

# Ja!

X FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE LITERATURA  
Y ARTE CON HUMOR

10<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL  
OF LITERATURE AND ART WITH HUMOUR

26/09 | BILBAO  
06/10 | 2019  
[www.jabilbao.com](http://www.jabilbao.com)



SALA BBK • METRO BILBAO  
BIDEBARRIETA LIBRARY  
ENSANCHE BUILDING



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ELVIRA LINDO ! ANTONIO MUÑOZ MOLINA ! MARUJA TORRES ! ANDREI KURKOV ! TATIANA ȚIBULEAC !  
ANA MORGADE ! EDU GALÁN ! MARTA FLICH ! FERNANDO TRÍAS DE BES ! MANUEL VILAS ! DAVID TRUEBA !  
CRISTINA MORALES ! IVÁN REPILA ! IBAN ZALDUA ! JAVIER DEL PINO ! ÍÑIGO DOMÍNGUEZ ! ELISA VICTORIA ! SABINA URRACA !  
FERNANDO MARÍAS ! JUAN BAS ! TXANI RODRÍGUEZ ! ALICIA SAN JUAN ! ÍÑIGO ASTIZ ! AZUL TEJERINA !  
GUILLERMO ALTARES ! CAROLINA ONTIVERO ! CÉSAR COCA ! MARIAN OCHOA DE ERIBE ! ENRIQUE REDEL !



**Welcome,**

ladies and gentlemen, to the tenth edition of the **Ja! Bilbao** Festival.

Ten years; it seems like only yesterday that I paid close attention standing behind Tom Sharpe fearing that his arm might fail him as he lifted the blunt iron sculpture and split open his head. To reflect on the festival itinerary from 2010 to 2019, in the lobby of the Sala BBK we will have a carefully selected exhibition of posters and illustrations for the Ja! (the image shows the one of Max, one of my favourites), the prelude to the extensive exhibition of 195 photographs of guest authors and the festival atmosphere in the Ensanche Building.

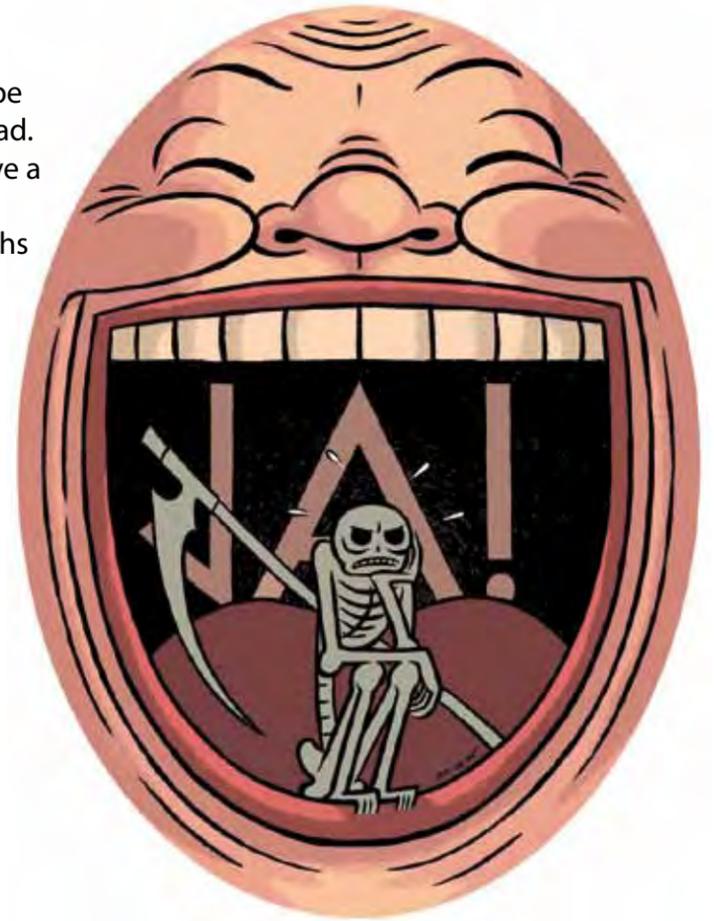
The 2019 BBK Ja! Bilbao Award has been awarded to Elvira Lindo, a very beloved author for the festival and ideal for the prize due to the lens of humour through which she approaches her work and life; a ten out of ten person for the tenth edition.

You can find full information about the programme in these pages and on our website. I do want to mention that I am delighted that two writers I admire, Antonio Muñoz Molina and Manuel Vilas, have accepted our invitation; and we are also honoured to have the great Maruja Torres, who has somewhat tried to get away from it all and has made an exception to come to Ja! Also, I am delighted that we have held the Fifth Graphic Humour School Competition with large numbers of participants, and once again with the necessary issue of equality. All ten out of ten stars, or more or less; as Forges would say, to whom we are indebted for our first poster and so much more.

