

IN ENGLISH 

DOMÈNECH I MONTANER



Collection
BIG
NAMES
for
SMALL
PEOPLE

■ Cossetània

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THE *RENAIXENÇA*

1

At the end of the 19th century, the world was changing. With the Industrial Revolution came new inventions, like the steam engine, and innovative beliefs, such as the right of different peoples to decide their future. In Catalonia, this idea was led by the supporters of the *Renaixença* (“Catalan Renaissance”). These people organised themselves to champion the Catalan language and culture. Together, they were involved in building a modern country. Lluís Domènech i Montaner was one of the most prominent supporters of this movement and he devoted all his efforts to transforming the country. This is his story.



CATALAN ART NOUVEAU

2

Domènech i Montaner's great vocation was architecture. He could think of no better way to help construct Catalonia than designing houses, hotels, concert halls, hospitals and other buildings. So he studied in Barcelona and Madrid and also travelled all over Europe. There, he discovered the revolution affecting his profession. Young architects were applying techniques never seen before and also reviving styles from the past. They put these trends together to create a new style. In Europe it was called *art nouveau*. In Catalonia, it was *Modernisme*. And Domènech i Montaner was one of its greatest exponents.

