

ALASKA

Castillo Suarez

CASTILLO SUAREZ

Alaska



 **elkar**

POETRY

Elkar 2023

72 Pages

Original title: Alaska

ISBN: 978-84-13602-42-4

Translated into: [click here](#)

Alaska is a restaurant that was once in Altsasu, an establishment full of travellers and tourists which was even mentioned by Bernardo Atxaga in one of his books. The owner had made enough money in that cold northernmost region where America meets Siberia, so he set up the restaurant first and, later on, a large elegant hotel in Etzegarate, which had a swimming pool that is nowadays abandoned. Much has been written about heartbreak and abandonment, but little about the invisible threads that connect us to places, preventing us from mourning them. In fact, we leave our lives, our pieces, in people we will not see again and in places we will not visit again. And we all have an Alaska within us. We all have a place chained to our memories, a place we remember clearly or partially. Someone we loved, someone we do not know where they are today.

Castillo Suarez

Born in Alsasua (1976), she currently lives in Arbizu. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Basque Studies and works as a Basque Language Technician for the local authority. She is a corresponding member of Euskaltzaindia, the Royal Academy of the Basque Language. Her work has received awards and has been translated into several languages. In the last few years, as well as various volumes of children's literature, a number of books by this author from Navarre have been stacked on bookstore shelves, all of them in Basque. Her latest published works are the poetry books *Irautera* (Persistence, Elkar, 2019) and *Alaska* (Elkar, 2023). She also manages the literature blog *Iparraldeko neska* (A girl from the Northern Basque Country).

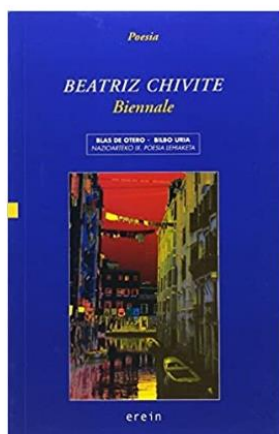


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POETRY

Erein 2017
96 Pages
Original title: Biennale
ISBN: 978-84-9109-249-0
Translated into: [click here](#)

Basque poetry book which looks at the art world, inequalities and the links between our realities and the fictions around us.

Beatriz Chivite

Beatriz Chivite Ezkieta (1991) is a Basque poet who is based in the United Kingdom, where she studied Chinese and comparative cultural studies. Having lived in different countries for long periods of time, she began to write poetry in Basque to feel closer to her roots and maintain an intimacy with the words of her childhood. She has published five books of poetry in Basque, including *Metro* (2014), published in English as *The Blue Line*. Her latest, *Zeozer Gaizki Doa* (Something Goes Wrong), appeared in 2022. She is the recipient of numerous prizes in both the Basque Country and in the UK, and her poetry has been translated into eight languages.



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BITTER AND SWEET

Patxi Zubizarreta



CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULTS

Alberdania 2007
146 Pages
Original title: Eztia eta ozpina
ISBN: 978-84-9868-400-1
Translated into: [click here](#)

It is the decade of the 90's. Like many Maghrebians, Selim leaves Morocco and goes to the blinding city of Paris. There is his Mecca. During his journey he will taste honey and live experiences as bitter as gall. Esther, a girl from Vitoria-Gasteiz, will bring the sweet flavour of honey, and the cruel reality of the Western World will be the bitter part. Three voices to tell Selim's story; his own voice, Esther's and that of a "mugalari", a man who would help him cross the Basque-French border clandestinely at that time.

Patxi Zubizarreta

Patxi Zubizarreta was born in the Basque Country and lives in Vitoria-Gasteiz, where he finished his studies of Basque Philology. The Basque tradition -the roots- is present in *Urrezko giltza* (The Golden Key) —a work included in the IBBY Honour List— and in a book about the Spanish Civil War, *Hiru gutun Iruñetik* (Three letters from Pamplona). This topic was reflected in his performance titled *Ants, horses, elephants* at the Bologna Children's Book Fair in 2015. Different types of journeys and migrations —the wings— are also shown in Zubizarreta's prizewinning pieces like *Usoa* and *Korri, Kuru, korri!* (Xia Tenzin's Wonderful Journey), a theme reflected in his performance titled *Flying Over Paper* at the IBBY congress in London. His translated piece from French to Basque, *Le Petit Prince* (*Printze Txikia & The Little Prince*) is also on the Honours List.



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CENTAUR AGAIN

Katixa Agirre



NOVELS

Elkar 2022
224 Pages
Original title: Berriz zentauro
ISBN: 978-84-1360-205-9
Translated into: [click here](#)

We are in the middle of the 21st century. The world as we know it has changed, but not much. Paula Pagaldai works for the VR industry. She's in Paris in search of inspiration for a project on writer and proto-feminist Mary Wollstonecraft, and her time during the French Revolution. As befits an anticipatory novel, the reader will find countless exciting suggestions about the progress of society and technology, but in addition, the protagonist's journeys will give us something to think about: the rigid boundaries between genders and the possibilities of overcoming them, the relationship we have with the past, the perks of online sexuality, the difficulties of heterosexual couples with children and the tricky balance between rebellion and comfort...

OfT glasses are needed to fully enjoy this immersive novel.

Katixa Agirre

Katixa Agirre (Vitoria-Gasteiz, 1981) is a Basque writer. She published the short story collections *Sua falta zaigu* (We Lack Fire) and *Habitat*, and is the author of numerous children's books and the Amaia Lapitz saga for young adults. She published her first novel, *Atertu arte itxaron* (Wait Until It Clears Up), in 2015, a novel translated into Danish, Spanish, Bulgarian and German. Her novel *Amek ez dute* (Mothers Don't, 2018) has been published in ten languages and the film adaptation is currently under production. Her most recent novel is *Berriz zentauro* (Centaur Again, 2022), set in a mid-21st century Paris.

She has a PhD in Audio-visual Communication and lectures at the University of the Basque Country.



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CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL

Eider Rodriguez



NOVELS

Susa 2021
256 Pages
Original title: Eraikuntzarako materiala
ISBN: 978-84-17051-80-8
Translated into: [click here](#)

Sand, cement, lime. How to frame the absence? How is he not standing? Even when he was, was he often about to fall? A father who sold everything he needed to build houses. An alcohol-soaked father.

The narrator of this book begins the story with the tension of death. It is about to arrive, it will arrive, and the daughter will try out a way of caressing with words her father, whom she has seen so many times struggling to get up from the sofa, who would cross the street swaying from side to side and gain strength in the darkness of his office. To create a memory of what happened together and individually.

Horses, a swimming pool, people on the street, a warehouse which had been a second home, a fire, tiles, letters home from military service, an apartment in Benicassim, petrol, plants. In her first novel, Eider Rodriguez incorporates various snippets of a father's life. Immerse yourself in an extended decline over time, and, in the face of those who cannot be named, illuminate a vast area.

