2019



CONTEMPORARY ARTS / FATXADA PROJECT. DESIGN, ILLUSTRATION AND COMIC **15 JUL.** > **16 SEP**.

## Leire Urbeltz

## Las Partes de La Malinche

Illustration



Leire Urbeltz. Borderland. Photography. Tabakalera CC-BY-SA

Leire Urbeltz's work will inhabit the Arriquibar Façade during the summer months, with the proposal of a triple portrait extracted from her publication *Borderland*.

Among the illustrations which make up this project, there is a confronted portrait that reflects the opposing opinions about the legendary woman 'La Malinche'.

Although a lot has been written about the woman sold to Hernan Cortés as a slave during the colonial period, who ended up as the historical mother of the first mestizo, Urbeltz bases her work on the article by the feminist professor Marisa Belausteguigoitia *Las nuevas Malinches: Mujeres fronterizas* to propose this portrait divided over 3 canvases to be hung on the centre façade. On the one hand, La Malinche is represented as the treacherous 'seller of countries', Cortés' interpreter, adviser and mediator in the conquest.

Her name has resulted in the derogatory adjective 'malinchista' for anyone in Mexico who gives preference to the foreign in detriment to the native. On the other hand, La Malinche is portrayed as the victim, not as the betrayer of a nation, but as the one sold and a survivor. Finally, La Malinche is represented as the mestiza mother of a new race.

## 15 July > 16 September

Arriquibar Square (Façade)
Free admission











**LEIRE URBELTZ** explores through her work the limits of the so-called expanded illustration. In her most personal

works, where she tackles illustration as an installation material, she extends both formally and conceptually towards the elimination of reducing formulae which sidestep the complexity of contemporary creation.

Thus, we can place Urbeltz's work in a state of constant movement, i.e. it is not stabilised within any of its possibilities. It rather delves into the relations created between art and no-art.