

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE  
FEMINIST READING CLUBS IN  
EUSKAL HERRIA:  
FEMINIST AGENDA EUSKAL  
LITERATURAN, A CASE STUDY

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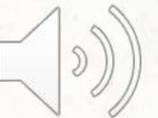
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**FEMINIST READING CLUBS IN  
EUSKAL HERRIA**



# FEMINIST READING CLUBS IN EUSKAL HERRIA



Gema Lasarte,  
Feminist Agenda  
Euskal Literaturan,  
Gasteiz

Josune Muñoz,  
Skolastika Bilbao



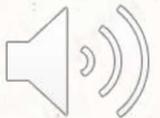
Iratxe Retolaza,  
Casa de las Mujeres,  
Donostia

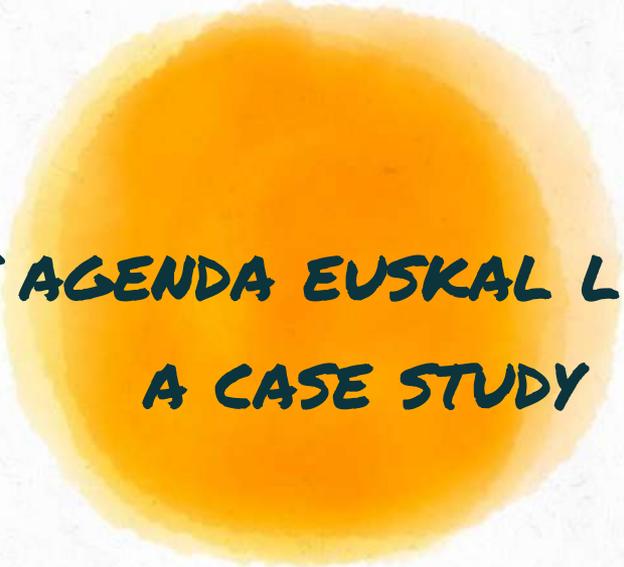
Begoña Etayo,  
La hora violeta,  
Gasteiz



# FEMINIST READING CLUBS IN EUSKAL HERRIA

- ▶ More than 20 feminist reading clubs in Euskal Herria.
- ▶ Women writers and literary critics coordinate many of these groups: Maite Esnal, Yolanda Arrieta, Kattalin Miner, Uxue Alberdi, Amaia Alvarez-Uria...
- ▶ These clubs measure the importance of feminist movements in EH.
  - Around 400 people collectively sharing their readings.
  - New phenomena which is also taking place in other areas of the Spanish state.





**FEMINIST AGENDA EUSKAL LITERATURAN:  
A CASE STUDY**



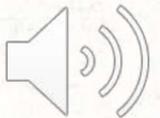
# FEMINIST AGENDA EUSKAL LITERATURAN, A CASE STUDY

## ORIGINS

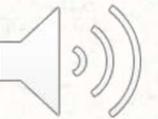
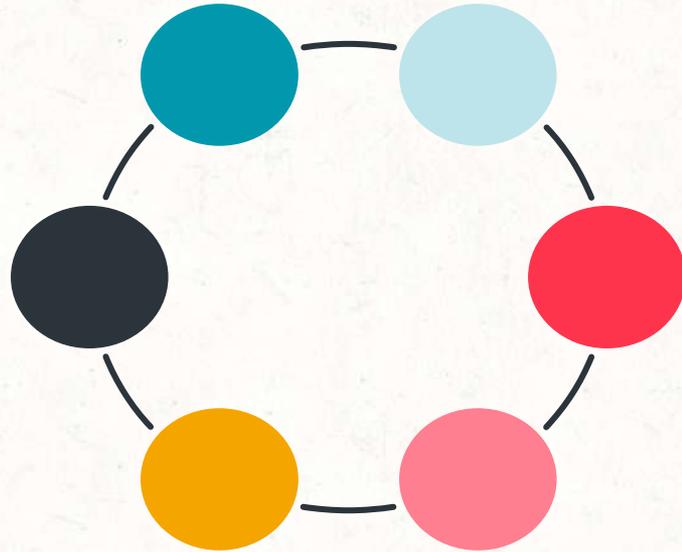
- ▶ Started in 2015
- ▶ Lead by Gema Lasarte
- ▶ Managed by the School for Feminist Empowerment in Vitoria-Gasteiz.
- ▶ Age range: 25- onwards
- ▶ Mostly women\*

