MUSEUMS IN FEMININE OR APPLYING EQUALITY IN CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Description

Museos en Femenino is the result of a joint work between a team of the Institute of Feminist Research of the Complutense University of Madrid, the e-Women Association and the teams of the Museums participating in the project. Didactics 2.0 Museums in Women, is a project focused on women in art, which fits with the requirements demanded in the call of the Ministry of Culture Application for aid for the promotion of cultural projects to be developed in museums, which expressly speaks of “disseminating and facilitate the knowledge of the cultural heritage guarded in museums and promote the integration of initiatives that contribute to establish multilateral cooperation mechanisms and to develop joint actions in the field of museums, all in accordance with the provisions of article 149.28 and 149.1 of the Spanish Constitution”.

Didactics 2.0 Museos en Femenino offers the itineraries of the museums in a detailed and precise way, as well as access to the corresponding teaching guides. It is presented, therefore, as an instrument of great dissemination and teaching utility to guide the analysis of art from a gender perspective.

How does it work

Didactics 2.0 Museos en Femenino is an application of a feminist methodology: it wants to claim the presence of women in cultural practices as active and participatory subjects in historical processes. This implies the inclusion of the experience of women both in the processes of interpretation and the creation of cultural texts, which from this perspective becomes a powerful tool to build new discourses capable of changing life in a more egalitarian and just meaning.

The idea of the museum as a patrimonial space that must include the presence of women places us before the need to undertake at least two types of critical actions. The first has to do with the revision of cataloging systems, the expository criteria that are applied, the written texts that accompany the exposed materials, the spatial and visual ordering of the materials, and so on; and the second with the generation of new interpretations on the works exposed that highlight the presence and absence of women or the relations of material and representative power that each era has developed.

This project claims to the human beings - women or men - that there is in each work, but also and above all, that each work can be a source of questions and questions to the social environment. Works are texts that move us not only to contemplation, but above all to action. That children, adults of all cultural and social conditions know that they have something to say - and above all to feel - in front of a work of art is the ultimate goal of our work.

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It is articulated through the Project RDI FEM 2010-16670 “Study of the museum funds from the perspective of gender: Museo del Prado, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Museo Arqueológico Nacional y Museo del Traje” directed by Marian López Fernández Cao.

The feasibility of the Project has been made possible by the agreement “Study of museum funds from a gender perspective” signed between the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and the Ministry of Culture in 2009. The agreement was made through the Institute of Feminist Research (IIF) of the UCM with the participation of the Faculty of Education of this university and the involvement of the General Subdirectorate of State Museums and each of the museums to investigate. The IIF has also actively collaborated in the execution of the work “Heritage in Women” carried out by the Ministry of Culture.

**Advantages**

The project involves the democratization of museums and the use of a replicable methodology in all cultural centers and institutions.

**Where has it been developed**

It has been developed in: Museo del Prado; Centro de Arte reina Sofía; Museo Arqueológico Nacional; Museo del Traje y Museo González Martí.

EARTDI is a reference group in the field of art and psychosocial inclusion, pertaining to the Departamental Section of Didactics of the Plastic Expression of the Faculty of Education. Since 2010, other national and international research groups, publishing houses, municipalities and various institutions have been designated to organize art, psychosocial inclusion and art and coeducation programs.

Its different members are required in different opinion forums, both as pioneers in the formation of art and therapy in Spain and have transformed it into an official master's degree, as well as publications related to art and social inclusion and art and equity.

From the impact of theirs latest publications (teachers’ guides through which equity is worked through creation, individual and collective books, book chapters, research journal Art Therapy and Artistic Education for Social Inclusion), is required from various public and private institutions to collaborate in the design of materials and plans that include artistic creation as a means for the introduction of values in education, as well as the introduction of groups with special needs in museums.

He has published ten issues of the research journal Art Therapy. Papers of Art Therapy and Artistic Education for Social Inclusion, from the publications service of the Complutense University of Madrid, the 2009 issue with a monograph on public art, the number of 2010, with a monograph on art outsider, the number 2011, with A monograph on interventions through art in the hospital and educational field. The number 2014 has been dedicated to photography as a means of social and therapeutic inclusion.

Members of the group have been required to organize a virtual exhibition in CERES, belonging to the Ministry of Culture, with the funds of the State Museums Network, a heritage site for women, which has been concluded in a research contract signed and executed in 2011.

**And also**

The members of the group obtained from the European Commission the project “GRUNDTVIG_ARIADENE_Art and Adaptation in Intercultural Enviroments”, as partner and led by the organization Elan Interculturel and with the participation of several British, Hungarian and Greek organizations with the aim of: - Verifying the results of the Project and insert them into an international project; -Adapt them to the migrant groups; - Contribute to making a European good practice manual; - Design pilot projects. Validate them and propose valid methodologies in Europe. They have also obtained from the European commission the project “DIVERCITY, diving into Diversity in museums and in the city” like leader of several institutions. Through this project will produce indicators on diversity and art, a catalog of good practices will be developed, valid methodologies for the art and the inclusion, and will be put into practice through workshops. All this will be disseminated through a portal in several languages and through various materials in different languages. The group have obtained the project “ALETHEIA: Art, art therapy, trauma and emotional memory. R&D project.”

**Responsible Researcher**

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