



EXHIBITION

FRONTPAGE | 100 years of the
Residencia de Señoritas (1915-1936)

WOMIEN

**Didactic material for school visits
(ESO/Bachillerato).**



Residencia de Estudiantes



**SELLO DE
PATRIMONIO EUROPEO**



Teaching Material

INTRODUCTION.

SUMMARY OF THE CONTENTS OF THE EXHIBITION

The Residencia de Señorita's path is directly linked with the significant change in women's social situation in Spain during the first third of the 20th century. The first initiatives in favour of women's education were courtesy of Fernando de Castro, who founded the Asociación para la Enseñanza de la Mujer in 1870. Following the actions of Castro, Francisco Giner de los Ríos and the participants of the Institución Libre de Enseñanza (ILE), whose main principle was carrying on with coeducation, continued with the defence of women's rights.

The Junta para Ampliación de Estudios (JAE), created in 1907, led by Santiago Ramón y Cajal whose secretary was José Castillejo, put into practice the project to modernize Spanish society through education that inspired the ILE. In 1910, the JAE founded the Residencia de Estudiantes, led by Alberto Jiménez Fraud. In 1915 its horizon was extended to include women's education with the creation of the female group, la Residencia de Señoritas, whose director was María de Maeztu.

Victoria Kent, Matilde Huici, Delhy Tejero or Josefina Carabias were distinguished residents. María Goyri, María Zambrano, Victorina Durán or Maruja Mallo were also part of the faculty. Zenobia Camprubí, Gabriela Mistral, Victoria Ocampo, María Martínez Sierra and Clara Campoamor also participated in its activities. In its rooms the Female Lyceum Club and the Asociación Universitaria Femenina were created.

Aside from those aforementioned names of higher renown, the group of female residents, formed by women from all over Spain, truly became the avant-garde model of a professional and independent woman, which was something of an extremely exotic and unusual nature in society at that time.

The Residencia de Estudiantes and the rest of centres created by the JAE collapsed in the disastrous conflict of the Spanish Civil War. Especially in regards to women's rights, the war caused a huge regression regarding the advances obtained in the previous decades. Despite this, the experience of these advanced women inspired the path of many other women who followed their lead.

Structure of the exhibition

ROOM 1.

EDUCATION FOR WOMEN. FIRST INITIATIVES (1869-1915)

- Fernando de Castro and the Asociación para la Enseñanza de la Mujer
- The education for women and the Institución Libre de Enseñanza
- The Instituto Internacional in Spain
- Grants for female students of the Junta para Ampliación de Estudios
- María de Maeztu

ROOM 2.

THE RESIDENCIA DE SEÑORITAS (1915-1936). A FUTURE WAGER

- The Residencia de Señoritas, 1915-1936
- Inner organization
- Rooms and library
- Foster Laboratory
- Tutorship and communal living rules
- Social and entertaining activity. The student association
- Conferences and relevant visits
- International relations. Exchanges and grants
- The residencia de señoritas estudiantes in Barcelona
- The Residencia de Señoritas and el Lyceum Club

ROOM 3.

THE WAR YEARS. 1936-1939

- The Residencia during the spanish civil war (1936-1939)

ROOM 4.

THE RESIDENCIA AND RESIDENTS' DESTINY AFTER THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

- María de Maeztu. Years of exile
- The Residencia and residents' destiny

ROOM 5.

CHRONOLOGY, MEDIA AND PHOTO GALLERY

- The Residencia de Estudiantes the emancipation of women
- The Residencia de Señoritas in first person
- Selection of news and articles about the Residencia de Señoritas and residents
- Database of residents

Suggested activities for students.

Questionnaire divided into sections:

ROOM 1.

