

# Provoke, Awaken, Transform



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With this new issue, *El órdo pensante* opens the OP-Incitements section. The aim of this section is to strengthen the editorial policy that has guided our journal since it was launched in the year 2013, which consists in arousing criticism, diversity of perspectives, and theoretical and methodological reflection. With an annual appearance, the new section has the peculiarity of inviting prominent researchers to express their views around a text which, by way of preamble, expresses a provocation. Its content is the synthesis of a critical on-going speech or, more original yet, the synthesis of a speech neither fixed in a text, nor enunciated in a congress, but whispered, suggested, hushed, or just existent as a rumour. The assertive way in which it is formulated turns it into a provocation. The colleagues who accept to participate, by means of a brief contribution, are encouraged to refute, affirm, or relativize the ideas expressed in the text by the section's responsible editor. As voices coming from different latitudes converge here, English is the lingua franca of the contributions.

But, why a provocation? Which place does provocation have in music research here and now? The answer is simple: provocation may cast doubts on convictions, it may question the *status quo* and call attention to little explored subjects and perspectives. The present context, in which the disciplines that nurture this publication operate, urgently requires that kind of exercise. Such context is marked by an alarming climate change –so much announced as tangible–, bloody armed conflicts, which claim thousands of lives and shockingly enrich the weapon industry, and the advancement of antidemocratic forces –from the so called new right to neo fascism– which push, even more, increasingly bigger masses of people to poverty and increment wealth concentration, while encouraging homophobia, racism, and ideological persecution. Before this scenario, researchers seem to have taken two courses: either seeking refuge in their old research agendas,

or trying to adequate them in order to, in some way, transform reality. Unfortunately, this last course seems to be proving little productive.

We hope the provocation which this first edition of the OP-Incitements expresses, as well as those appearing in future issues, will contribute to think of a change of agenda by means of deepening criticism, awakening –where necessary– defetishization and deconstruction of discipline practices. We also hope that those provocations will not only question the colleagues who kindly respond to them, but also the readers as *El oído pensante* rejoices when everybody feels provoked.