Eider Rodriguez

1977, Errenteria-Orereta.

She studied advertising and film and holds a doctorate in literature. She was an editor and scriptwriter and now teaches in the Department of Didactics of Language and Literature at the University of the Basque Country.

She has published one novel (*Eraikuntzarako materiala*, Susa, 2021) and four books of short stories: *Eta handik gutxira gaur* (And shortly after today, Susa, 2004), *Haragia* (Meat, Susa, 2007) *Katu jendea* (Cat people, Elkar, 2010) and *Bihotz handiegia* (A heart too big, Susa, 2017).

Besides short stories, she has also worked in other literary genres: the literary essays *Itsasoa da bide bakarra*. *Joseba Sarrionandia irakurriz* (The only way is the sea: Reading Joseba Sarrionandia, Utriusque Vasconiae, 2014) and *Idazleen gorputzak: egiletasuna ezbaian literaturaren joko-zelaian* (Writers' bodies: Authorship in the field of disputed literature, Susa, 2019); the graphic novel *Santa Familia* (Holy family, Ikastolen Elkartea-Xabiroi, 2017); and in children's literature, *Nikoleta eta gaua* (Nikoleta and the night) and *Oilasko hegialak* (Chicken wings).



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DOWN THE WRONG WAY: TESTIMONIES OF FEMALE BERTSOLARIS

Uxue Alberdi



Kontrako eztatritik is an essay based on testimonies. Therein, the testimonies of women *bertsolaris* intersect with feminist theory (mainly with the ideas of theorists in the world of art and literature). In this way, beyond *bertsolaritza*, the author identifies, names and explains 22 mechanisms which diminish the public voice of women and reduce the margin of women's movement. The book traces out steps towards a feminist revision of an activity rooted in tradition, revealing the universality of the struggles at the margins.

ESSAYS

Susa 2019

184 Pages

Original title: Kontrako eztatritik: emakume bertsolarien testigantzak

ISBN: 978-84-17051-24-2

Translated into: [click here](#)

Uxue Alberdi

Uxue Alberdi Estibaritz (Elgoibar, 1984) is an author and *bertsolari*. She has written short stories, novels, essays, literary chronicles and children's literature. She has received numerous awards including the Euskadi Literature Prize on two occasions, one in the category of children's literature for *Besarkada* (Embrace) and another in the essay category for *Kontrako eztatritik* (Reverso). Her most recent novel, *Jenisjoplin*, was awarded the 111th Akademia Prize and has been translated into Spanish and English. *La trastienda*, the Spanish translation of her book *Dendaostekoak* (Back Rooms), was published in 2002.



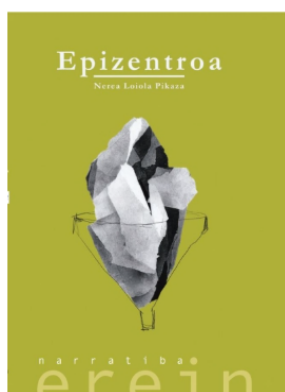
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EPICENTRE

Nerea Loiola



The characters in these tales are often placed at the edge of an abyss - caught in the tension between the decisions taking root in their minds, and carrying out these decisions, between the will to express, act, or change oneself, and the vertigo that realising these changes will bring.

Composed of seven stories, this collection of narratives covers a wide range of subjects: love, desire, sex and attraction, family, the pursuit of happiness, and the desire-duty utopia. These suggestive stories written in a refined style always revolve around human relations and connections, continually aware of subtle hints and fine details. The book is named after one of its own stories, Epicentre.

Nerea Loiola

SHORT STORIES

Erein 2021
132 Pages
Original title: Epizentroa
ISBN: 978-84-9109-600-9
Translated into: [click here](#)

I've loved writing and reading since I was a kid, but since I was a very good student, I was dragged away by the current - and by my parents and teachers - to study mechanical engineering. So, I have a degree in Mechanical Engineering, and that's where I started my career. I immediately realised I was out of place, so I quit my job and studied for a master's degree in education so I could be a teacher. I've been teaching mathematics ever since, and although I've liked the profession, in recent years literary creation has become more and more prevalent in my life. Since 2016, when I went from being a reader to a writer, literature has been clinging to my body like a climbing plant, and before long, it had reached into even my smallest veins. So, in 2022, I made an important decision: to stop teaching and give my life to literary creation. Since September of that year, I've been self-employed, writing one work after another.



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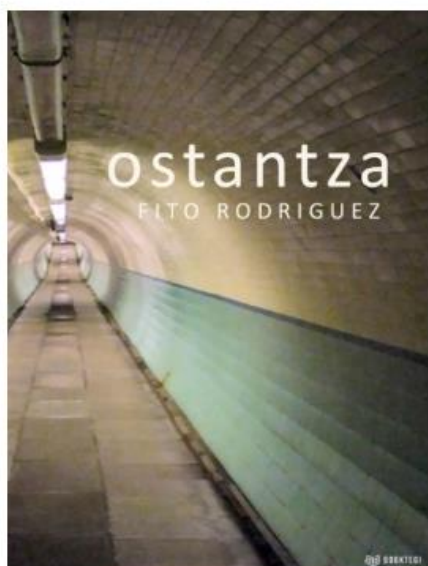
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GET DARK

Fito Rodriguez



SHORT STORIES

Udalbiltza | Booktegi 2023

37 Pages

Original title: Ostantza

ISBN: 978-84-19053-03-9

"Ostantza" (Get dark) is an end-of-the-day text. Sunset falls on the tale of a political refugee's journey. After many years away, Teles returns to Zumaia, his home town, an industrial town on the Basque coast, where he once again encounters deep memories of workers' and anti-Franco struggles. On returning, he hardly recognises the town or his old friends and comrades, and he has to settle some scores with them.

"Ostantza" means light of sunset, and the story takes place in this atmosphere. The main character, now a grandfather, returns to his town, where a relationship that he and his grandson had never imagined has, in fact, emerged, and it takes both of them to a surprising conclusion. This relationship reveals why Teles had gone into exile, and his grandson finds the keys he needs to understand his family and its circumstances.

Fito Rodriguez

Fito Rodriguez gained a BA in Philosophy and Letters in 1978, and completed a doctorate in Educational Sciences in 1988. He lectured at the University of the Basque Country. He has contributed to many Basque media: the newspapers *Egin*, *Gara* and *Berria*; the radio stations *Egin Irratia*, *Info7* and *Euskadi Irratia*; and the print media *Euskaldunon Egunkaria*, *Susa*, *Iralka*, *Ele*, *Bat*, *Tantak*, *Larrun*, *Ezpala*, *Bertsolari*, *Argia*, *Isilik*, *Jakin*, *Hik Hasi*, *Uztaro*, *RIEV*, *Euskerazaintza*, *EGAN* and *Bazka*. His work includes surrealism, meditative literature, meta-literature and essays. He has been the chair of the Basque Writers' Association, and a member of the board of Euskal PEN.



