


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

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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

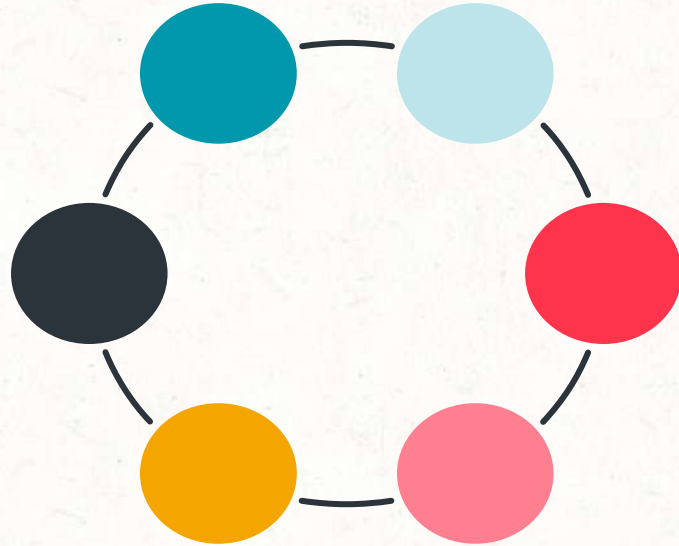
- ▶ Started in 2015
- ▶ Lead by Gema Lasarte
- ▶ Managed by the School for Feminist Empowerment in Vitoria-Gasteiz.
- ▶ Age range: 25- onwards
- ▶ Mostly women*

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

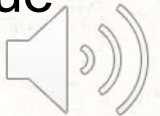


PROMOTING A DEMOCRATIC READING



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).



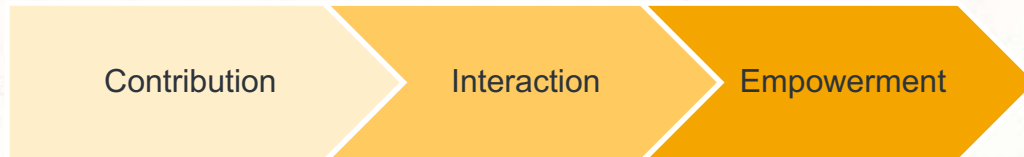
DIALOGICAL LITERARY CHATS

- 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, kattalinminer, 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
Author (How did I feel towards the author?)	As a person	
	As a writer	
Text (Opinions; What have I observed?; What does the text tell me?; What have I understood?)	Macro Narrative	
	Gender construction	
	Pedagogic novel	
	Space setting	
	Autofiction	
Myself (the reader) (How did I feel?; What did I remember?)	As a feminist	
	As a person	



THANKS!
ESKERRIK ASKO!

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