

ELENA ODRIOZOLA WINS THE BRATISLAVA BIENNIAL GRAND PRIX

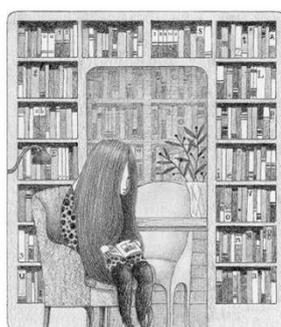
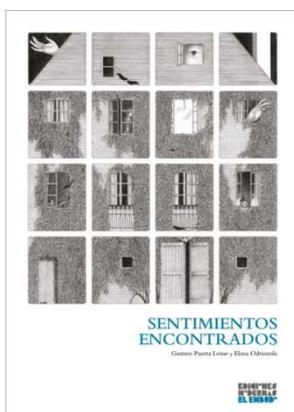


Elena Odriozola has won the Grand Prix, the most important prize at the Bratislava Biennial. The jury has awarded the illustrations that Odriozola made for the book “Sentimientos encontrados” (Gustavo Puerta Leisse, Ediciones Modernas El Embudo, 2019). It is the first time that a Basque illustrator has won this award.

Elena Odriozola was born in 1967 in Donostia (Gipuzkoa, Spain). She has illustrated more than 100 books and has received numerous awards in recent years: she has received twice the Euskadi Illustration Award (2009, 2013), she won the Spanish National Illustration Award in 2015 and, the same year, she won the

Golden Apple at the Bratislava Biennale. On several occasions she has also been a Spanish candidate for the Andersen Awards and the Astrid Lindgren Award. In 2019 she launched the publishing house Ediciones Modernas El Embudo together with Gustavo Puerta and Marta Ansón to publish her most playful and personal works. “Sentimientos encontrados” was the first book published by it, which was immediately after translated into Basque by Juan Kruz Igerabide and published with the title “Etxean Barrena” by the publishing house Denonartean.

The members of the jury of the Bratislava Biennale have highlighted the experimental nature of this book that allows different types of reading, as well as the use of illustration to create various narrative threads. In its pages we see the birth of a child and the death of a grandmother, as well as everyday images and nuances. The reader can project what he feels in each of the vignettes that make up the page.



The book was mentioned in the White Ravens catalog published by the International Library of Munich in 2020 and also received the award of the Innovative Concept in the Best Books 2020 made by Banco del Libro (IBBY Venezuela).

The Grand Prix is one of the oldest and most prestigious prizes awarded in the field of children's illustration worldwide and is awarded within the framework of the Bratislava Biennial of Illustration, Slovakia. The Bratislava Biennale is a renowned international exhibition of children's and youth book

illustrations organized by the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, the Slovak Commission for Unesco and the International House of Art for Children.

Every two years OEPLI (Spanish IBBY) presents works by 15 Spanish illustrators to the Bratislava Biennial of Illustration. Galtzagorri elkarte, as the Basque section of OEPLI, guarantees the participation of Basque illustrators in this international award thanks to the support of the Etxepare Basque Institute. Elena Odriozola has been a member of Galtzagorri elkarte (Basque Children's literature association) since its birth on 1990 and collaborates in many of its projects.

66 Spanish illustrators submitted their candidacy for this year's Biennial and 15 were chosen, among them the winner Elena Odriozola and three other Basque illustrators for the following recently published works:

Iban Barrenetxea: Autography (Nordic).

Maite Gurrutxaga: Leo sabanako errege / Leo the King of Savannah (Elkar).

Leire Salaberria: Heidi (Castle Editions)