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HALF-LIGHT

Pello Lizarralde



NOVELS

Erein 2020
88 Pages
Original title: Argiantza
ISBN: 978-84-9109-599-6
Translated into: [click here](#)

It is September 1982 and Ramon Beitia, the manager of several cinemas under his charge, has immersed himself in inspection work. Profits have been dwindling, and the young boss, who had just arrived to take over from his father, only has business on his mind. The manager must explain the basics of the business to this person with less shame and less scruples. And that is how the ordeal which will end in a few days begins. The state of these local cinemas and what this person who works there was doing.

Formally it is a perfect piece, in its simple symmetry; a farewell to a world, a way of being and living. The author will masterfully make us feel the breath of the world left behind and the relaxation of time.

Euskadi Literary Prize 2021 – Critics' Prize 2020 in the field of Basque-language narrative – 111 Akademia Prize 2020.

Pello Lizarralde

Pello Lizarralde (Zumarraga, 1956).

Pello Lizarralde first came to prominence through a collection of poems titled *Hilargiaren hotzikarak* (The Chills of Moonlight, Ustela, 1978). This work is the Gipuzkoan's only publication in poetry, after which he mainly worked in narrative. Since then, he has published seven novels and two books of short stories. These include *Larrepetit* (Erein), a novel which won the 2003 Euskadi Prize.

He has also worked in translation. He is responsible for the adaptations of Natalia Ginzburg's *Hirira doan bidea* (The Road to the City, Igela) and *Arratseko ahotsak* (Voices in the Evening, Igela), as well as Gianni Celati's *Denak hasperenka* (Everyone Sighs, Igela).

In 2020, he published *Argiantza* (Erein), a novel set in the 1980s which marks the beginning of the end of filmmaking after the emergence of video technology.



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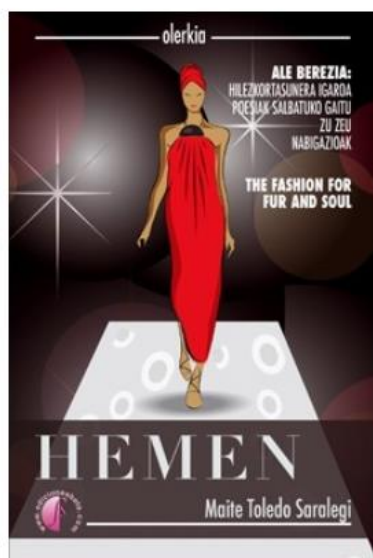
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HERE

Maite Toledo Saralegi



POETRY

Ediciones Beta III Milenio S.M. 2013

59 Pages

Original title: Hemen

ISBN: 978-84-15495-05-5

Glamour was my starting point to write the book of poems "Here". In fact, this is a term I quite often pay attention to, and while I have tried to recognise its real meaning, in most cases, it is related to fashion and cinema. Nevertheless, I would say it is more than that; both men and women can have glamour, as well as objects, places and a living being. With regards to people, glamour is something inborn, to make use of your own potentiality, being loyal to yourself. There is no need for being pretty. Glamour is a lifestyle, it is personal branding.

So, in reading this book, you will find pieces for the skin and the soul: Poems to wear.

Maite Toledo Saralegi

She has worked in many fields of literature: poetry, travelogues, short stories, essays and comic strip scripts. She has collaborated in several media outlets and literary magazines.

She has participated in several multidisciplinary projects, in the areas of Basque and Spanish. Also abroad: She has combined exhibitions and their editorial processes, to connect the contents of literature and contemporary art. She loves the order, aesthetics and authenticity of things.

She has published two books: *Jet Lag* and *Hemen*. And the essay *Tekno-turismo* (Techno-tourism) too. And a comic book titled *Ametsaren Aro Berria, Manuel* (*The New Age of the Dream, Manuel*). Translated into Spanish, French, Portuguese and English.

She has received several prizes, including the Nikolas Ormaetxea "Orixe" Poetry Prize.



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INNER VOICES AND SOME OTHER SMALL SOUNDS

Leire Bilbao



POETRY

Pamiela 2021
119 Pages
Original title: Barruko hotsak eta beste soinu txiki batzuk
ISBN: 978-84-9172-250-2
Translated into: [click here](#)

From the moment we wake up until we fall asleep
there are a thousand sounds around us the whole day.
From the moment we wake up until we fall asleep
composing music along the way.
From the moment we wake up until we fall asleep
they dance with you and me.
Even when we sleep...

Clean, finely tune, open your ears
whispering every moment
listen to the soundtrack of your day!

Leire Bilbao

In 2006, Leire Bilbao made the leap into the literary world with her first book of poems, *Ezkatak* (Scales). Then came *Scanner* (Susa, 2011), the bilingual book of poems *Entre escamas* (Between Scales) and *Etxeko urak* (Home Waters, Susa, 2020).

Her numerous poems have been published in different anthologies and translated into a dozen languages. Several musicians have also transformed them into songs. These include three records with her lyrics: *Musua* (The Kiss, Katxiporreta, 2018), *Bizi dantza* (Dance Life, Katxiporreta, 2019) and *Txitxarroa eta atuna* (The Mackerel and the Tuna, Maramara, 2023).

As for children's and young adult literature, she has published more than twenty works, many of which have received awards. To cite some of them, she won the 2017 Euskadi Prize for Children's and Young Adult Literature and the 2019 Kiriko Prize for the book of poems *Xomorropoemak eta beste pitzia batzuk* (Bugpoems and Some Other Wild Beasts), and the 2022 Euskadi Prize for Children's and Young Adult Literature for the work *Barruko hotsak* (Inner Voices).

She won the 2021 Lauaxeta Poetry Prize for the book of poems *Etxeko urak*, which was published as *Agas Madres* by the La Bella Varsovia publishing house.



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IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING

Asel Luzarraga



NOVELS

Txalaparta 2022
356 Pages
Original title: Esan gabe doa
ISBN: 978-84-18252-91-4
Translated into: [click here](#)

Ten years have passed since the disappearance of the country of Sakau and the creation of Askayala, a federation of free peoples. The tension has not dissipated, however, because the threat of invasion by an international alliance is still very much alive. It is customary for the initial front of any potential war to lean towards information warfare, in which the stakes are high. In this situation, Lore and Fabi must face their new daily life, between contradictions, misunderstandings and half-spoken words. Meanwhile, in the neighbouring country of Costa Alegre, which represents hope for some and a threat for others, Jaco and Jacinto are fully aware of this. These are the four main characters, and the fifth represents society itself, with its renewed structures, models and architecture. A utopia. An invitation to common sense, which can be stimulating and fair, sprinkled with a magical realism which is so intrinsic to the Latin American tradition.

Asel Luzarraga

Asel Luzarraga was born in 1971 in Bilbao (Bizkaia, Basque Country).

