

The Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza and the Fundación Iberdrola España present
Tejiendo vidas, contando cuadros,
 a graphic novel in easy reading by Aitor Saraiba

- The publication is part of *Novela Gráfica*, a project for cognitive accessibility in easy reading by the Education Area of the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza with the support of the Fundación Iberdrola España.



El museo Thyssen es un espacio de diversidad.	Museo Thyssen is a space for diversity.
De eso no tengo duda.	Of that I have no doubt.
El Arte, al fin y al cabo, es eso: diversidad.	Art, after all, is just that: diversity.
Tuve la oportunidad de trabajar con un grupo de personas invitadas por el Museo Thyssen.	I had the opportunity to work with a group of people invited by Museo Thyssen.
Personas de otros países, de otras edades, de otras formas y colores.	People from other countries, of other ages, of other shapes and colours.

Novela Gráfica is an inclusive cognitive accessibility project in easy reading created by the Education Area of the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza with the support of the Fundación Iberdrola España and the collaboration of AMÁS Fácil (easy reading service of the AMÁS Group), which has also had the participation of the Madrid Association of Spina Bifida (AMEB), the Fundación Secretariado Gitano (FSG), the Fundación Grandes Amigos, the Asociación Para

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la Integración del Menor Paideia, the Centro Día de Apoyo Social Latina (belonging to the public network of social care for people with mental illness in the Community of Madrid managed by Grupo5) and the Centro Ocupacional Municipal de Leganés belonging to Grupo AMÁS.

Tejiendo vidas, contando cuadros, by artist and graphic narrator Aitor Saraiba, has been constructed from the selection of works and the life narratives of the participants in this project to whom Saraiba proposed different exercises and interviewed one by one, in order to shape the text and drawings. Subsequently, the group approved the result, which AMÁS easily validated in terms of easy reading. Work has been carried out on networks and the role of the Museum as a scenario for participation and an agent of social transformation has been strengthened; research and development of new narratives around the museum and its collections have been deepened and cognitive accessibility materials which are inviting to the general public have been developed.

With the declaration of the State of Alarm due to the health emergency caused by COVID-19, the project continued through a WhatsApp group that allowed the task to be continued, people to keep in touch, to remain in isolation, but not alone and caring for each other.

Therefore, *Tejiendo vidas, contando cuadros* becomes an object of multiple dimensions: it collects the biography of its participants; it is a new and different journey through the Museum's collections, creating new narratives around the chosen works; it is the work of an artist; it is the product of a network between entities, and it is cognitively accessible material which is inviting to any reader or visitor to the museum. It is also an example that the museum can be a stage for respect, participation and tolerance, fulfilling its function as an agent of social cohesion and transformation; a space where anyone, wherever they come from, whatever their age or condition, can see themselves reflected and feel that they belong.

The Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza, with the support of the Fundación Iberdrola España, in line with the United Nations' SDGs, continues to work on improving accessibility to its collection and its contents through the Education and Social Action lines of its Education Area.

IBERDROLA, committed to society

Since its beginnings, Iberdrola has been committed to the energy, cultural and social development of the communities in which it operates. The Fundación Iberdrola España represents one more step in this commitment; through the development of initiatives to help improve people's quality of life. One of the Foundation's main areas of activity focuses on the care, maintenance and promotion of art and culture.

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también los que hacíamos nosotros.
Y de ahí salieron pedazos de nuestras vidas,
de nuestras experiencias,
algunas olvidadas y recordadas ahora,
al ver un cuadro en el Museo.



Trabajando
con este grupo
descubrí
cómo, al final,
somos todos iguales.

No solo estudiamos sus cuadros, también los que hacíamos nosotros.	We didn't just study their paintings, we studied our own.
Y de ahí salieron pedazos de nuestras vidas, de nuestras experiencias, algunas olvidadas y recordadas ahora, al ver un cuadro en el Museo.	And from there came pieces of our lives, of our experiences, some forgotten and now remembered, when we saw a painting in the museum.
Trabajando con este grupo descubrí cómo, al final, somos todos iguales.	Working with this group I discovered how, ultimately, we are all the same.

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