The AE-BKH Women’s Week, 2013–2022

The ACADEMIA EUROPaea-BARCELONA KNOWLEDGE HUB (AE-BKH) organizes every year an activity called WOMEN’S WEEK. This annual activity is performed during the first weeks of March, to commemorate the UN International Women’s Day, celebrated around the world each 8th of March.

Since 2013, the AE-BKH has organised activities surrounding the UN International Women’s Day in early March. In line with similar celebrations around the world, the AE-BKH Women’s Week has served, on the one hand, to recognise the important contributions made by women, many of which have gone unnoticed, to the different fields of human knowledge. And, on the other, to claim women’s rights and promote gender equality and empowerment, in order to help advance society.

This activity of the AE-BKH is a continuation of the commemoration by the Scientific Secretariat of the Institute for Catalan Studies (IEC) of the UN International Women’s Day. From 2006 to 2012 the IEC organised a Distinguished Lecture during the first days of March. Since 2013, the AE-BKH has hosted the event, and other activities have been added, such as workshops or visits to places of special cultural or scientific relevance. Thus, this annual activity has been renamed AE-BKH Women’s Week.

2013

March 6th  Workshop: “Two cultures, three cultures, or one only culture?”
Convenor: Nicole Skinner, AE-BKH. With the participation of: Dacha Atienza, Museum of Natural Science of Barcelona, Mercè Berlanga, University of Barcelona, and Genoveva Martí, ICREA-University of Barcelona.

2014

March 5th  Distinguished Lecture: “Arab Spring, or long desolate Arab Winter?”
Presentation by Mercè Piqueras, Catalan Association for Scientific Communication (ACCC).
Lecture by Nadia El-Awadi, Egypt, former president of the World Federation of Science Journalists.

**March 6th**

**Workshop: “The Earth is our body. Lynn Margulis and Gaia”**
Convenor: Carmen Chica, editor of the book *Once Upon a Time*. With the participation of: Isabel Esteve, Marta Estrada, Ricard Guerrero, Juli Peretó, Mercè Piqueras, Anna Omedes, Carme Puche, Joandomènec Ros and Nicole Skinner

**September 17th-19th. International Conference on “Education and Empowerment of Women”. Madrid**
In September 2014, the Autonomous University of Madrid hosted a three-day’s International Conference on “Education and Empowerment of Women”. The Conference was organised jointly by the National Research Institute for Science Policy (NRISP) of Iran, the Autonomous University of Madrid, the Institute for Research and Planning in Higher Education of Iran and the AE-Barcelona Knowledge Hub. Prof. Ricard Guerrero, Academic Director of the AE-BKH, gave the lecture “The role of Academia Europaea in promoting women in the sciences and the humanities at the highest levels”.

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**2015**

**March 4th**

**Workshop: “Women and the academic ladder”**
Convenor: Lynn Kamerlin. With the participations of: Clara Corbella, Margaret Luppino, Maryam Ghafouri, M. Dolors Garcia-Ramon and Lourdes Beneria.

**March 5th**

**Short film “In the search of truth. In memory of Lynn Margulis”**
Convenor: Anna Alberni, ICREA. Comments by the director of the film: Carme Puche.

**Distinguished Lecture: “Empowerment of women in the academic world”**
By Lynn Kamerlin, University of Uppsala, chair of the Young Academy of Europe (YAE).

**Musical Concert: “Women’s Sephardic Songs”**
By Olga Miracle, soprano, accompanied by Noemí M. Agell and Pere Olivé, string and percussion instruments.

**March 6th**

**Guided visits:**
- Visit to the Cercle del Liceu Pinacotheque. Guided by María Jiménez de Parga.

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**2016**

**March 3rd**

**Distinguished Lecture: “Women and cultural transmission. The essential role of translation”**
By Mary Ann Newman, Farragut Fund for Catalan Culture in the USA (New York)


**Documentaries/Films:**
- “Lin in Espan. How she stood our Spanish-Catalan accent.” Several documentaries
selected by Rubén Duro, AE-BKH.
- “Symbiotic Earth.” Film produced for the International TV. Directed by John Feldman, HummingbirdFilms, New York.

Musical Concert: “Songs from Syria and Kurdistan, a Nation without a State”
By the Gani Mirzo Band. Musicians: Neila BenBey (singer), Francesc Puig (clarinet), Juan Jose Barreda (flamenco guitar), and Gani Mirzo (ud, buzuk, composer).
Performed at the Gimbernat Anatomical Amphitheatre, Royal Academy of Medicine of Catalonia.

March 4th Workshop: “Women, migrations and war”
Convenor: Mitsi Ito. With the participations of: Mitsi Ito, Maryam Ghafouri, Pere Castaño, Carmen Chica, Salvador Giner.

Lecture: Commemoration of the International Year of Global Understanding. By Silvia Pellicer, University of Zaragoza.

Art exhibits:
- Paintings by Trini Sotos: “Women/Dones/Mujeres. Reflections and aesthetics of female emotions.”

March 6th Guided visit to the Natural Park of the Corredor and Montnegre. Guided by Rubén Duro.
Part of the attendants to the 2016 AE-BKH Women’s Week went to visit one of the main Natural Parks near Barcelona, the Corredor and Montnegre areas, which offer an interesting sample of the Mediterranean woods and the natural life developed between the inner land and the sea.

