

mmmm...



## **MONEY TO READ**

### **Call for a grant to read *Don Quixote* on the occasion of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Cervantes**

#### **1. Object of the call.**

On the occasion of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Miguel de Cervantes the Spanish art collective **mmmm...** and the **Embassy of Spain in Australia** are offering an Australian citizen or permanent resident the opportunity to apply for a grant to read the novel *Don Quixote* in its English translation.

The recipient of the grant will read the complete *Don Quixote*, during predetermined working hours in the **National Library of Australia** in Canberra, and will be part of a film produced by the **Embassy of Spain**.

*Don Quixote* is one of those universal books that most of the people have heard about. Don Quixote and the windmills or Don Quixote and Sancho are two images in the collective unconscious... but not many people have read the book (like not many people have read *The Capital* by Karl Marx or *The Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith). So what better way to celebrate the work of Cervantes and to encourage the reading of literary classics than with this new approach?

For further information about the group **mmmm...** go to [www.mmmm.tv](http://www.mmmm.tv)



## **2. *Don Quixote*.**

*Don Quixote* is considered the origin of modern novel. Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra wrote it in two parts, published in 1605 and 1615 respectively.

It has been a source of inspiration for countless authors including Shakespeare, Gustave Flaubert, Dostoyevsky, Milan Kundera, Franz Kafka and Charlotte Lennox, just to mention a few. Its influence reaches beyond literature and into music, opera and film. It has inspired many illustrators, painters and sculptors, including Gustave Doré, Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dalí.

The story explores various themes with a great sense of humour, such as love, imagination, morality, human values, societal norms, class, honour, realism and the relationship between art and nature. The capacity to transform and create a different reality through literature opens the reader's imagination to unsaid words through its reading.

## **3. The reading of *Don Quixote*.**

The reader will be provided with one copy of Edith Grossman's translation of *Don Quixote*.

The reader will have a minimum of three weeks and a maximum of four weeks to read the whole book (24 October – 12/19 November 2016). In order to achieve this goal it is considered that the reader should read five hours every day from Monday to Saturday (a total of 30 hours every week).

The reading will be done silently in the public reading room of the **National Library of Australia**, in Canberra.

## **3. Eligibility.**

The applicants must be Australian citizens or Australian Permanent Residents.

The applicants must have an excellent level of English, written and spoken.

The applicant must live in Canberra during the time the project will take place.

## **4. Monetary reward of the grant.**

The monetary reward of the grant will be 1,500 AUD.

50% of the grant will be transferred to the reader at the beginning of the reading and 50% upon completion of the activity.

#### **4. Timeline**

Applications open: Wednesday 20 July 2016

Applications close: Thursday 22 September 2016

Selection process: Monday 26 September – Friday 14 October 2016

Final notification to applicants: Monday 17 October 2016

Reading of *Don Quixote*: 24 October – 12/19 November 2016

#### **5. Applications.**

Applications must be filled in and submitted through the website [www.moneytoread.com](http://www.moneytoread.com)

Only applicants that have been preselected will be asked to submit a copy of their passport.

Applicants may be required to present written proof of the information provided during the selection process.

#### **6. Selection process.**

Once all of the applications have been received, **mmmm...** and the **Embassy of Spain in Canberra** will proceed to do the selection.

The following aspects will be evaluated:

- Reasons addressed by the applicant to read *Don Quixote*.
- Resources: The applicants with less financial resources and a more vulnerable social provenance will be given preference.
- Trustworthiness: The ability of the applicants to carry through the reading will be valued based on the pre-established conditions and their time availability.

After the pre-selection each of the applicants will be interviewed individually by phone. During the interview the different answers submitted in the application

form will be verified, as well as the level of English and the ability to approach the reading of *Don Quixote*.

### **7. Monitoring of the reading of *Don Quixote*.**

The reading of *Don Quixote* will take place at the **National Library of Australia** in Canberra. The reader will sign in when he or she arrives and leaves the library.

After each day of reading the reader will make a short video of maximum two minutes summarizing and explaining what he or she has read, liked or disliked about the chapters of that day. The reader will then send the videos by email every day.

### **8. Documentary film**

A short documentary film including the image and the voice of the reader will be produced by the **Embassy of Spain** in Canberra. Therefore the reader must give his consent to be filmed and grant his permission to use his image (moving or still) and voice in the making of the film.