Ten good wishes and may you have fun at Ja!

**Juan Bas**

Festival Director.



**September 24<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 19:30h** **OPENING**

**! OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 10<sup>th</sup> EDITION of Ja! BILBAO FESTIVAL.**  
**Monologue by FERNANDO MARÍAS**  
**La catarata**



Free entry until full capacity.

• Over these ten years, there have been many friends who have followed and supported this festival: sponsors and collaborators, authors and artists, partners and the loyal public. We want to celebrate our tenth anniversary with all of them and thanks them for these ten years of support. A good friend of Ja! like Fernando Marías could not miss out on the party.

He will offer a short -we hope- comedy monologue that he has prepared for the occasion. This spree will mark the official start of the tenth edition.

**! Ja! BILBAO BOOKSHOP**

• For a few days the Cámara and Joker bookshops will once again become the bookshop at Ja! Bilbao. It will have all the festival's guest authors and lots more.



**! FESTIBAR Ja! BILBAO**

• The food truck of La bodega de Loren will offer its gildas (pickles, olives and anchovy on a cocktail stick), spirits and soft drinks. Because in addition to nourishing your brain you need to fill your stomach.



September 26<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 19:30h

INTERVIEW

**TATIANA TÎBULEAC** in conversation with  
**ENRIQUE REDEL** and  
**MARIAN OCHOA de ERIBE**  
Rumanian with consecutive interpretation  
Book signing after the event.



• ‘The summer when my mother’s eyes were green’ is a novel that is cruel and stark, moving and poetic. From its opening lines, it has a brutal impact that is only softened by the tone —sarcastic, ironic, joking— of its narrator and main character, Aleksy, and the profile of some of its characters, who seem to come from a comedy. Don’t miss the chance to get to know the author of this book who, after triumphing in Romania and France, is now a literary phenomenon in our country.

September 27<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 19:00h

DIALOGUE

**ELISA VICTORIA - SABINA URRACA**  
in conversation with **CAROLINA ONTIVERO**  
The Wonder old women  
Book signing after the event.



© Cecilia Diaz Betz

• The wonder girls of **Sabina Urraca** are not like Nadia Comaneci, Shirley Temple or Marisol. They are normal girls who do what normal girls do, including some things that are not usually talked about: lusting after the adult friends of their parents and their own friends, cleaning up the vomit of others, trying to insert bananas in their vagina. Or, they create porn scenes with dolls while thinking about death, in the style of Marina, the nineyear-old main character in ‘Vozdevieja’, by **Elisa Victoria**. Both authors use autofiction and a tragicomical vision to explore the fascinating abyss that opens up between childhood and adolescence. After crossing it, is it possible to break away from the psychotropic experience and settle into adult life?

September 27<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 20:30h

INTERVIEW

**ÍÑIGO DOMÍNGUEZ** interviewed by  
**JUAN BAS**  
Humour in the mafia  
Book signing after the event.



• It has been shown that in searches in the homes of mafia members there is normally a copy of “The Godfather”, but never of “Goodfellas”. This shows that the mythology surrounding the mafia even reaches the key figures involved, the criminals. **Íñigo Domínguez** has spent years trying to clarify the confusion that exists around this matter, by unmasking mafia members and showing them to be what they really are: ‘Savage fools’. His trademark humour softens the horror of his chilling chronicles.

September 28<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 9:00h

CADENA SER LIVE

**'A VIVIR'**



• Don't miss the chance to attend the live broadcast of the show 'A vivir que son dos días', the leading morning program at the weekend on Cadena SER radio station. **Javier del Pino** and his illustrious collaborators (Julio Rey, Juan José Millás, Ana Morgade) await you.

Invitation at [www.cadenaser.com](http://www.cadenaser.com)



Javier del Pino

September 28<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 19:00h

DIALOGUE

**MARTA FLICH - FERNANDO TRÍAS DE BES**  
Humour in the economy

Book signing after the event.



Marta Flich



Fernando Trías de Bes

• The salmon-coloured pages of a newspaper don't seem like the best thing to read for a laugh. Nor does the economic situation provide a lot of jokes, but when it comes to addressing —sometimes— dry economic matters, humour is often used. Beginning with the economists. There is J.K Galbraith, author of 'Economics, Peace and Laughter' states that "economics is extremely useful as a form of employment for economists". Or other guests, **Marta Flich** and **Fernando Trías de Bes**. Because as the latter says "humour and irony are not at odds with rigour".

