



IRRINTZIAREN OIHARTZUNAK

HOWLING ECHOES / LOS ECOS DEL IRRINTZI



Iratxe Fresneda is a lecturer at the Audiovisual Communication Department at the University of The Basque Country. In her doctoral thesis she examined stereotypes about women in Lars von Trier's films. She has been visiting lecturer at the University of Nevada, Reno (USA), a lecturer in Film Studies at Lund University (Sweden) and at the University of Toulouse II - Le Mirail (France).

Writer, script-writer and film critic, she started working as a director and script-writer for various culture programmes on Radio Euskadi (Basque public radio). At present, as well as collaborating with various cultural institutions' programming, she lectures on non-fiction scriptwriting and in the University of the Basque Country's master course on Feminist Studies. *Irrintziaren oihartzunak* is her first film as director and script-writer.

Irrintziaren Oihartzunak is a portrait of the creative exile of Mirentxu Loyarte (1938, Iruñea), one of those mad, unknown pioneers of European cinema. From a perspective which aims to examine the Navarrese filmmaker's memory and work, this is the story of a meeting, the search for a cinematographic treasure made of flesh and bone: a character she cannot or does not want to remember.

Unknown because of the the nomadic turn which her life took, Navarrese filmmaker Mirentxu Loyarte made one of the most daring and bravest films in the Spanish state in the 1970's: *Irrintzi* (1978). It is an audiovisual metaphor which reflects on the collective identity of Basque citizens. Men who dance and static images in which what is photographed goes beyond the document and call on spectators to voyage through this filmed artefact accompanied by the words of Celaya, Aresti and Otero. Based on a work by Luis Iturri, *Irrintzi* was given the special quality prize by the Dirección General de Cinematografía Española - one of those marvellous contradictions which took place during the Spanish Transition. The film's director of photography was Javier Aguirresarobe, the editor was Fernando Larruquert and the late Marivi Bilbao made a special appearance.

Between exiles and home-comings, Mirentxu Loyarte did not finish her career at that point, continuing on her way in a type of anthropological introspection, a portrait which showed some Basque women's points of view. *Euskal Emakumeak* (1981), *Ikuska 12*, was filmed in Basque, and Javier Aguirresarobe worked on this film too. In it, Loyarte drew the socio-political space of women at the end of the 20th century. Toned red, this short film takes a severe look at the spaces available to women in the 1980's: markets, children's parks, fish factories and male latrines.

In *Irrintziaren Oihartzunak* we look at the "truths" which are hidden in *Irrintzi*, at the visionary words of the women in *Euskal Emakumeak*, based on secrets exhibited, but never revealed and, above all, of all her work and her personality as an author. We recover her voice, her story, the stories which got left by the way and the ones we got back in Marc Légasse's "Las carabinas de Gastibeltza".

The rest is history, a story we submerge in with curiosity, visualising the trajectory of a woman who – in spite of her failed projects and broken dreams, in spite of her life, and who still makes films in her mind – is still a film-maker.

Ekoiizpena/Producción/Production
Saioa Etxebarria /Iratxe Fresneda

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Zuzendaria/Directora/Director
Iratxe Fresneda

Gidoia/Guión/Screenplay
Iratxe Fresneda

Argazkia
Saioa Etxebarria

Muntaketa/Montaje/Edición
Laurent Dufreche & Demetrio Elorz

Musika/Música/Musica
Kiko Monzón
Anari

Antzelezleak/Intérpretes/Cast
Mirentxu Loyarte

Formatua/Formato/Format
DCP

Iraupena/Duración/Running Time
54 min.