2017

March 1st & 3rd Experts Meetings: “Open Access policy in academic institutions”
Convenors: Mercè Piqueras and Ricard Guerrero. With the participation of Marie Farge, Ignasi Labastida, Ernest Abadal, Lluís Anglada, Michaela Bertero, Regina Revilla, Pastora M. Samper, Jordi Mas and Lluís Rovira.

March 2nd Distinguished Lecture: “Scientific knowledge as a commons: How to improve the peer review and dissemination of research outputs”
By Marie Farge, Directrice de Recherche at Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) and École Normale Supérieure, Paris. Member of the Council of the Academia Europaea.

2018

March 6th Musical concert at the IEC: “Polorum Regina. Women as a referent of freedom”
A concert by Lídia Pujol, voice, with Pau Figueras, guitar, and Miquel Àngel Cordero, double bass.
March 7th


March 8th

Workshop at the Athenaeum of Barcelona: “Symbiotic science: The legacy of Lynn Margulis”
Coordinated by Carmen Chica, AE-BKH. Presented by Ricard Faura, Athenaeum of Barcelona. With the participation of: Marta Estrada, Magdalena Albero, Sandra Montón, Dolors Grillo-Bosch and Carmen Chica.

2019

March 5th

Musical concert and scientific session at the IEC: “Lynn Margulis and music”

March 6th

At the Royal Academy of Medicine of Catalonia, Barcelona. “The other half of science: the women of the Periodic Table of Elements”
Sílvia Simon: “Women and the Periodic Table”. Mercè Piqueras: “The other half of science: The role of women in the crucial advancements of science”. Núria Salán: “The empowerment of women and the education of girls and adolescents”.

March 7th

At the Historical Building of the University of Barcelona. “Women and Cities”

2020

March 4th

At the Prat de la Riba Hall, IEC. The mathematics of music. A lecture by Pilar Bayer.
The mathematic principles underlying music, including those historically used to explain sound as well as the role of new technologies in music. The session will focus on the most relevant mathematic techniques used in the digital treatment of music, in its reproduction and storage.

March 5th

At the Ramon Turró Room, Royal Academy of Medicine of Catalonia.
Fifty years of the book *Origin of Eukaryotic Cells* by Lynn Margulis. Round table. Presentation: Mercè Piqueras; chair: Carmen Chica; panell: Montserrat Vallmitjana, Begoña Vendrell, Carme Puche, Mercè Berlanga. A retrospective look at the serial endosymbiosis theory and the lineages of eukaryotic organisms at a time when DNA sequencing was just starting and
techniques commonly used nowadays, such as restriction enzymes or PCR, were unknown.

**PLANNED FOR March 12th. At the Goethe-Institut Barcelona. ADJOURNED DUE TO THE PANDEMIC**

“City Unfinished, a social cooperative initiative exploring Memory and Identity in the Self-Built City”. Documentary by Kathrin Golda-Pongratz. Investigation of the urbanisation and place-making processes in the neighbourhood of El Ermitaño (Independencia/Lima), in collaboration with British architect John F C Turner, who depicted and theorised about the self-construction of Peru in the 1960s. Unfortunately this last activity of AE-BKH Women’s Week 2020, had to be postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic, as dictated by local public health authorities.

2021

**AE-BKH Women’s Week 2021: “(Dis)lodged women: theories of domestic spaces and subjectivity”**

**March 11th. All virtual.**

This year’s edition, the ninth since the series began in 2013, helped consolidate the initiative as one of the main pillars of the AE-BKH’s annual programming. Featuring a new collaboration with the UNESCO Chair on Women, Development and Cultures and the University of Barcelona (UB), the all-virtual event was entitled “(Dis)lodged women: theories of domestic spaces and subjectivity” and took place on March 11, 2021.

Coordinated by Mònica Rius Piniés, Director of the aforementioned UNESCO Chair, the session began with a conversation between professors Rodrigo Andrés and Cristina Alsina, members of the UB research group, Troubling Houses: Dwellings, Materiality, and the Self in American Literature. Popular literary topics such as domestic spaces, power, belonging, subjectivity, confinement and gender were then discussed as a mirror of contemporary society, during the debate portion that followed.

**June 15th. At the Goethe-Institut Barcelona.**


The debate, moderated by journalist and author Bettina Bremme, with the participation of architect and urban planner Zaida Muxí and urban researcher and *Ciudad Infinita* film director Kathrin Golda-Pongratz, MAE, provided thought-provoking insight into the role of public space and housing in the construction of identity in different cultures, including our own. In this sense, the self-built neighbourhood of El Ermitaño, Lima, Peru, provides ideas for incentivising similar initiatives aimed at improving and consolidating neighbourhoods and communities.

This event, which was also streamed live, was featured as part of +Biennial, a programme of complementary activities held at different venues throughout Barcelona, following the conclusion of the second “City and Science” Biennial (June 8-13, 2021), organised by the Barcelona City Council.
The sessions of the **Women's Week 2022** were prepared for the days 8, 9 and 10 of March, to be held in three different locations in Barcelona. They were planned to discuss the role of “Women in Catalan cinematography”, especially dealing with the production and direction roles. They would be coordinated by Carmen Puca Moré, cinematographer and secretary of *Dones Visuals*. Finally, the sessions could not be held.