

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

ABSTRACT

An area in Philippine literary studies which has not yet been explored to the fullest is the poetry of Ruth Elynia S. Mabanglo. This study uses Iser's reception theory to find out the responses of the researcher, as the actual reader, to the texts of Mabanglo's "Ang Maging Babae" from Mga Liham ni Pinay.

The method used in this research was three-fold. First, the researcher did a first reading of the texts. Here, the initial responses of the researcher were written along the margins of the texts. The second phase was a close or critical reading of the texts. The third step was a synthesis of the two readings. It is also in the third step where Mabanglo's message about what it is to be a woman, as expressed in each poem, can be found. Here, the researcher also states whether she agrees with Mabanglo.

The researcher found out that through Iser's reception theory, she was able to make a unified picture of what Mabanglo was trying to say about being a woman. One of the recommendations that this study makes is for future researchers to make use of male actual readers and find out how they react towards Mabanglo's texts.

