

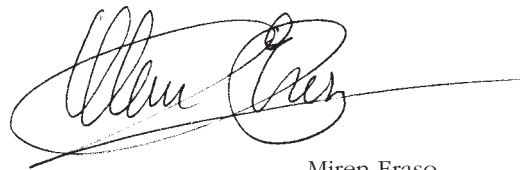
# The Open School

*Zehar's* decision to contribute to the *documenta 12 magazines* project focusing on "Education (The Local Institution)" was motivated by the fact that Arteleku, the institution that publishes the magazine, has many years of experience in the field of education. This exceptional characteristic enabled us to tackle education, first by analysing the activities carried out at Arteleku, and then by transferring these experiences to *Zehar*. We have called this publishing experience, "The Open School".

"The Open School" refers to, on the one hand, the desire to 'open' the magazine to all those who, during the last few years have contributed to *Zehar* and have a direct connection with education and, on the other hand, the intention to create a discourse that will have a multiplying effect. We present here a first paper edition in which each contributor passes on their educational practice so that their experience, individual or collective, may serve to create new ones. A second version will be organised as a debate on the internet. Although we initially thought that the questions posed for Forum may limit the themes for debate, we noticed, to our surprise, that from where each contributor stands (art historian, teacher, artist or curator), as well as their particular experience, condition their response and the approach taken.

The type of education that we are interested in promoting with "The Open School" was based on the idea of what is called the "école mutuelle"; an educational project that stimulates the collaboration between different people and mutual help. In this way, all the contributors, sceptically or optimistically, share the idea that the teaching of art may help to create a more culturally healthy society although they stress that nowadays this is socially devalued.

Leaving publishing assessments aside here, we invite you to read all the contributions and take part in the debate that we are holding in June. We are sure that your ideas and your praxis, in addition to those that we already have, will shape a new educational experience.



Miren Eraso