## WHAT DO WE DO?

- ▶ Meet once a month
- ▶ 2 hour long meetings
- ▶ Read the same text:
  - Poetry, novels, tales, essays
- ▶ Discuss major issues in the text from a gender-based perspective
- ▶ Dialogical literary chats

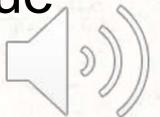


# PROMOTING A DEMOCRATIC READING



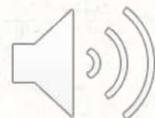
## DIALOGICAL LITERARY CHATS

- The interpretation of texts is not the exclusive monopoly of scholars, but is the territory for dialogue between people (Pulido y Zepa, 2010).
- The structuralist theory is questioned by breaking with the idea that a certain cultural status or knowledge is required to interpret texts.
- Bakhtin's (1981) dialogical approach & Flecha (2000): Dialogism exists within any text.
- It leads us to "a more critical, reflective and enriching dialogue" (Palomares y Domínguez, 2019, p. 41).



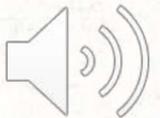
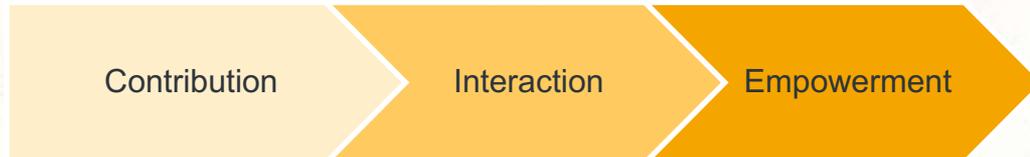
## DIALOGICAL LITERARY CHATS

- Advocating for a polyphonic reading, means breaking with the hierarchy of the literary canon.
- Selection criteria in the *Feminist Agenda Euskal Literaturan* reading club:
  - Written by women \*
  - Published in Basque
  - Make a contribution to feminism
  - Well-referenced both by the public and by literary criticism



## DIALOGICAL LITERARY CHATS

- *Stone Butch Blues* (1993) is translated into Basque, Chinese, Turkish, Slovenian, Serbo-Croatian, Greek, Italian, Dutch, and German.
- It is a peripheral book, outside the canonical corpus, but which gives an opportunity to generate a polyphonic and collective dialogic gathering.
- It allows the validation of alternative knowledge, without taking into account the sociocultural origin: the chains of dialogues (Flecha & Álvarez, 2016)



# DIALOGICAL LITERARY CHATS: AN EXAMPLE



BRING  
SELECTED  
PARAGRAPHS

POLYPHONIC  
READING





**PUBLISHING COLLECTIVE  
LITERARY CRITICISM**



# PUBLISHING COLLECTIVE LITERARY CRITICISM: SOCIAL MEDIA

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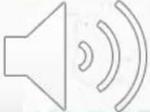
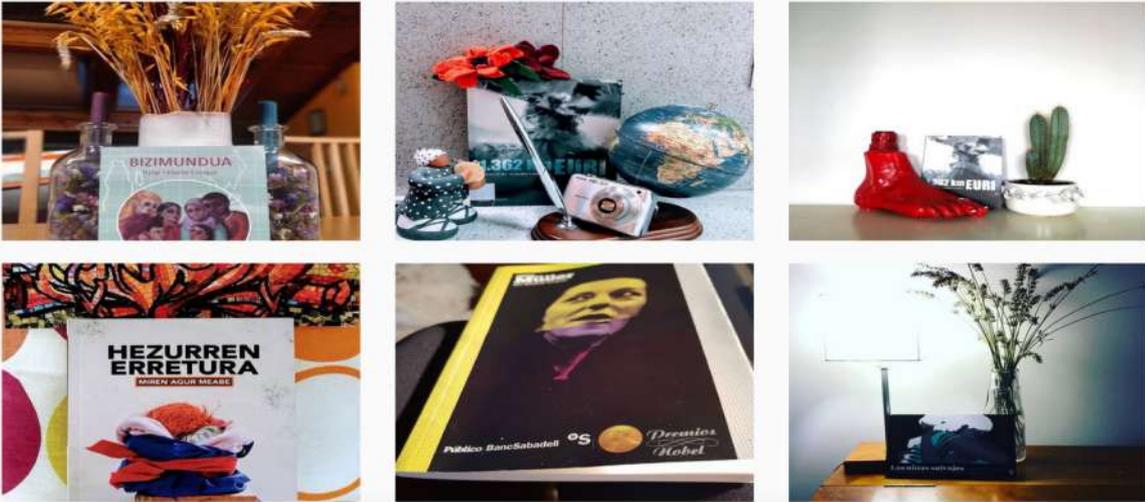
feminist\_agenda\_irakurle\_k... Message Follow More

41 posts 410 followers 405 following

**Feminist\_Agenda\_Irakurle\_Kluba**  
Ongi etorri Gasteizko Feminist Agenda Irakurle Klubera. Irakurtzen ditugun liburuen iruzkinak aurkituko dituzue, emakume idazleak erdigunean jartzeko.