September 28<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 20:30h

INTERVIEW

**MARUJA TORRES** interviewed by  
**EDU GALÁN**

Book signing after the event.



Maruja Torres



Edu Galán

• From her early days in magazines such as 'Por Favor' and 'El Papis' to her hilarious novels ('Desperately Seeking Julio', 'Ceguera de amor'), and her unforgettable journalism reports and articles, the professional trajectory of **Maruja Torres** has been marked by her sharpness, parody and acerbic humour. She claims that "today, more than ever, she is retired from the circus", both from journalism and from writing, but for us she is still very present so it was time to have her at our festival.

September 29<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 19:00h

INTERVIEW

**ANA MORGADE** interviewed by  
**AZUL TEJERINA**



Ana Morgade



Azul Tejerina

• There are very few comical television programs that Ana Morgade has not appeared on. We have seen her on Buenafuente's Late Show, on 'Zapeando', 'El hormiguero', and on 'Tu cara me suena'. She has also been on 'El Club de la Comedia' (The Comedy Club), a classic that she has even presented. Behind her characteristic glasses without lenses, Morgade can talk like a machine gun and barely pause for breath. So, it isn't a good idea to get *furioser* because she will begin to take digs at you. Just in case, don't miss the event. The room deserves to be full of *applausers*.

October 2<sup>nd</sup> • Bidebarrieta Library • 19:30h

INTERVIEW

**ANDREI KURKOV** interviewed by  
**GUILLERMO ALTARES**  
From Chernobyl to the Soviet twilight

Book signing after the event.



Andrei Kurkov

© Eamonn McCabe/The Guardian



Guillermo Altares

• **Andrei Kurkov** was educated under the Soviet Regime. In addition to his dead hamsters, his first writing as a child was dedicated to Lenin. He worked for the KGB —as a Japanese translator— and he was a —terrible— prison warden in Odessa. All of this experience, passed through the filter of his ironic vision and his characteristic black humour, has made Kurkov an expert on the Soviet and post-Soviet world. And also on Chernobyl, an issue about which he has several anecdotes to tell.

October 3<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 19:00h

INTERVIEW • EUSKERAZ

**IBAN ZALDUA** interviewed by  
**IÑIGO ASTIZ**

Book signing after the event.



Iban Zaldúa

© Mikel Martínez de Trespuentes



Iñigo Astiz

• The traces of authors such as Borges, Monterroso, Cortázar and Kundera can be found in the work of Iban Zaldúa: We find it in the taste for literary games, the mixture of fantasy and daily life, and the use of irony as a mirror that reflects the reality around us. On this sharp-edged and parodic surface, he depicted the hoods of ETA. Zaldúa is only interested in the most dangerous humour, the type that not everyone likes.

October 3<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 20:30h

INTERVIEW

**MANUEL VILAS** interviewed by  
**FERNANDO MARÍAS**

Book signing after the event.



Manuel Vilas



Fernando Marías

• **Vilas** tends towards hyperbole: his stories can take place in the year 22011, star seven hundred million rhinos or involve the parody of himself, El Gran Vilas (The Great Vilas). The author acknowledges that humour has accompanied him throughout his life, even at the “times when I have wanted to transmit pain”. This is the case in ‘Ordesa’, his last and most acclaimed novel, which deals with very sensitive issues such as the death of his parents, his own divorce and addiction to alcohol and barbiturates.

October 4<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 19:00h

DIALOGUE

**CRISTINA MORALES - IVÁN REPILA**  
in conversation with **ALICIA SAN JUAN**  
I also want to be macho

Book signing after the event.



Cristina Morales



Iván Repila

• The characters in the latest books by **Morales** and **Repila** are far from conventional. Four disabled women who are intellectual, enjoy their bodies and their sexuality, and speak out against everything that violates their dignity. On the other hand, a supporter of feminism who, aiming to bring about a change, undertakes a campaign of extreme machismo. Both authors coincide on tackling feminism and equality from very innovative and uncomfortable perspectives, causing laughter and reflection in equal measure.

October 4<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 20:30h

INTERVIEW

**ANTONIO MUÑOZ MOLINA** interviewed by  
**CÉSAR COCA**



Book signing after the event.

• Behind major titles of the Spanish literature of our era —books such as ‘Sepharad’, ‘In the Night of Time’ and ‘Plenilunio’— there is an **Antonio Muñoz Molina** who has no qualms about immersing himself in humorous literature: the author of ‘Los misterios de Madrid’, ‘Carlota Fainberg’ and ‘Nada del otro mundo’. On the other hand, as the husband of the woman we are paying tribute to, Elvira Lindo, a sense of humour comes with the job.

