of Oviedo.

1982 IV Biennial of Art City of Barcelona.

1982 National Competition I.L.M.O.

City Council of Alcorcón, Madrid.

1985 National Competition I.L.M.O.

City Council of Móstoles Madrid.

1985 National Competition I.L.M.O.

City Council of Madrid.

1985 National Competition I.L.M.O.

City Council of Cuenca.

1985 XXIII National Competition of Alcázar de San Juan, Ciudad Real.

1985 XIV National Contest of Seville.

1986 Torrejón de Ardoz National Contest, Madrid.

1986 Foundation Contest of the King's College, Alcalá de Henares, Madrid.

1982-1985 Resides in New York, During this time he works in the Architect Josep Fiebiguer's studio, preparing a very large preparing a very large artistic project about Matadero Madrid, a space, where dialoge between the arts (Painting, sculpture, illumination and sound) begins.

He works with the sculptor Miguel Márquez, Argentina and Antonio Ruzza, Italy.

1986 Presentes in the San Pol Hall Madrid on 04/21/1986 the aforementioned project, in a lecture talk colloquium, "El Matadero Municipal de Madrid, a Scope of Culture Avant-garde."

1987 Exhibition at the Villa de Madrid Cultural Center, Sketches, paintings and sculptures, about the aforementioned Municipal Slaughterhouse project.

1990 Selected V BMV award  
1999 Exhibition at the Laxeiro Gallery, Vigo.  
2003 Exhibition at the Corneone Gallery, Oviedo.  
2006 Exhibition at the Corneone Gallery, Oviedo.  
2006 XXXI BMV Award  
2007-2008 Exhibits at the Laxeiro Galleries  
2017 Participates in the “VIII Interregional Festival of Tarot Readers, Congress Hall Vasilievsky” St. Petersburg “Russia.  
2018 Participates in the presentation of the Russian Tarot 1917, in the 7th International Tarot Congress, held in Madrid, on 11-3-2018.

#### **Awards obtained:**

1982 First prize University of Fine Arts of San Fernando, Madrid.  
1982 Second Prize National Competition ILMO AYTO. of Alcorcon.  
1999 Medal III Biennial City of Oviedo  
1985 Honorable Mention XIV Seville National Contest.  
2006 Finalist XXXI BMV Award.  
2010 Honorable Mention ILMO National Contest. City Council of Cuenca.

## **Acknowledgments**

To the whole family of the Museo del Tarot that supported us at all times, offering their help with this wonderful project we are sharing with you today. Special thanks to:

**Carlos Pumariega**, for his dedication to this work as a painter, his wonderful artistic style that he could fully reflect in this unique work, dedicated to Madrid, despite the difficulties he had.

**David Gómez Rubio**, for his collaboration as a fortune-teller and astrologer providing contributions, ideas and advice during the process of creation of the cards in this deck.

**Oksana Agafonova**, for her collaboration in photography, logistics and translation of the work.

**Álvaro Martín**, author of the book Riddles and secrets of Madrid (Almuzara), for the collaboration and help with the prologue of the book that accompanies the deck.

**Betty Rojas**, for her collaboration as a tarot reader in the research and writing of the book that accompanies the cards of this tarot deck.

**José A. Travascio**, for his collaboration in editing the book.

**Victor Amell**, for his collaboration and dedication in the layout of the project.

And in a privileged way to you, for being a part of this story while you are reading these lines.

*What would life be without a tiny drop of madness?  
Erasmo de Rotterdam*