EDUCATION FOR WOMEN. FIRST INITIATIVES (1869-1915)

- When was the Asociación para la Enseñanza de la Mujer created? Could you mention any of the professors?
- The Institución Libre de Enseñanza defended coeducation as the most efficient model to end the social inferiority of women. Could you explain the concept of «coeducation»?
- In the painting by Joaquín Sorolla, who was one of the artists who was closely linked to the ILE, we can see his wife and his three children, María, Helena and Joaquín, who were students in the ILE. In the next room you will find a work signed by the smallest girl that appears in this painting, Helena, can you write down its title and the kind of work it is?
- Are you for or against institutionalism? Justify your answer.
- María Goyri was one of the first Spanish women who went to university and obtained a Phd in Spain. What was her Phd about and when did she obtain it?
- Two of the most brilliant women at that time, both of them defenders of the rights of women, were in Francisco Giner de los Ríos' inner circle. In the exhibition we can see that two women wrote a letter to him, who are these two women?
- The female founder of the Instituto Internacional in Spain was a student in the oldest female college in the USA, Mount Holyoke, what is her name?
- The JAE gave more than 3,000 grants within approximately 30 years of activity. Do you know how many women received any

kind of grant by the JAE and travelled abroad to further their studies during 1907 and 1936?

- María de Maeztu was one of those women. Do you remember any of the countries she went to when she was given a grant by the JAE to expand her knowledge?
- Could you write down one of the names of an article written by María de Maeztu presented in the glass cabinet?
- And could you mention any of the countries where she gave lectures?
- María de Maeztu belonged to a family of intellectuals and creators. The portrait you see in this room was painted by her brother, Gustavo. Another brother of hers was a writer, do you know his name?

ROOM 2.

THE RESIDENCIA DE SEÑORITAS (1915-1936). A FUTURE WAGER

- The female sector of the Residencia de Estudiantes was created five years after the creation of the initial group. Do you know the reason why? Why do you think that in this exhibition we talk about the Residencia de Señoritas as a future wager?
- Could you mention the names of some of the principle females who collaborated with María de Maeztu?
- Who was Alberto Jiménez Fraud and what was his role in the Residencia de Estudiantes?
- The Residencia de Señoritas organized a wide variety of complementary classes for its female students, for instance library courses. Could you find and write down the title of two publications related to these courses that are in the exhibition?

- The chemical laboratory in the Residencia de Señoritas was the first one in Spain that was dedicated exclusively to training women. Do you remember the name of its founder?
- One of the most innovative types of education that residents received was sport, which was something even less frequent for women. Which sports were practiced in the Residencia de Señoritas?
- Do you remember any of the men and women who gave lectures and participated in different activities in the Residencia de Señoritas?
- Some female residents were involved in a season of lectures that were then published in a book. Do you remember its name?
- Could you write down the names of some of the female artists presented in the exhibition that were professors in the Residencia de Señoritas?
- And what about female students?
- Could you give the name of any of the most distinguished female residents?
- Which of the works you have seen has caught your attention? Why?

ROOM 3.

YEARS OF WAR. 1936-1939

- During the Spanish Civil War, the Residencia de Estudiantes officially moved to a Spanish city, following the Republican Government, do you remember the name of the city?
- Who was the leader of the committee of female students and ex-students that took care of the Residencia de Señoritas when María de Maeztu resigned? You can find the answer in the documents on display.
- Which country did María de Maeztu visit when she left Spain?

ROOM 4.

THE RESIDENCIA AND RESIDENTS' DESTINY AFTER THE CIVIL WAR

- Within the buildings of the Residencia de Señoritas, the Francoist government created a new institution after dissolving the JAE and its centres, what was its name?
- María de Maeztu published some books while she was in Buenos Aires. Can you list any of their titles?
- There are also different books in glass cabinets in this room by several residents, published in many different countries. Can you give the title of three books published in different countries and the name of their authors?

ROOM 5.

CHRONOLOGY, MEDIA AND PHOTO GALLERY

- Choose any of the female residents that appear in the photos and look for her in the database that you will find in the same room and answer: where was she from? What did she study? How many years did she spend as a resident?
- Which resident was the author of the article «Las mil estudiantes de la universidad de Madrid», published by *Estampa* magazine? You can find the answer by taking a look at the interactive panel dedicated to press.
- When did Marie Curie visit the Residencia?
- The resident Victoria Kent was the first woman who occupied a public position in Spain, can you say which one was that public position?
- Ask your grandmothers if they can tell you what a woman was not allowed to do on her own when they were young.