

## **The Clay Figurine**

Emma Reyes & Carme Solé

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## A book in which Carme's spontaneous brushstrokes highlight the expressiveness portrayed so well in Emma's story: childhood at its most vulnerable

The story comes from The Book "A Memoir in Correspondence", by Emma Reyes. Hailed in Colombia as the best book published in 2012, it immerses the reader into a stunning narrative of a perplexing childhood which can only be told in first person. This string of letters cannot be confined to a memoir, testimony or even a novel. Instead, they represent a fine thread that sews a story, fabling memories, speaking imagination's truth, and evoking a socio-political context now

quite distant and unrecognizable from the Colombia most people are familiar with. This particular story, told through the artist's eyes, goes back to the day when she, with the help of her friend "el Piojo" and other street children, created General Rebollo—a clay figurine— with their own hands.



Cuatrogatos Foundation Award **2021** 



Emma Reyes (1919 – 2003). Colombian painter and intellectual. She dedicated most of her life to painting and drawing, slowly breaking through as an artist and forging friendships with some of the most distinguished artists, writers, and intellectuals of the twentieth century, among them Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, Jean-Paul Sartre, and Pier Paolo Pasolini. The year she passed away, the French government named her a Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters.







Carme Solé. She has over fifty years of professional experience, and is one of the most internationally acclaimed illustrators of children's literature with more than 800 books published. She has been awarded several prizes, including the National Illustration Prize in 1979 and the Creu de Sant Jordi in 2006. In 2018 she launched her own campaign "Why?" to defend children's rights.