He has a degree in Commerce and Basque Letters. After teaching for several years, he is now a professional translator. The publication in 2003 of *Hamaika ispilu ganbil* (Labayru) and obtaining the 6th Igartza scholarship pushed him to take writing seriously. Thereafter, he published the Basque-language novels *Karonte*, *Mozorroaren xarma*, *Abaraska*, *Utopiaren itzalak*, *Gezurra odoletan*, *Inoren munduan*, *Bioklik*, *Bahiketa*, *Uzta garaia*, *Malthusen ezinegon*, *Katuak jandakoa*, *Esan gabe doa* and *Lurrean haziak*. He has also published two collections of poetry: *Denboran zatika* and *Baxter hautsiak*. He has worked not only in the field of literature but also music, within the framework of the projects Punkamine, Trio Ternura, GorriBaltz and Analgy. After living in Chile and Argentina, he now resides in Bermeo (Bizkaia).



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IT MUST BE SAID TWICE

Rikardo Arregi Diaz de Heredia



The title of this poetry book, *It Must Be Said Twice*, refers to a quote by the American poet Billy Collins that heads the third section of the book. The book consists of three sections: *Life=Art*, life taken as art, the art of living and the living art; *Love Poems Or Something*, same sex love, a series of exercises on different styles of love poems, emphasising the tradition prior to Romanticism; and *Requiem*, in which the topic is the death. Morrissey and Borges, troubadours and gay icons, strict forms and free verse, long and short poems, the simultaneity of opposites, the dissolution of the self... all of this to emphasise that even if one writes about life, love and death, the usual topics, "Much of what is said here/ must be said twice,/ a reminder that no one/ takes an immediate interest in the pain of others", as Billy Collins wrote.

Rikardo Arregi Diaz de Heredia

POETRY

Alberdania 2012
172 Pages
Original title: *Bitan esan beharra*
ISBN: 978-84-9868-370-7
Translated into: [click here](#)

Rikardo Arregi Diaz de Heredia published his first book of poems *Hari Hauskorrak* (Fragile Threads) in 1993. He won the Critics Prize for that book. In 1998 he wrote *Kartografia* (Cartography), published by Alberdania, which also won the Critics Prize and was translated into Spanish as *Cartografía* in 2000. His poems can be found in various anthologies of Basque poetry published in other languages such as English (*Six Basque Poets*, Arc Publications, 2007). He has translated into Basque the Spanish poet Ernestina de Champourcin, the Portuguese poet Jorge de Sena and lately Joseph Brodsky in 2022. He has worked on the collective book *Desira desordenatuak. Queer irakurketak (euskal) literaturaz* (Disorderly Desires: Queer Readings in (Basque) Literature), a study on gay issues in Basque literature. He was a member of the editorial board of the online literary magazine *Volgako Batelariak*. His latest book of poems is *Bitan esan beharra* (It Must Be Said Twice), published in 2012, winner of the Spanish Critics Prize, translated to Spanish (*Debe ecies dos veces*, Salto de Página, 2013).



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JULIEN VINSON 'S FLIGHT

Patxi Zubizarreta



Julien Vinson, an unorthodox French philologist, embarked on a journey in 1875 aboard the Saturno hot air balloon. The flight, which started in Bayonne in the Northern Basque Country, concluded in Pamplona during times of war. In 2015, Chiara, an Italian, began studying the Basque language in the Department of the Basque Language and Culture at the University of Bologna. Later, in 2018, she travelled to Hendaye every four weeks to work on a project about Basque speakers who arrived in the Basque Country in a similar manner.

Julien Vinson's aerial adventure encompasses poetry, resembling a visual poem in flight, incorporating narrative, history, folklore, and linguistics. Learning a language offers the opportunity to live two lives. Moving forward with symmetries and parallelisms, intertwining fables and eras, here you have Saturno the airship, ready for you to climb into, ascend, and take flight.

NOVELS

Alberdania 2019

155 Pages

Original title: Julien Vinsonen hegaldia

ISBN: 978-84-9868-509-1

Translated into: [click here](#)

Patxi Zubizarreta

Patxi Zubizarreta was born in the Basque Country and lives in Vitoria-Gasteiz, where he finished his studies of Basque Philology. The Basque tradition -the roots- is present in *Urrezko giltza* (The Golden Key) —a work included in the IBBY Honour List— and in a book about the Spanish Civil War, *Hiru gutun Iruñetik* (Three letters from Pamplona). This topic was reflected in his performance titled *Ants, horses, elephants* at the Bologna Children's Book Fair in 2015. Different types of journeys and migrations —the wings— are also shown in Zubizarreta's prizewinning pieces like *Usoa* and *Korri, Kuru, korri!* (Xia Tenzin's Wonderful Journey), a theme reflected in his performance titled *Flying Over Paper* at the IBBY congress in London. His translated piece from French to Basque, *Le Petit Prince* (*Printze Txikia & The Little Prince*) is also on the Honours List.



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MUSSCHE

Kirmen Uribe



NOVELS

Susa 2012

200 Pages

Original title: Mussche

ISBN: 978-84-92468-43-0

In May 1937, after the bombing of Gernika, thousands of Basque children left the port of Bilbao for exile. Among them was Karmentxu, an eight-year-old girl who was taken in in Ghent, Belgium, by the writer Robert Mussche. Robert's life will change with the arrival of the girl, her involvement in the resistance during the Civil War and the advent of the Second World War.

This novel is the story that the author himself tells his recently deceased best friend, "the story of an anonymous hero, one of those we see on the street".

Kirmen Uribe

Kirmen Uribe is a Basque Language writer, and one of the most important writers of his generation in Spain. He has written two collections of poems and four novels. He won the National Prize for Literature in Spain in 2009 for his first novel, *Bilbao-New York-Bilbao*.

The languages into which his books had been translated already exceed twenty, including French (Gallimard), Japanese (Hakusui Sha) and English (Coffee House Press).

His works have been published in prestigious literary publications such as *The New Yorker* and *The Paris Review*. In 2017, he was selected for the International Writers Program (IWP) in Iowa. During 2018-2019, he was a New York Public Library Cullman Center Writing Fellow.

Kirmen Uribe is now based in New York City, where he teaches Creative Writing at New York University (NYU).



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Kirmen Uribe, Editorial Planeta

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MY FATHER ' S HOUSE

Karmele Jaio



NOVELS

Elkar 2019

216 Pages

Original title: Aitaren Etxea

ISBN: 978-84-9027-844-4

Ismael has a secret. He's been in his studio for two years trying to write his next novel, but he can't produce anything but lifeless drafts. He questions everything he writes, which has never happened to him before, and is convinced that Jasone, his wife and the first proof-reader of his manuscripts, is partly to be blamed, for her mania to criticise everything, especially since she created that feminist reading club in the library where she works. The anxiety caused by this situation increases when he learns that a woman's body showing signs of sexual violence has been found in the mountains surrounding the city where he lives. *My Father's House* is a novel which tells us about the ways in which masculinity is constructed and transmitted and the enormous influence of gender on the lives of women and men.

