

“Berta Cusó, subtlety as strength”

The author of the graphic novel *‘La Cònca dels Àngels’* (Pagès Editors), which depicts the war from a female perspective, is the winner of the 2025 Sa Il·lustríssima Award.

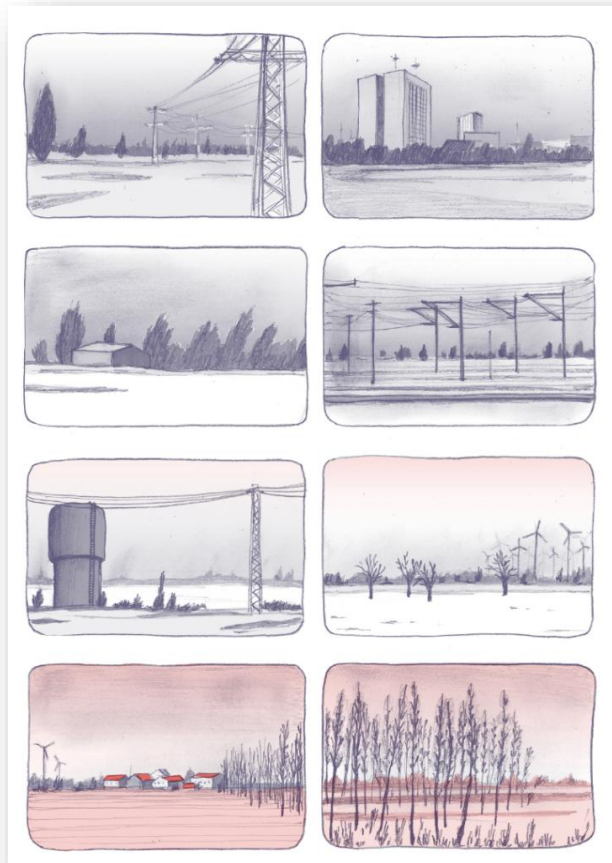


By Jaume Capdevila, 11/12/2025, Núvol Awards 2025

With *La Conca dels Àngels*, published by Pagès Editors in their ‘Doble Tinta’ graphic collection, Berta Cusó establishes herself as an artistic voice of remarkable maturity and unique sensitivity within the contemporary Catalan comics scene.

Cusó’s linework possesses an almost musical delicacy. Each stroke seems to emerge from a restrained gesture, from an attentive and empathetic observation of human fragility. Her work is fully aligned with the most contemporary aesthetics of European auteur comics, which privilege intimacy, everyday life, and minimal expressiveness over spectacular narrative. Her style resonates with creators such as Aude Picault, Manuele Fior, or Anna Haifisch, who explore emotional complexity and contemporary forms of vulnerability through subtle visual languages.

Her gaze — profoundly feminine, though never essentialist — reveals a way of understanding drawing as a defensive art. Her characters, outlined with a sweetness that never lapses into naivety, breathe a quiet truth. Cusó unfolds an aesthetic of delicacy that, far from weakness, claims subtlety as a form of strength and resistance.”



The white of the paper plays an active role: it is space, air, pause. This relationship with emptiness points to a sensibility that finds its poetic power in restraint. Combined with the evanescent stroke of blue and red pencil, it builds a territory of memory, introspection, and correspondence between the outer world and the inner universe of the characters. *La Conca dels Àngels* is thus a book about presence and absence, about the light that filters through the edges of silence.

With this work, Berta Cusó stands as one of the most personal and promising voices in contemporary Catalan comics, an author capable of articulating a visual language that converses with modernity without losing its most intimate roots. Her way of narrating — drawing as one who listens — turns *La Conca dels Àngels* into a reading experience that is not only seen, but breathed.

Find the original review [here](#).