

about

A tour of Arrieta (Bizkaia) centered around the work of 11 contemporary artists. The experience invites visitors to discover the pieces along a walk, in open dialogue with the landscape.

program

ARRIETAN BIENNIAL:

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JONE ERZILLA

MIRIAM ISASI

ELENA MENDIZABAL + URKIA SÁNCHEZ

GOOGLE MAPS

Adrián Irisarri (Garinoain, 2001)

Dioramak

Location: ❶ Porch of the Church of St Martin the Bishop

Opening hours: 11:00am–6:00pm on exhibition days.

A diorama is a three-dimensional, scaled-down reproduction of a scene or landscape. In this work, the port of the church is filled with small models that recreate landscapes and villages at different scales, inhabited by miniature human and animal figures. By reducing the size of things, the artist creates a kind of window into fantasy, within a space as familiar as the street. The artist invites us to become small and wander through these tiny worlds and landscapes.

Sandra Cuesta (Hondarribia, 1978)

D.U.S.T. 1

Location: ❷ Arrieta Fronton Court

Opening hours: Activated three times a day
(12:00pm / 5:00pm / 5:30pm) on exhibition days.

Approximate duration: 17 minutes.

(The rolling exhibition programme will begin with the listening session of the sound piece on 20 June at 12:00pm)

The fronton court is transformed into a vast artistic resonating chamber. D.U.S.T. 1 is a sound intervention created specifically for the fronton in Arrieta. Taking advantage of the space's natural echo, the artist plays with its acoustics so that digital sound rebounds in much the same way as a pelota during a game. The work offers a sensory journey: it begins with the physical force of impacts and gradually evolves into a melodic composition.

Saioa Olmo (Bilbao, 1976)

Hyperstitions in Arrieta

Location: ③ Lane beside the Municipal Fronton

Opening hours: 20 and 21 June (11:00am–2:00pm);

26 and 27 June (5:00pm–8:00pm)

A hyperstition is a functional belief that creates reality: an idea that, through collective imagination, eventually materialises and comes true.

In *Hyperstitions in Arrieta*, the artist will meet with local residents to explore how they imagine the biennial might be, what they would expect from it, what might surprise them, and how they think it could affect them. Through these recorded conversations, the voices of the community will gradually weave and construct the artwork live throughout the exhibition. A living work that uses the community's own voice to shape, collectively, the future of the village.

Javier R. Pérez-Curiel (Oviedo, 1978)

12:21

Location: ④ Libao Square

Opening hours: sound installation daily from 20–28 June, whenever the clock displays palindromic times

(12:21pm / 1:31pm / 2:41pm / 3:51pm / 8:01pm / 9:12pm).

This project consists of two works linking the square with the church bell tower. The first work is a sound installation: six times a day, whenever the clock displays a palindromic time between 12:21 and 21:12, the bells perform a composition based on palindromic structures—a melody that reads the same from left to right as from right to left, like a musical mirror in which time seems to retrace its steps. The second work is a sound sculpture made of tubular bells situated in the square, which rings in response to passers-by. Beyond the sound itself, the artist's aim is for visitors to experience the physical vibration of the bells, bringing into the street the sensation usually felt inside the bell tower.

Fernando Renes (Covarrubias, 1970)

Una societat espiritualment lliure...

Localización: **5** Shrine of the Holy Christ

Opening hours: 11:00am–6:00pm on exhibition days.

Fernando responds to the Shrine of the Holy Christ by considering the site as an opportunity to reorganise his ceramic practice towards a shared experience, understanding that the defining element will be the dialogue between the shrine, Arrieta, and the viewer.

Miren Doiz (Pamplona, 1980)

12:21

Location: **6** Water Reservoir

Opening hours: Continuous display from 20–28 June.

Arrieta's water reservoir contains water that we consume but never actually see. For this work, the artist brings together very different images of water. On the one hand, she uses real photographs of rivers and seas taken from nature. On the other, she includes the responses provided by internet search engines—the oracles of our time—when we search for “water”: unreal, manipulated and edited representations.

Idoia Leache (Burlata, 1999)

Lay on me

Location: 7 Passageway Area

Opening hours: 11:00am–6:00pm on exhibition days.

- Are you going to take a photo of it?
- No, not a photo. I need to film all the way around it.
- Why...? Why film all the way around it?
- Otherwise we won't remember...
- Won't remember what?
- There. See? Like that... What it looked like from every side, for when we do the work..."

Transcript of a conversation between a father and his son, extracted by the artist from a YouTube video.

Miriam Isasi (Vitoria, 1981)

Plomada inversa

Location: 8 Black Maritxu

Opening hours: 11:00am–6:00pm on exhibition days.

A plumb line is the traditional tool used by builders to ensure that a wall is perfectly vertical through the force of gravity. In this work, the opposite occurs: a large helium balloon pulls upwards, causing the plumb line to function in reverse and remain suspended in the air, defying gravity.

Through this physical exercise in suspension, together with handwritten text on the platform and a subtle sound element, the installation reconfigures the rules of the space and invites us to view our surroundings from within a different perspective.

Jone Erzilla (Durango, 1999)

Berriro daramadana

Location: ⑧ Black Maritxu

Opening hours: 11:00am–6:00pm on exhibition days.

The title of this work means “what I carry with me again”.

For this occasion, the artist has revisited materials, words and images from different projects accumulated over time (between 2022 and 2026). She brings them here, to the circular platform of Black Maritxu, and seeks a new way for them to be arranged and inhabit this space.

The artist explains that, in order to truly experience things, she needs to relive them—to see them again, to hear them again. It is an exercise in memory: returning to materials from the past, recalling the feelings they once evoked, and giving them a new life in Arrieta.

Elena Mendizabal (Donostia, 1960)

+ Urkia Sánchez (Bilbao, 1997)

PACK

Location: ⑧ Black Maritxu

Opening hours: 11:00am–6:00pm on exhibition days.

PACK plays with the very structure of Black Maritxu’s circular platform, which is divided into two levels: a wooden base below, and a transparent plastic (polycarbonate) cover above. The artists have placed coloured plastic forms within the space between the two layers, trapping them between both levels.

As the two levels are connected through a series of openings, the piece invites visitors to approach and look through them in order to discover the forms enclosed within.

Andrea Aguilera (Bilbao, 1997)

(untitled) circles upon circle

Location: 8 Black Maritxu

Opening hours: 11:00am–6:00pm on exhibition days.

(untitled) circles upon circle is a site-specific proposal responding to the characteristics of the Prelude project at Black Maritxu. The installation consists of the repeated arrangement of several glass vessels. Circles upon circle. One glass fills with rainwater, another overflows. Light passing through the water, the shadows it creates...

These minimal repeated gestures gradually shape the work. The installation seeks to engage in dialogue with the spatial and meteorological conditions of the exhibition, inviting them, in a sense, to become part of the work.

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