Karmele Jaio

Karmele Jaio Eiguren (Vitoria-Gasteiz, 1970) has written three collections of stories: *Hamabost zauri* (Fifteen Wounds, 2004), *Zu bezain ahul* (As Weak As You, 2007) and *Ez naiz ni* (Not Me, 2102); three novels: *Amaren eskuak* (My Mother's Hands, 2006), *Musika airean* (Music in the Air, 2010) and *Aitaren etxea* (2019); and a book of poetry, *Orain hilak ditugu* (Now They Are Dead, 2015). Her books have been made into films and plays and translated into numerous languages. Her short stories have been published, among other places, in the *Best European Fiction 2017* and *The Penguin Book of Spanish Short Stories* (Penguin Classics) anthologies. The English translation of *Amaren Eskuak*, *Her Mother's Hands* (Parthian Books), won the English Pen Translation Award. The novel *Aitaren etxea* won the Euskadi Prize for Literature, the most important literary prize in the Basque Country.



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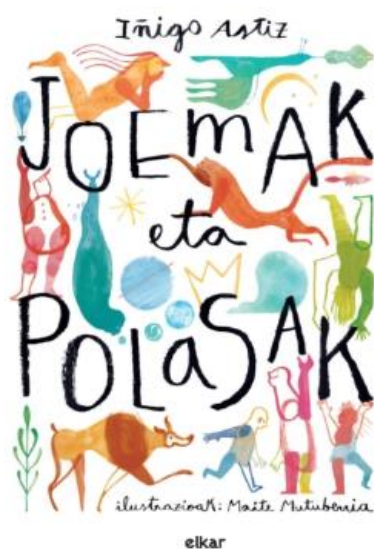
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PAMES AND GOEMS

Iñigo Astiz



POETRY

Elkar 2019

75 Pages

Original title: Joemak eta polasak

ISBN: 978-84-9027-968-7

Hey! Hey! You,
open this book, fast!

It's snow ng
and flak by fl ke,
thes oems,
are disapp aring!

Hey! Hey! Y u,
pe th s boo , ast!

Iñigo Astiz

Iñigo Astiz (Iruñea, 1985) is a Basque journalist and poet. He has published several poetry books, including *Baita hondakinak ere* (The Remains Too) and *Analfabetoa* (The Illiterate), as well as one children's poetry book titled *Joemak eta poemak* (Pames and goems), illustrated by Maite Mutuberria, which was awarded the Basque national literary prize. His poetry has been analysed and anthologised in Basque and Spanish books and journals. He is also the author of a chronicle called *Kixotenean* (Rikardo Arregi Journalism Prize), and has created the picture-books *Haserre* (Anger) and *Kixkur* (Curly), in collaboration with the illustrators Leire Salaberria and Mikel Valverde. He has also edited an anthology of Sandro Penna's poems with his own translations and he has also translated Sylvia Plath's *Ariel and Other Poems* into Basque. He has written lyrics for several highly-regarded Basque musicians such as Eñaut Elorrieta, Gari and Jabier Muguruza, and he has also received critical praise for his live poetry performances.



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PLACENTA

Alaine Agirre



NOVELS

Elkar 2021
230 Pages
Original title: Karena
ISBN: 978-84-1360-160-1
Translated into: [click here](#)

Alaine Agirre brings up various issues linked to maternity that are usually silenced and hidden away, in a novel written with intensity and emotion: assisted reproduction, its physical and psychological effects, the tensions that arise when one member of a couple wants a child more than the other and miscarriages and the mourning period that follows. The author uses her characteristic drive and passion to tell us about the everyday life of the protagonist Sara Mendizabal with a lyrical musicality, drawing beauty out of pain and constructing a whole universe from within the body.

Alaine Agirre

Alaine Agirre was born in Bermeo in 1990, but currently lives in Donostia (both cities in the Basque Country). She started writing at a young age, and in a few years she has become one of the most personal and interesting voices in Basque literature. She has won the approval of critics and readers, thanks to the rhythm, power and passion of her prose. She is the author of five novels: *Odol mamituak* (Blood Clots, 2014, Zazpi Kale award), *X is dead* (2015, Zilarrezko Euskadi award), *Bi aldiz erditu zinen nitaz, ama* (You Gave Birth to Me Twice, Mother, 2017, Joseba Jaka Prize), *Kamisoi zuri zetazkoa* (White Silk Nightdress, 2018, Basque Government literary creation grant) and *Karena* (2021, Irun City Prize). In addition, she has published a book of poems, *Txoriak etortzen ez diren lekua* (The Place Where Birds Don't Come, 2017), and many books and stories in children's and young people's literature. Her work has been awarded prizes and translated into several languages: Spanish, Catalan, Galician, English, Danish, Korean and Chinese.



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PLAYING TRUANT

Garbiñe Ubeda



CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULTS

Elkar 2018
98 Pages
Original title: Sasieskola
ISBN: 978-84-9027-854-3
Translated into: [click here](#)

(The first book in the Lekukoa [Witness] series)

It's a lazy Thursday and Larraitz, bored at high school, has gone to the mountains with Martin, the boy who made her heart skip a beat when she met him. She is hungry for freedom and believes in their love for each other.

But her life will be turned upside down, because there in the mountains, she will be a silent witness to a murder. The year is 1984 and the next day the newspapers will report the news as follows: "Three Terrorists Die in a Shootout". These are smoke-filled days in the Basque Country.

What will really change her life, however, will be Martin's behaviour, because instead of protecting her, he will turn his back on her. In this whirlwind of emotions, Larraitz finds only one confidant.

Garbiñe Ubeda

I was born in 1967, in Ibarra. I spent all my school years in Tolosa before beginning my studies on Basque Philology. Nowadays, I live in Hendaia.

I have combined writing with design and illustration work, especially in the world of journalism.

In 1995, I published my first book: *Negu Gorriak, Idea Zabaldu Tour* (Negu Gorriak, the Open Your Mind Tour), a chronicle. Since then, I have published novels and the occasional short story.



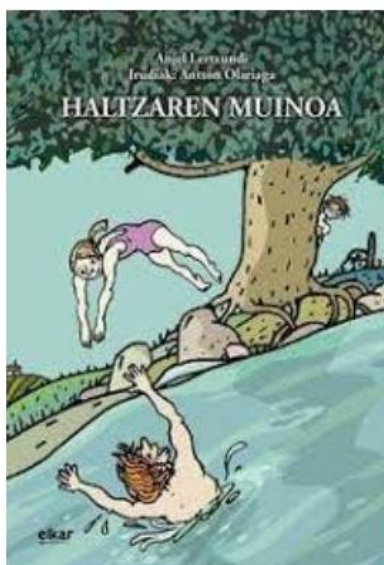
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THE ALDER MOUND

Anjel Lertxundi



CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULTS

Elkar 2020

120 Pages

Original title: Haltzaren muinoa

ISBN: 978-84-9027-985-4

The main character in this novel wants to know the world, walk from one corner to another, discover the most beautiful landscapes and cities. It is not so strange either, many books relate the same thing. But the protagonist of this novel is not a person like you or me. It's an alder, a modest tree. And a tree can hardly dream of walking through the world, not even the slenderest oak.

