

Hi, good morning, my name is Núria Güell and I make my living working as a contemporary art artist.

I'm writing this letter to invite and encourage you to participate in a work I'm working on that aims to make the prison system more visible. My intention is to create a kind of safe-conduct that connects the prison with the art centre, a kind of leak that brings to light what the system wants to hide. More specifically, the work consists of installing a telephone with an open free line in the exhibition hall to receive your calls. If you make a call, the amplified ring tone will be heard throughout the room, and the museum visitors will have to decide whether to pick up the call to talk to you or just listen to the tone, but they won't be able to ignore it.

For the piece to work in all its different levels, you have to call of your own free will, that is, you have to be willing to make your presence felt in this museum in Logroño (Sala Amós Salvador), to disturb, to scold the non-inmate population, to remind them that you are locked up there, every day. If you call a lot, if the phone doesn't stop ringing, the visitors to the museum will know that you are not prisoners of your own free will, that you don't accept the punishment or that you think it is disproportionate. If you don't call or call very little, something that is within the realm of possibility or reason, visitors may think that you are indifferent to the intention of the work, and the result will be different, neither better nor worse, but different. Needless to say, you can use these communications for whatever you wish, be it to start a conversation with a stranger or to make public whatever you think is appropriate.

To carry out the project I have sent this message to several inmates from all over Spain, with the help of several people involved in the anti-prison struggle such as Amadeu Casellas, as well as with the support of TOKATA, the Rossinyol Anti-Prison Collective and the Fuig Anti-Prison Collective, among others. My intention with this work is not that you are perceived or recognised as victims of the State, or of Power, or of society, but that society perceives itself as the executioner, that society feels the weight of the punishment of which it is an accomplice. My intention is that society as a whole does not brush off its participation in and responsibility for the forced imprisonment of its fellow human beings.

I know that in order to make the calls you must 'authorise' the line. Thank you in advance for making these arrangements. I am giving you two telephone numbers that we have contracted for the occasion and the details to authorise the line. The free number is 900701085 (for those who can authorise it without presenting a contract) and the landline, the contract for which is 872202946 (Núria Güell Serra DNI 45546965L).

Calls can be made throughout the duration of the exhibition, i.e., from Saturday 29 May to Sunday 15 August. The exhibition opening will take place on Saturday 29 May at 12:30 p.m., which means that several authorities will be present, in case you are interested. The opening hours of the museum are from Tuesday to Friday: 11:00 to 14:00 and 18:00 to 20:00. Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays: 11:00 to 15:00 and 17:00 to 21:00. Mondays closed.

Forgive me for writing such a long letter, but I wanted to inform you of my intentions as clearly as possible.

A big hug to all of you,  
Best regards,

Núria (Vidreeres, 22 April 2021)