

**Miguel Zugaza Miranda** (born Durango, Bizkaia, 1964) obtained a degree in Art History from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid in 1987 and continued his postgraduate studies at that university.

His professional career began in 1986 when he became director of the cultural services company Ikeder in Bilbao, a position he occupied until 1994 when he was appointed Deputy Director of the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, remaining there until 1996.

Between 1996 and 2002 Miguel Zugaza was Director of the Bilbao Fine Arts Museum, where he oversaw a major updating of the museum's infrastructures and activities.

In January 2002 he was appointed Director of the Museo Nacional del Prado, a position he held until March 2017.

Together with his activities in the field of museums, Miguel Zugaza been a member of juries and academic committees, while his professional career has been recognised with numerous awards and honours. On 26 April 2005 he was awarded the medal of merit (cavaliere ufficiale rank) of the Italian Republic; on 13 June 2006 he was made a knight of the National Order of Merit on the proposal of the French President; on 19 April 2011 he was appointed consul of Bilbao on the proposal of the city's Chamber of Commerce; on 26 April 2012 he was awarded the Grand Cross of the Order of the 2nd of May by the Regional Government of Madrid; in April 2013 he was made a member of Jakiunde, the Basque Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters; on 10 September 2013 the President of the Russian Federation awarded him the State decoration of the Order of Friendship; and on 7 June 2016 the ambassador of the Republic of Austria awarded him the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Cross of Honour for the Sciences and Arts. In April 2017 he was awarded the Grand Cross of the Civil Order of Alfonso X "el Sabio", and in October of that year the Sorolla Medal of the Hispanic Society of America.

Miguel Zugaza was appointed Director of the Bilbao Fine Arts Museum in March 2017.