The alder in this novel, though, has always dreamt of leaving its birthplace. Of moving, from one place to another, getting to know new places.

And, just at that moment, nature gives it the opportunity to go on an adventure.

—Go, enjoy the world.

What does this mean, that the adventurous alder in our story does not just want to be a tree? Does it mean that the alder wants to escape its reality?

The narrative before you in the following pages will tell you about the escapades of an alder that wanted to know the world.

Anjel Lertxundi

Anjel Lertxundi (Orio, 1948). He published his first book in 1970. Since then, he has published many novels and short stories. He has also published books for children and young people, has written many articles and essays and has directed two films. In 1983 and 1991, he was awarded the Spanish National Critics' Prize. In 1999 and 2021, he received the Basque Literature Prize and in the 2010 the National Essay Prize. His literary career has been recognised by the Rosalía de Castro Prize.



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Anjel Lertxundi

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THE LAST HOUSE

Arantxa Urretabizkaia



NOVELS

Pamiela 2022

150 Pages

Original title: Azken etxea

ISBN: 978-84-9172-278-6

Translated into: [click here](#)

The novel tells the story of an elderly woman, born in a poor house and who ends up trying to buy her last house without running into financial difficulties. The woman has not followed a simple path throughout her life and her efforts to buy that last house will not be straightforward. In between Paris, South America, Bordeaux, Hendaye.

Arantxa Urretabizkaia

Born in Donostia / San Sebastián in 1947. She has a BA in History and has been a journalist in the print media and on radio and television.

She began writing poetry, but her core work has been in the narrative genre.

In 1979, she published the novel *Zergatik Panpox*, translated into Spanish as *¿Por qué, Panpox?* (Ediciones del Mall, 1986) and English as *Why Little Darling?* (Center for Basque Studies, University of Nevada, Reno, 2019). Her later novels are *Saturno*, translated into Spanish by Alfaguara in 1989; *Koaderno gorria*, translated into Spanish as *El cuaderno rojo* (Pamiela 2013), as well as into Italian, German, Russian, Bulgarian and English (*The Red Notebook*, Center for Basque Studies, University of Nevada, Reno, 2008); *Zuri-beltzeko argazkiak* (Black and White Photographs, Pamiela, 2014), translated into Spanish and also published by Pamiela, *Bidean ikasia* (Life Lessons, Pamiela, 2016), translated into Spanish as *Lecciones del camino* (Pamiela, 2018). This book won the 2017 Euskadi Prize in the essay category. Her latest publication is *Azken Etxea* (Pamiela, 2022) Euskadi Prize for best narrative work, translated and published by Consonni in 2024.



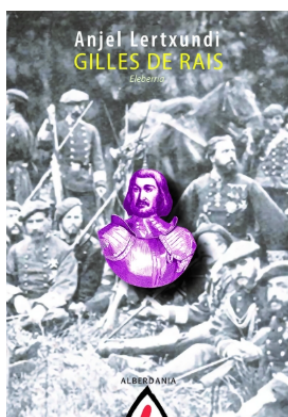
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THE LAST PERFORMANCE

Anjel Lertxundi



NOVELS

Alberdania 2020
114 Pages
Original title: Gilles de Rais
ISBN: 978-84-9868-617-3

The Third Carlist War in Spain (1872-1876). Two military supporters of Charles VII, pretender to the throne, buy the services of Vincent, a French playwright and theatre actor who soon finds himself performing a play based on the life of Joan of Arc, twisted to become an advocate of Charles' cause. However, just like the paedophile Marshal Gille de Rais, Joan of Arc's besotted champion, Vincent, finds the fire of passion stirring within his own heart, at the worst possible moment.

Anjel Lertxundi

Anjel Lertxundi (Orio, 1948). He published his first book in 1970. Since then, he has published many novels and short stories. He has also published books for children and young people, has written many articles and essays and has directed two films. In 1983 and 1991, he was awarded the Spanish National Critics' Prize. In 1999 and 2021, he received the Basque Literature Prize and in the 2010 the National Essay Prize. His literary career has been recognised by the Rosalía de Castro Prize.



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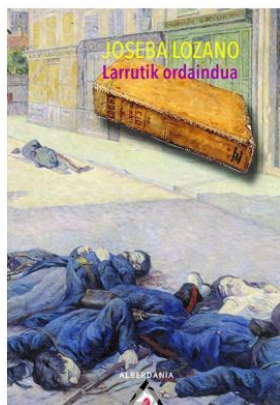
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THE PALE SKIN OF DREAMS

Joseba Lozano



NOVELS

Alberdania 2018

308 Pages

Original title: Larrutik ordaindua

ISBN: 978-84-9868-416-2

France 1871. The Paris Commune is settled. The government's army is determined to put an end to the Commune. In that violent situation, some bodies are found in the streets of Paris; the skin has been pulled off and the blood has been taken away. The government of the Commune has chosen the scientist Sophie Blanchet to investigate these chilling murders. There are two men under her command: Fabian, a young revolutionary; and Leo, a man who after spending ten years in a Polynesian jail, works for the Commune.

Joseba Lozano

Joseba Lozano (Vitoria-Gasteiz, 1962). With a BA in Basque and Hispanic Philology, he has worked in the Basque Government since 1990. He has won several narrative awards. He has published two novels, always in the field of the mystery novel and the thriller.



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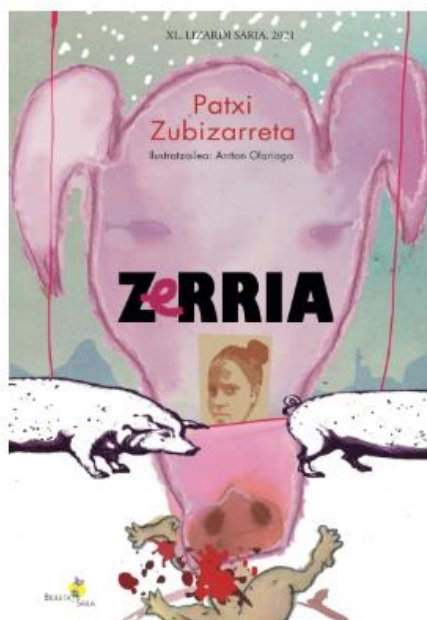
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THE PIG

Patxi Zubizarreta



CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULTS

Erein 2022

88 Pages

Original title: Zerria

ISBN: 978-84-9109-788-4

Glaciologists who study icy regions describe the long history of our planet's climatic cycles, as if they were studying the world's DNA: the ice ages, the warm periods... At this critical moment of retreat and thawing, the glaciologist Bereket discovers the mummified bodies of a woman and a man in the Tsanfleuron Glacier in Switzerland and, alongside them, the body of a bear. A study of their DNA, which becomes an obsession and an inducement, will lead him to journey from the Alps to the heart of the Pyrenees in the late nineteenth century, where he will discover a history of abuse and an infanticide carried out by a pig. The tragedy finds its climax on the gallows, with the execution of the animal dressed in a man's clothing at the hands of an executioner, before an astonished and diverse crowd.

