

# CONFLICT TEXTILES



## Wandering Arpilleras: From Chile and Beyond

Report by Nico Ferguson on associated Activities at the Instituto Cervantes

### Introduction

Following the launch of the exhibition and the week it spent in the exhibition space at the Embassy of Chile in Dublin it was moved to the Instituto Cervantes from 24<sup>th</sup> November to 11<sup>th</sup> December 2016. During this time a series of organized tours took place. All tours were given by Nico Ferguson

### Dublin Business School

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November was the first visit from Dublin Business School. It built upon previously established links between the Embassy and Dublin Business School. Both visits were coordinated by the Embassy of Chile and Carmen Sanjulian, lecturer in Spanish at Dublin Business School. The group consisted of young adults on a semester exchange from France, Germany, the USA and Austria. The tour aimed to consolidate the students' previous knowledge about Chilean arpilleras which they had briefly studied prior to visiting the exhibition. Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December was the second tour for students from Dublin Business School. This tour was arranged for a group of mature students who were studying Spanish and had also previously studied arpilleras.



Some of the students from Dublin Business School. Photo Carmen Sanjulian.

### Irish Visual Artists

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December a tour was arranged via Roberta Bacic for two artists, based in Co. Mayo, who had previously expressed an interest in arpilleras. Jane Dunne and Dr. Ann O'Mahony have been working towards a textile exhibition, 'Voice' which will investigate textiles and the lives of women. Due to the small tour group size and

their previous study of arpilleras the tour was more of a discussion and exchange of ideas.

### English Language Students and teachers

A tour was arranged for a class of students learning English at ISI Dublin on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. There was a variety of nationalities in the group including Brazil, China, South Korea and Ecuador. A separate tour was also arranged for a group of teachers from the same school on 8<sup>th</sup> December.



One of the English language teachers who visited the exhibition on 8<sup>th</sup> December.  
Photo Eamon Keane

Some of the messages left in English in the visitor's book:

"All are gorgeous and full of details! My favourite *Olla Común en una Población / Soup Kitchen*", because of the solidarity. Congrats!

"Very moving, memorial, tactile history + live activism intertwined. I really appreciate the effort to create global connectivity through this art form".