Followed by kariafdg, kattalminner, aitzagiirre +26 more

POSTS IGTV TAGGED



# SOCIAL MEDIA

feminist\_agenda\_irakurle\_kluba 1362 km euri. Bi emakume idazleen artean idatzitako kilometro euritsuak dira. Horren lekuko gutunetan azaltzen diren euriari etenik gabeko erreferentziak, Irati Iturritzaren: "esadazu zenbat itsaso daramagun barruan; esadazu zergatik ez garen hondoratzen oraindik...". Lorcaren "euriak badu samurtasunezko sekretu lausoa". Baina urak ezezik poesiak aparteko lekua dauka gutun hauetan: Plathen, Rilken, Kalhoren poemek bere bidea egiten dute beste batzuen artean. Szymborskaren, hiru hitzak gogor hausten dute uraren misterioa. Hiru hitz arrotzenak baitira, esan orduko beste esanahi bat irudikatzen dutenak "Etorkizuna berba ahoskatzen dudanerako, lehen silaba iraganari dagokio; Isiltasuna hitza esaterakoan, apurtu egiten dut; Ezereza ebakitzen dudanean, ezelango ez-existentzian tokirik ez duen zerbait sortzen dut." Hausnarketarako poemak, gutun guztietan azaltzen den intertesto aberatsa bezelaxe, dela, literatura, dela musika, dela kantua....



Bi lagunak 2017ko uztailetik 2018ko uztaila bitartean gutunka aritu dira. Haurdunaldi bat iraun du euren arteko distantzia letren bidez jositako ohiak. Denetara dozena bat gutun. Motzak, baina sakonak. Bukaeran, bakoitzaren alter-egoa edo bigarren bizitza baterako emakumea aipatzen dute. Esango nuke edozien eskoletan literatura lantzeko liburu aproposa dela. Aproposa genero epistolarra lantzen duelako. Bi lagunek bata leku batetik eta bestea beste muturretik hariak lotzen ari direlako. Bakoitzaren uneko kezkek, esperientziak eta galderak planteatzen dituztela. Agenda feminista iradokitzen digutelako, emakumeok agendan sartzen ditugun zerrendak eta gaiak agerian jartzen dituztelako: amatasuna, gela propioa, bigarren izatearen kontzeptua... Idaztankera epistolarrak gain, prosak nahiz poesiak kontzientziaren jarioasuna agenda feministan indar handia hartzen duelako. Eta batez ere hain beharrezkoa den emakumeen bisibilizazio ariketa proposatzen digute. 14 emakumeen biografiak edo zertzeladak ematen dizkigute euren gutunetan zehar. Itzalean ematen diren emakume haundiak ezagutzeko parada. Gaiak hitz gutxitan laburtzea bi idazleek proposatzen diguten literatur irakurketa. Maila guztietan aberatsa baita.

# ACADEMIC WORK

- ▶ Conference papers
- ▶ Workshops
- ▶ Research articles
- ▶ Community outreach



# PUBLISHING RESEARCH ARTICLES THROUGH COLLECTIVE READING METHODOLOGY

## How does the reading club work?

- 1 reading a month-7 readings
- 10-20 participants
- Choose selected paragraph & justification
- Interaction
- Collective participation

## Sample session

- Communicative approach
- 11/16 participants
- Categorized in participation order



# PUBLISHING RESEARCH ARTICLES THROUGH COLLECTIVE READING METHODOLOGY

Dimensions	Categories	Subcategories
<b>Author</b> (How did I feel towards the author?)	As a person	
	As a writer	
<b>Text</b> (Opinions; What have I observed?; What does the text tell me?; What have I understood?)	Macro Narrative	
	Gender construction	
	Pedagogic novel	
	Space setting	
	Autofiction	
<b>Myself (the reader)</b> (How did I feel?; What did I remember?)	As a feminist	
	As a person	



**THANKS!**  
**ESKERRIK ASKO!**

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