Patxi Zubizarreta

Patxi Zubizarreta was born in the Basque Country and lives in Vitoria-Gasteiz, where he finished his studies of Basque Philology. The Basque tradition -the roots- is present in *Urrezko giltza* (The Golden Key) —a work included in the IBBY Honour List— and in a book about the Spanish Civil War, *Hiru gutun Iruñetik* (Three letters from Pamplona). This topic was reflected in his performance titled *Ants, horses, elephants* at the Bologna Children's Book Fair in 2015. Different types of journeys and migrations — the wings— are also shown in Zubizarreta's prizewinning pieces like *Usoa* and *Korri, Kuru, korri!* (Xia Tenzin's Wonderful Journey), a theme reflected in his performance titled *Flying Over Paper* at the IBBY congress in London. His translated piece from French to Basque, *Le Petit Prince* (*Printze Txikia & The Little Prince*) is also on the Honours List.



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THE PLATFORM ON THE BEND

Uxue Apaolaza



Ten years later, under the Madrid sun, Lur will meet Juan, Josetxo, Fer and Esteban. A group of friends that forgives one other, although one in which each will conceal their own story of what was shared. That same sky shelters the nine narratives which make up this book, which will reveal processional moths by the side of railway tracks, the grazes of walking in ballet flats, the cross-talking of people who ask what if a sleeping child dies, office drains and pink smoke.

Uxue Apaolaza's stories are about the specific nature of the social condition, between solidarity, competition and charity, about the fear of strangers and the desire to dance, about family bonds, about fear and the epic genre, about roses and about the middle class. The author has sharpened them with irony, capturing the often-imperceptible everyday violence that soaks as softly but as thoroughly as fine rain.

Uxue Apaolaza

SHORT STORIES

Susa 2021
139 Pages
Original title: Bihurguneko nasa
ISBN: 978-84-17051-78-5
Translated into: [click here](#)

Uxue Apaolaza Larrea (1981, Hernani). She has a BA in History and is, at present, a teacher of Basque for AEK. She has published three books, *Umeek gezurra esaten dutenetik* (Since Children Lie), *Mea culpa* and *Bihurguneko nasa*. She has been a translator, and a collaborator for various media such as *Berria* and Euskadi Irratia.



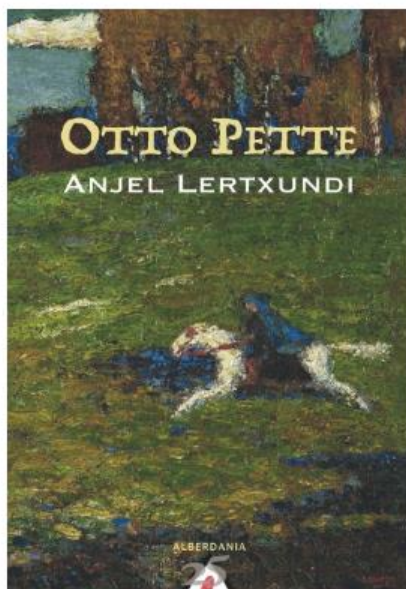
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THE STRANGER

Anjel Lertxundi



NOVELS

Alberdania 1994

396 Pages

Original title: Otto Pette

ISBN: 978-84-9868-410-0

Amid the blur of the Middle Ages, Baronet Otto Pette lives determined to forget the past. It is a tall order for someone who, like the Baronet, became a sceptic a long time ago. His hands once fiercely gripped the reins of power, and his memories come to him with the same fury. And not just memories, for a stranger knocks on the door of his mansion and begins a duel with the Baronet in which memory is the weapon of choice, though not the only one...

Anjel Lertxundi

Anjel Lertxundi (Orio, 1948). He published his first book in 1970. Since then, he has published many novels and short stories. He has also published books for children and young people, has written many articles and essays and has directed two films. In 1983 and 1991, he was awarded the Spanish National Critics' Prize. In 1999 and 2021, he received the Basque Literature Prize and in the 2010 the National Essay Prize. His literary career has been recognised by the Rosalía de Castro Prize.



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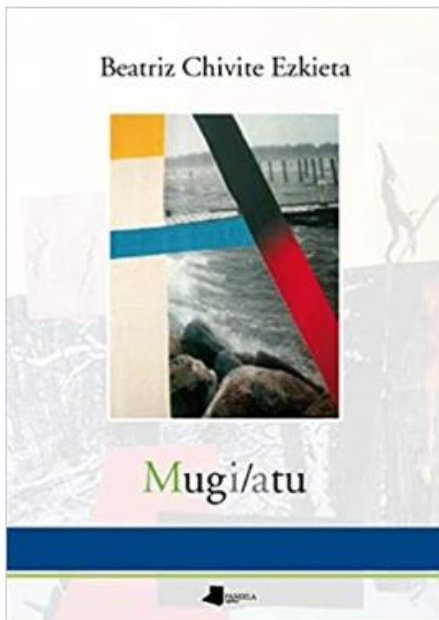
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UNLIMITED

Beatriz Chivite



Basque poetry book which dwells on borders, migration, privileges and journeys. The poems are tinted with a sense of solitude and search for self away from home.

Beatriz Chivite

Beatriz Chivite Ezkieta (1991) is a Basque poet who is based in the United Kingdom, where she studied Chinese and comparative cultural studies. Having lived in different countries for long periods of time, she began to write poetry in Basque to feel closer to her roots and maintain an intimacy with the words of her childhood. She has published five books of poetry in Basque, including *Metro* (2014), published in English as *The Blue Line*. Her latest, *Zeozar Gaizki Doa* (Something Goes Wrong), appeared in 2022. She is the recipient of numerous prizes in both the Basque Country and in the UK, and her poetry has been translated into eight languages.



