### **FADRINES**

THE EXHIBITION & THE WEBDOC



### IS LIFE JUST GETTING MARRIED?

This is how the project Fadrines\* is explained.

Fadrines explores resistances.

Resistances to a norm: getting married and having children; resistance to stereotypes, applied to silence those women who have acted on the sidelines, out of line, outside the established framework.

Fadrines shows trajectories of unmarried women. This is, variations of ways of being and living away from the dominant patterns.

The plurality of forms that a life can take, despite the narrow parameters of the social imaginary. All of that combines in this exhibition.

Fadrines is a tribute to those intuitive feminists, who said no to a marriage based on legitimized inequality.

It is also a recognition of those others for whom poverty was not an option, but an imposition against their wishes.

Fadrines is a challenge to the forms of feminine non-existence.

We invite you to a journey through which we have travelled along with the women interviewed. A journey from stereotype to fullness.

<sup>\*</sup>Fadrines means unmarried

## A FEW ASKY LOOKS A CLOUD OF REJECTION

deficient

lonely

mistaken

sterile



failed



denatured



selfish



devalued

incomplete

deviated

frivolous



unfortunate

### AND POPULAR SAYINGS...

Woman without man, buttonhole without button.

A spinster who is over thirty, bursting with rage.

Singleness: lightness and blessing.

The word yoke, in its different meanings, has the meaning of union and subjection, but also of submission and oppression. Yoke is the instrument to bind animals in a joint from which they cannot break free, held to drag the plow or cart.

Yoke is also the veil with which the spouses were covered during the nuptial mass, placing it on the shoulders of the man and on the head of the woman, as a symbol of an indissoluble bond. Yoke is, presented here, a metaphor for one of the consequences of marriage.

Márquez Lambán Collection and Manel Montal Collection L'ETNO photographic archive

# THIS ONE WILL BE FOR OLD AGE

Revalidating oneself over others is an attack on the construction of gender.

Soledad Murillo



Spinsterhood as an unavoidable obligation. The impossibility of marriage due to fates programmed by the woman's relatives, subsequent circumstances (absence of a mother, relatives' illnesses, orphanhood) or affective disagreements. Top success in the conformation of "being for the others", because of a premeditated and reserved duty from the outside, due to a self-imposed internal abnegation or because of the assumption of a supernatural fate.



Viridiana, 1961 by Luis Buñuel Illustration by Nuria Riaza from frame

In the house where an unmarried woman is, webs aren't spun.

Those who have unmarried daughters die rich.

Dramatization of experiences of being single



"They didn't let me get married because they wanted me to take care of them"

### UNLEASHED BEAST

If you aim for a husband with no faults, you have to be ready to be left on the shelf.





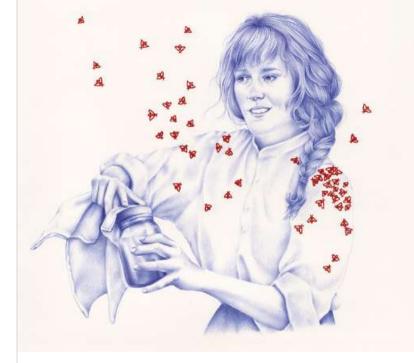
Better to be left on the shelf and dress in saints' clothes than to undress drunks.







Spinsterhood as a space of joy and freedom. Women that abandon the norm of marriage and progeny; that do not admit boundaries made to enclose or restrict their movements. Women that, consciously, run away from the feminine domesticity, strategically use excuses (ugliness, work...) to disguise the intimal reasons behind their spinsterhood. Self-representations without guilt or remorse put these unmarried women in the sphere of independence.



Idgie Threadgoode in Fried Green Tomatoes, 1991 by Jon Avnet Illustration by Nuria Riaza from frame

Single loose, loose; married prison, prison.



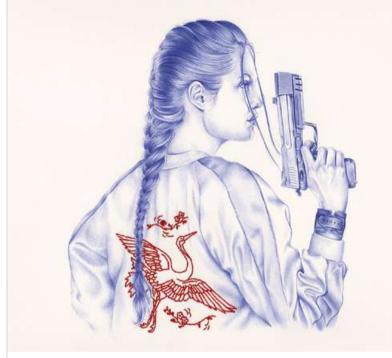
### WELL FED AND WELL KEPT

Francoist Civil Code (Art. 59): the husband is the administrator and beneficial owner of all belongings of the conjugal community.



When a woman has money, the husband isn't needed.

Spinsterhood as luxury. When the woman's condition was auto-sufficient economically, either because of her own, inherited or other type of income, singleness was presented as a fair-enough option. This is how spinsterhood was seen legally attractive, comfortable and convenient for the feminine condition. Romantic, religious or class reasons stand at a crossroads of unmarried life lived as a resource.



Lara Croft in Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life, 2003 by Jan de Bont Illustration by Nuria Riaza from frame

To be married and eat badly, it's better to stay single.

For the kings there are princesses, for the peasants, peasants.

Dramatization of experiences of being single



"If I'd found something that suited..."

### IT WOULD NEVER SUIT ME



Woman, the love that is asked of you is not of reciprocal pleasure, but the compliance of a vassalage.

Maria Aurèlia Capmany

Spinsterhood as a two-way state between regret of not having descendants and well-being attributed to the decision of not marrying. Women that are openly uninterested in men, where fears (of sex, marriage, serfdom) along with guilt over not obeying the norm, but also the firm decisions or free will, aside from illness conditions, draw a universe of spinsterhood alternative to marriage, laden with nuances.



Mary Poppins, 1964 by Robert Stevenson Illustration by Nuria Riaza from frame

Mother, what is getting married?
Daughter, it's suffering, giving birth and crying.



### **FADRINES: THE WEBDOC**

#### **FADRINES. IS LIFE JUST GETTING MARRIED?**

It is an interactive documentary.
You will find films, animated photographs, illustrations and voices of single women: the protagonists.
Women who did not meet the standard to get married and have children.
Women who were criticized, admired, denied, pitied or envied. They will tell you.
Sit back and enjoy.
Grab a tablet and browse.
You don't have a single viewing direction.
You can go back and forth, interrupt or enjoy.

#### fadrines.dival.es

Let yourself go.



# **Trailer:**Fadrines. Is life just getting married?



#### Video:

Fadrines. Is life just getting married?



Márquez Lambán Collection and Manel Montal Collection. L'ETNO photographic archive. Non-profit cultural and educational project. L'ETNO has tried to locate all the people involved with valid image rights.

Fadrines is a museographic representation of the book Fadrines, el procés de no casar-se en la societat tradicional valenciana,

by Raquel Ferrero and Clara Colomina.

Fadrines is a L'ETNO exhibition in which the following have participated: Isabel Álvarez and Raquel Ferrero in the curatorship. Kumi Furió and Rosa Bou in design. Arlette Olaerts in photography. Nuria Riaza in the illustrations. La Zafirina in the dramatization. Bressol produccions in the webdoc.

Fadrines is a traveling exhibition. If you want to see it in your town or city, contact us: 963883608 or write us an email: letno@dival.es

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#### Opening times

Tuesday to Sunday 10.00-20.00







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