

CONTEMPORARY VIDEO ART FROM CHILE

Source: Eye Witness Video Archive

Presented at: Latin American Film Festival, LAFF

Place: L. Hartlooper Complex. Utrecht, The Netherlands

Date: 9-16 May 200



Presented Artists:

Claudio Correa, Claudia del Fierro, Luis Guerra, Marcela Moraga, Giancarlo Pazzanese, Carola Redondo, Manuela Viera-Gallo & Benjamín Marambio.







The artist organization **Eye Witness** (in spanish Testigo Ocular) is participating this year in The Latin American Film Festival (LAFF) in Utrecht with a selection of **12 video art works** from chilean film makers such as Manuela Viera-Gallo, Marcela Moraga & Claudia del Fierro. They belong to a generation that grew up during the dictatorship both inside and outside of Chile. Their common ground is a formation on visual arts and the fact that they all develop open structures, unique images and new ways to work with old and new media. By recycling all kinds of ideologies, images, software signs and materials, they re-think the so called *Latin American utopias* with new tools for visual production, sometimes turning into deep critical reflection or dark humor.

The **program** is designed to run continuously during the **LAFF** at the L. Hartlooper Complex and contains short videos from **8 chilean artists**. They deal with varied contemporary issues such as the notion of distance and travel, cultural integration, immigration, human relations, sexual identity and politics. Together, they depict an interesting mixed-media view on present **Chilean culture** seen through the eyes of a group of young talented artists. All the pieces were produced in the last years and are not longer than 5 minutes each.

This **video selection** was made by Giancarlo Pazzanese, independent curator, visual artist and member of Eye Witness. The program contains pieces in which the artists develop their very own ways of representing urban lanscapes, social groups, abstract 3-d animation, or street performances in their home country or abroad. The spectator can see through the eyes of this modern generation of cultural agents working in a variety of media and subjects, generating networks of circulation both inside and outside of their motherland.

Eye Witness is a project bureau that promotes cultural exchange between artists from the Southern Cone of Latin America and Europe. The main focus is on the promotion of chilean contemporary artists and the organization of cultural events in The Netherlands.



Frame Still	Artist name	Title video	Duration	Year
	Claudio Correa	<i>KM 0</i>	3 min	2004
DESCRIPTION: Artist writes words and phrases on the ground using letters made out of corn. " <i>The words are this corpse</i> " he declares while pigeons try to eat his message. Art work that explores the language gap, the distance, between visual and verbal expression.				
	Luis Guerra	<i>Ghost</i>	5 min	2005
DESCRIPTION: Artist lives for a week in a Gallery in Santiago. He inhabits the exhibition space as a ghost inhabits a haunted mansion, doing art pieces at night. This video is about physical presence and being able to see what's not usually there. The artist in this performanceaction makes the gallery his home, living in the white cube to be filled by drawings, thoughts and all kinds of objects.				
	Manuela Viera-Gallo + Benjamín Marambio	<i>Free Fall</i>	5 min	2006
DESCRIPTION: Digital representation of the fall of (Latin American) utopias. 3-D animation where symbols representing comunism, love, religion and dollars are crashed against a blank and clean background.				
	Manuela Viera-Gallo	<i>Unfinished Business</i>	3 min	2006
DESCRIPTION: Artist pours chlorine over Pinochet's most famous images of all times appearing in the media. By bleaching the prints the artist tries to delete all bad memories from times past.				
	Marcela Moraga	<i>The Rebel Buildings</i>	2 min	2005
DESCRIPTION: Simulation of terrorist attacks with homemade machine gun and ghetto blaster with shooting sounds. Locations in Rotterdam: Erasmus Bridge & Lloyd's Kwartier.				
	Marcela Moraga	<i>Like a Selknam</i>	2 min	2005
DESCRIPTION: Video performances with live audio. Fake indian ritual staged by the artist at the Kralingse Bos in Rotterdam. A modern girl arrives in her bike to end up as a naked Selknam indian that swims towards the city skyline. Allusion to indian rituals and their relation to early performances.				



Giancarlo Pazzanese *Neverland* 4 min 2006

DESCRIPTION: Artists prints dutch stamp of 39 cents in a welcome mat and places it at the entrance of the museum. Camera records the reactions of spectators from above. Political work reflecting on the transit of emigrants and the mutual expectation game in which the local and the alien are always involved.



Giancarlo Pazzanese *Sex Symbol* 4 min 2002-2005

DESCRIPTION: Videoclip parody of the "Latin Lover" where the artist shows 122 self portraits using different underwear pieces that stand for different sexual identities. Non stop video transition effects are the metaphor for the construction of multiple identities.



Claudia del Fierro *Politically Correct* 3 min 2001

DESCRIPTION: Artist disguises and blends in with a crowd of female factory workers. Copying their working clothes, she goes in and out of the factory and goes unnoticed in the alienated mass who hardly knows their colleagues.



Claudia del Fierro *Corporative* 3 min 2006

DESCRIPTION: Visual construction of a retouched "corporate" city center. A vision of Santiago that is built upon personal fiction, superposition of disposable structures and postcard boredom.



Carola Redondo *Multiplex Choices* 3 min 2003

DESCRIPTION: Considered as a group portrait. Zapping / sampling of a young generation of chilean artists that grew up during the transition between dictatorship to democracy in Chile. Compilation of 400 pictures during 5 years.



Carola Redondo *Day Dreamer* 40 seg 2004

DESCRIPTION: Brief video representating the stillness and timelessness experienced by a day dreaming girl in Santiago city center.