October 5<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 19:00h

INTERVIEW

**ELVIRA LINDO**  
**2019 BBK Ja! BILBAO PRIZE AWARD**  
**Award ceremony**

INTERVIEWED by **TXANI RODRÍGUEZ**



Book signing after the event.

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• **Elvira Lindo** belongs to the breed of people who “are born subjected to and gifted by humour, both prisoners to it and blessed by it; a breed that could not overcome this innate particularity even if it wanted to”. We know that peculiar and essential group of humans such as comics and Elvira Lindo publicly joined it a few years ago, on the stage of the Sala BBK, in a monologue she prepared for the festival, the unforgettable ‘An inappropriate woman’. That could be considered as the prelude to the BBK Ja! Bilbao Award she is receiving this year. Elvira Lindo will be recognised with this award for being a vocational comic, a writer whose sense of humour with a unique perspective is inseparably present in both her work and her way of approaching life. After the presentation of the award, she will talk with the writer Txani Rodríguez. In previous years the BBK Ja! Bilbao Award has been given to Tom Sharpe, Francisco Ibáñez, Ismail Kadaré, Robert Crumb, Julian Barnes, Fernando Trueba, John Cleese, Joyce Carol Oates and Álex de la Iglesia.

October 6<sup>th</sup> • Sala BBK • 19:00h

CONVERSATION / SCREENING

**TOP TEN HUMOUR SEQUENCES**  
by **DAVID TRUEBA**. Presented by **Juan Bas**



Book signing after the event.

fundación **sgae** fundazioa

• A new edition of this section where a guest joins the director of the festival to comment on the screening of their ten favourite comedy scenes. This edition will feature David Trueba, a writer and director of films such as ‘The Good Life’, ‘Soldiers of Salamine’ and ‘Living Is Easy with Eyes Closed’.

**EXHIBITIONS**



**Sala BBK • 26/09 - 6/10**

**Edificio Building • 26/09 -13/10**

**Metro Bilbao • 26/09 - 14/10 Indautxu/ Moyua/ Abando**

• The posters, images, illustrations and some other curiosities that are assembled in this exhibition now form part of the history of the festival; they are the chronicle of its first ten years. The cigarette that Houellebecq lit at the Euskalduna Centre, whose smoke was about to activate the sprinklers of the fire detector and cause a heart attack for our production director; the reuniting of Bernardo Atxaga and Jon Juaristi after a thirty-year estrangement; the full house at the Campos Elíseos Theatre to watch, alongside is director José Luis Cuerda, a screening of 'Amanece que no es poco' twenty-five years after its release; the prostration of Ernesto Sevilla and Joaquín Reyes before their idol John Cleese; the luxury of having very inaccessible celebrities such as Robert Crumb and Joyce Carol Oates and watching conversations between unique pairings: Fernando Trueba and El Gran Wyoming, Forges —inolvideibol (unforgettable)— and Joan Manuel Serrat, Soledad Puértolas and Marta Sanz. All of these scenes are included among the 195 photographs exhibited in the Ensanche Building, produced for the festival over the ten years by the photographers David Herranz and Dani de Pablos. They are also the creators of the images of the nine —thus far— winners of the BBK Ja! Bilbao Award!, which can be viewed on several bins scattered around the city, as well as the ten photos of the exhibition in Metro Bilbao, which capture other great moments of this decade. In the Sala BBK you will also get the chance to see the letter that our first award winner Tom Sharpe sent to Juan Bas after his happy visit to the festival and the fantastic illustrations provided by the cartoonists we have had over the years. In short, memories of great exhibitions such as 'Quino by Mafalda' and 'Gloria Fuertes Centenary', of excited children's faces next to their work for the Graphic Humour School Competition, of unforgettable performances such as that of the much missed Pedro Reyes and the music and fire show of Le Snob. Come, have a look, and join us to celebrate a festival whose history you are all also a part of.



**EXHIBITION OF V GRAPHIC HUMOUR SCHOOL WORKS**

**Ensanche Building • 26/9 - 13/10**

• To mark the fifth edition of the Graphic Humour School Competition, it will be possible to see a selection of the best work submitted to the competition at the Ensanche Building in Bilbao.

**September 29th • Ensanche Building • 12:00h**

**COMPETITION**

**V GRAPHIC HUMOUR SCHOOL COMPETITION**

• Announcement of awards of the 5th Ja! Bilbao Graphic Humour School Competition.



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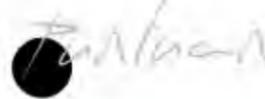
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