

Report on the exhibition *Sea of Shadows*, Instituto Cervantes Manchester on 14th June

Report by Carmen Kilner

I recently had the pleasure of attending the opening of the exhibition *Sea of Shadows*, an exhibition that intends to grow and evolve along its travels round different venues both in the UK and Euskadi.

The event took place at the Instituto Cervantes Manchester on 14th June. We are very grateful to the Instituto for so very generously allowing us the use of their premises for both the exhibition and the screening. The former consisted of many attractive panels, poetry, artworks and artefacts emerging from the collaboration between the artist Judith Martínez Estrada, the poet Alicia García Bergua and the descendants of the exile - the result of individual interviews and workshops in the UK and the Basque Country. over the past year.

Pedro Jesús Eusebio Cuesta, the director of the Instituto Cervantes Manchester, gave the first of a series of short addresses, followed by Carmen Kilner, on behalf of the BCA'37 UK, Mónica Jato then spoke as project lead, Mía Parkes discussed the definition of memory care and the importance of expanding this notion into an ethical and political practice beyond families' ties.

There followed two presentations by exiled Ukrainians drawing poignant attention to current political refugee crises; and finally, Marta Simó-Comas, a co-project lead, explained the organisation of the various sections of the current exhibition.

Those attending included descendants of the *Expedición a Inglaterra*, IBMT members, members of the Institute and specially invited guests.

There is a catalogue of the exhibition that can be seen [here](#) - or search for it at: <https://blog.bham.ac.uk/memoryastransgenerationalcare>
As the exhibition evolves, so will the catalogue.

A selection of photos taken by Rina Srabonian of the Instituto Cervantes and others are used with their permission and can be seen in our gallery – see: <https://www.basquechildren.org/photoset/set042>



More recently Begoña Echeverría (playwright) and Annika Speers (director), who had come over from the University of California, Riverside had the opportunity to present their screened reading of *Picasso Presents Guernica*, which was, as always, well received by a good audience and generated a lively discussion afterwards.



We are planning, negotiating and hoping that over the next two years the exhibition will visit several venues in Euskadi ; in the UK we are hoping to exhibit at-Homerton College, Cambridge, the Welsh Sennedd, Cardiff, Southampton, London and Edinburgh. Watch this space.