

# Discovering Cuenca with Fernando Zóbel



CRA ELENA FORTÚN  
Villar de Olalla  
(Cuenca)

Cofinanciado por el  
programa Erasmus+  
de la Unión Europea



Activity developed in the frame of the Erasmus+ Project "A Thousand Cultures, One Europe", coordinated by CRA Elena Fortún, Villar de Olalla (Cuenca).

The aim of the activity is visiting the city guided by the figure of Fernando Zóbel, one of the famous characters we are working with along our Project.

¡Enjoy the visit!



Erasmus+

## TEAM A

1. As you know, Fernando Zóbel founded in Cuenca The Spanish Abstract Art Museum, but...when was it? Go to the museum, ask for the information and take a picture at the front door.
2. The museum houses a lot of famous paintings, not only made by Zóbel but also for other important artists like Antonio Saura or Gustavo Torner. Go into the museum and look for the two special rooms there: What colour are they? Remember the detail.
3. The museum is located in the most famous building of the city, the Hunging Houses. Their origin remains uncertain, though there is a proof of their existence in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Go throw the passage and enjoy the beautiful views. Take the picture all the tourists do in Cuenca. SMILE!
4. In front of you, you can find St. Paul bridge. The 1st St. Paul bridge was built in Cuenca from 1533 to 1589 over the river Huecar's Gorge. The original bridge collapsed and the current one was built in 1902 with wood and steel. It is up to 60 metres high, and supported upon the remains of the old bridge. Are you brave enough to cross it?
5. Fernando Zóbel together with other painters as Gerardo Rueda and Gustavo Torner created what was known as "The Conquense school". This movement was one of the first initiatives to introduce the new currents of modern art in Spain in the 1960s. Gustavo Torner has also his own museum in Cuenca, "Espacio Torner". Could you find it? The views from the front door of the building are really stunning!
6. What is the building located next to Espacio Torner? Find it out and don't forget to get into and visit the beautiful cloister.
7. It's time to go back to the main square. Zóbel, like the majority of inhabitants of Cuenca, participated actively in the most important celebration of the city, The Easter Week. Cuenca Easter week was declared of international tourist interest in 1980 due to his great beauty. Most of the processions start or finish in the Cathedral. The cathedral was built between 1196-1257 in a gothic style. In the upper part of the cathedral facade there is a bishop, could you tell us what his name is?

8. From 1960, Fernando Zóbel started to paint in a little study located in St Peter Street (calle San Pedro). This steep street leads to small parallel lanes that deserve to be walked. Going through the first passage on your left, you arrive St. Nicholas Square. Go down the stairs, turn right and you will find other space devoted to art. It has got the name of another emblematic figure for our city. What is his name?

9. Come back to St Peter Street, climb up part of the street, and look for a passage on your right. Enjoy the views and continue walking up till the Carmelitas Convent, a beautiful building of the XVII century which today houses the Contemporary Art Center "Fundación Antonio Pérez". It has got four floors with 35 rooms full of art. But the visit is not only worth it for the pieces of art but to know the building itself. Could you find out the name of three artist who exhibit their paintings here?

10. You are now at the top of the city. Here you can find the ruins of the old castle and you can enjoy the views to the two gorges of Cuenca, the Huécar gorge and the Júcar gorge, which Zóbel fall in love with. Look for Trabuco Street (calle del Trabuco), go under a round arch and discover the reason why Zóbel painted these gorges in many of his paintings. Do you fancy a picture here?

11. Go up the stairs again and walk to the castle. Next to the walls there is a sculpture of a well known writer. Take a picture with him and remember his name.

12. Fernando Zóbel wasn't born in Cuenca but he died here. In fact, he is buried in San Isidro cemetery. We are not asking to go till there (because you have to walk a bit) but you can have a look to San Isidro Road and feel the city under your feet. Take a picture of the gorges. It's a really amazing place for living eternally, isn't it?

13. Well done! You've finished your work! Now you know some of the secrets of this awesome city!

14. Go back to the meeting point and share your pictures with your partners.

**WE HOPE YOU HAD A GOOD TIME!**