POETRY

Pamiela 2019
192 Pages
Original title: Mugi/atu
ISBN: 978-84-9172-127-7

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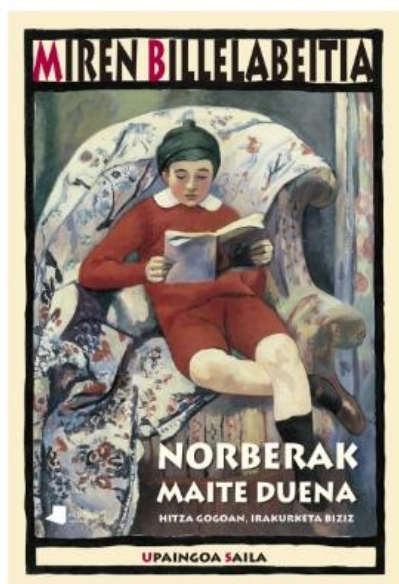
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WHAT ONE LOVES

Miren Billelabeitia



ESSAYS

Pamiela 2022

222 Pages

Original title: *Norberak maite duena*

ISBN: 978-84-9172-298-4

In this book, I have maintained the thread of reflection which I have had in the pleasure of reading and what I have learnt in the field of literature since I started writing. Here is what we have contemplated over the years in conversations about books with students and young people; what and how we read, what the readings suggested. Rarely do books about reading feature the opinions of young readers. The innovation of this work, structured in 17 chapters, is an example of the concerns, opinions and considerations which reading creates amongst young readers, teenagers. No book is too difficult if read as a group empathetically, if the propositions and profound convictions of books are understood together. The readings and the reflective discussions which follow train readers not only to give critical opinions but also how to talk in public, address memory writing and develop creative writing too.

Miren Billelabeitia

Miren Billelabeitia, (Mungia 1960). With a BA in Basque Philology, she teaches world literature, Basque and literature at the Mungia Secondary School (Biscay). She has researched reflections on reading pedagogy and the practice of encouraging reading. She has given talks and training sessions in schools and on summer courses on teaching literature and literary discussion. Publications: *Euskal literaturaren historia* (The History of Basque Literature, 2003), *Eskemas de euskera* (An Outline of Basque, 2003), *Lauaxeta. Oihartzunak* (Lauaxeta: Echoes, 2008). Together with pupils at the Mungia Secondary School, *Aitita-amamen guda zibila* (Our Grandparents' Civil War, 2019). Some of her articles in translation: "Ramon Saizarbitoria's *Lili eta biok* (Lili and Me, 2015): The Spanish Civil War and the Investigative Novel" in *Contemporary Basque Detective and Crime Fiction* (Center for Basque Studies University of Nevada, Reno, 2023) and "Libros en el campo de fútbol. Hábitos de de lectura de los futbolistas vascos" (Books on the Field of Play: Reading Habits of Basque Footballers) in *Libros en el terreno de juego* (Books on the Field of Play, 2023). The work *Norberak maite duena* (What One Loves, 2022) won the 2023 Euskadi Prize.



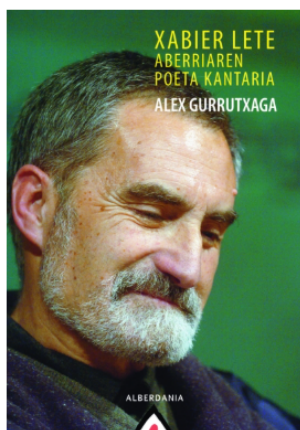
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XABIER LETE: THE POET-SINGER OF THE HOMELAND

Alex Gurrutxaga



ESSAYS

Alberdania 2020

262 Pages

Original title: Xabier Lete - Aberriaren poeta kantaria

ISBN: 978-84-9868-622-7

Translated into: [click here](#)

This essay looks at the poetic world and creative work of Xabier Lete, who is so beloved by the Basque people, from many different points of view. It makes up a wide perspective made up of many pieces, incorporating several elements and components. On the one hand, it connects Lete's work to the ups and downs of his life. On the other, it links Lete's innovative works with the context of their time. Besides all this, it details the ideas that his songs and poems hide, the experiences and landscapes which are the source of Lete's philosophy and poetic images. Lastly, it takes into account what experts on Lete's work have said and the studies of researchers as well as Lete's unpublished material analysed by Gurrutxaga.

The text is made up piece by piece. It has three main sections, and there are multiple pieces within each: commentaries on books, analyses of poems, notes on the context, and so forth. Combining all these pieces, this essay reveals the importance of Lete and his work.

Alex Gurrutxaga

He holds a PhD in Basque Linguistics and Philology (2020) and has taught at the University of the Basque Country since 2016. He studied Basque Philology and Comparative Literature at the University of the Basque Country and at the University of Trento, and completed his doctorate, under the supervision of Lourdes Otaegi, with the thesis "Xabier Lete's Poetics: An Analysis of Its Variations and an Interpretation of Its Evolution". He has published several articles, mostly on Basque poetry, historical memory and literature, and young people's literature. In the field of outreach, he has taken part as a literary critic, both in giving talks and in leading literary workshops, as well as publishing articles. He is one of the contributors to the *Literatura Unibertsala* (World Literature, Year 12) (2016) textbook, and he translated the work *100 euskal sinbolo* (100 Basque Symbols, by Santiago de Pablo et al.) from Spanish (2016). He developed the "Txori Kantazale" (Birdsong Lover) project and book-record together with the pianist Joana Otxoa de Alaiza (Winner of the Eusko Ikaskuntza-Laboral Kutxa Prize, 2020).



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YOUR EYES WILL BE OPENED: A CONVERSATION ABOUT LITERATURE

Irati Jimenez



"Your eyes will be opened", said the serpent to Eve, and, "and you will be like God, knowing good and evil". And like the serpent, the author of this literary essay invites readers, critics and writers to read with their eyes open to know what is good and bad literature, to distinguish between well and poorly written books, and to form their own literary criteria. And she does so with passion and knowledge, avoiding academic language and establishing an exciting dialogue with readers, whom she constantly encourages to write, read and enjoy everything that literature has to offer, as entertainment, as a tool for self-knowledge, as a window to reality and as a way to connect with humanity. In addition to the literary exercise, the author also analyses the Basque literary system, denouncing its shortcomings and baseness, but underlining its enormous possibilities and infinite powers.

ESSAYS

Elkar 2021
281 Pages
Original title: Begiak zabalduko zaizkizue.
Literaturari buruzko elkarrizketa bat
ISBN: 978-84-1360-144-1
Translated into: [click here](#)

Irati Jimenez

Irati Jimenez (Mundaka, 1977) has been a journalist in press, television and radio. She was the last director of the cultural magazine *Nabarra* and is now a specialist in a communication and content creation consultancy for the Internet. Since she published *Bat, bi, Manchester* (One. Two, Manchester) in 2006, a short novel awarded the Augustin Zubikarai Prize, her short stories, essays and novels have continued to win awards and recognition as important as the Donostia Hiria Prize in the short story category and the Miguel de Unamuno Prize for essays in Basque. She also won, among other awards, the Beterriko Saria Prize for best book of the year in Basque for the novel *Nora ez dakizun hori* (What You Don't Know Nora), which has been published in Spain and Chile and has been translated into Italian and Russian. With her latest published work, *Begiak zabalduko zaizkizue*, she was awarded the Euskadi Prize in the category of essays in Basque.



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