

LASA2012

FILM FESTIVAL

DIRECTOR

CLAUDIA FERMAN

IN FOCUS

COLOMBIA

URUGUAY

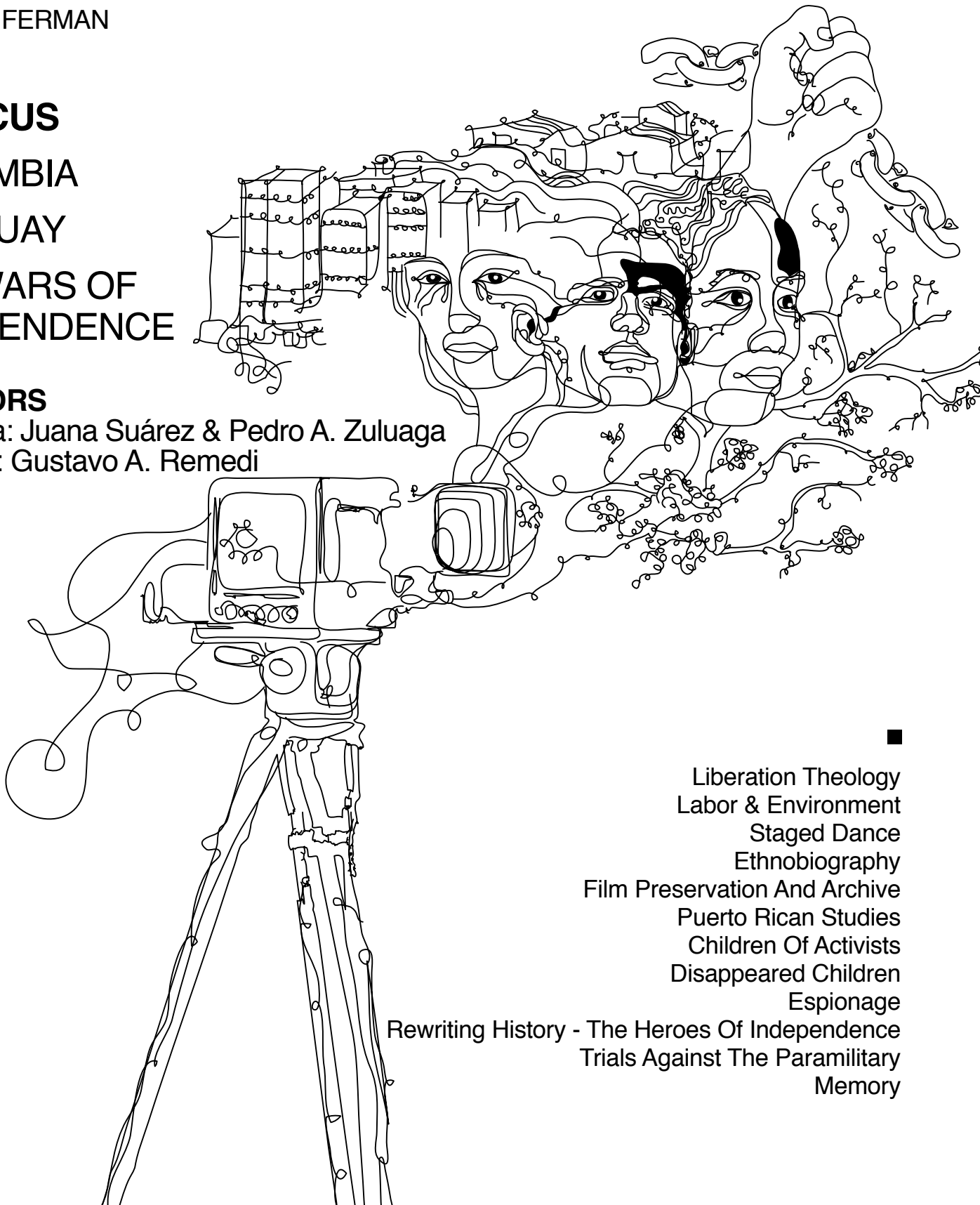
THE WARS OF
INDEPENDENCE

CURATORS

Colombia: Juana Suárez & Pedro A. Zuluaga

Uruguay: Gustavo A. Remedi

Festival co-sponsor
The Global Film Initiative



Liberation Theology
Labor & Environment
Staged Dance
Ethnobiography
Film Preservation And Archive
Puerto Rican Studies
Children Of Activists
Disappeared Children
Espionage
Rewriting History - The Heroes Of Independence
Trials Against The Paramilitary
Memory

8:30 AM

8:30 PM

SCHEDULE / HORARIO

Fiction - Ficción **F**Short - Cortometraje **SH**LASA Award of Merit in Film **★**In focus **IF**Curator's selection **CS**A documentary if not otherwise indicated
/ Documental si no se indica

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

AM

8:30 am
**Monseñor: The Last Journey
of Oscar Romero**
88'10:05 am
South Guañape
27'10:35 am
The Legacy of Frank Bonilla
53'11:35 am
La palabra en el bosque
56'8:30 am
Generation Exile
70'9:45 am
Tumaco Pacifico
90'**EVENT:**
Director Samuel Córdoba11:40 am
A Useful Life
67'**EVENT:**
Santhosh Daniel,
Director of Programs, Global &
Film Initiative.8:30 am
**Mexican Folkloric Dance: Rafael
Zamarripa's Artistic Trademark**
50'9:25 am
Migration
25'9:55 am
Exiled
86'11:30 am
**How Do You Know That
The World Is Round?**
17' **SH****Will the Real Terrorist
Please Stand Up**
80'**EVENT:**
Director Saul Landau

PM

12:35 pm
A Bridge Too Long
88'2:10 pm
The Chilean Building
95'3:50 pm
People's Media
30'4:25 pm
Our Home On Our Shoulders
50'5:20 pm
Crab Trap
95'7:00 pm
**Revolution: The Crossing of
The Andes**
93'1:00 pm
19 South, 65 West
30'1:35 pm
An Imaginary Line
30'2:10 pm
Impunity
85'3:40 pm
Belgrano
82'5:10 pm
**The Life of
Jorge Prelorán**
79'6:35 pm
Marti, The Eye of the Canary
120'1:20 pm
Meanders
93'**EVENT:**
Director Manuel Ruiz3:15 pm
**C3M-Third World
Film Archive**
61'4:20 pm
Nostalgia for the Light
90'5:55 pm
Children of Memory
64'7:00 pm
Artigas: La Redota
118'

Thursday

8:30 am

EL SALVADOR - CATHOLIC CHURCH - HUMAN RIGHTS

Monseñor: The Last Journey of Oscar Romero

USA, 2011, 88'

Ana Carrigan & Juliet Weber, dirs.

Spanish w/ English subtitles



The film includes rare recordings and film footage from the last three years of Romero's life and a wide range of interviews with those whose lives were changed by Romero, including church activists, human right lawyers, former guerrilla fighters and politicians.



10:05 am

PERU - ENVIRONMENT - GUANO - LABOR

Guañape sur / South Guañape

Italy, 2010, 27'

János Richter, dir.

Spanish & Quechua w/ English subtitles

The film depicts a barren island off the coast of Peru, which is a breeding ground of thousands of sea birds that are its sole inhabitants. Once every eleventh year, hundreds of men make their way to the island to harvest the birds' dried excrement, which is then used as valuable fertilizer.



10:35 am

PUERTO RICAN STUDIES - HIGHER EDUCATION

The Legacy of Frank Bonilla / El legado de Frank Bonilla

USA, 2011, 53'

Eduardo Aguiar, dir.

Spanish w/ English subtitles

The film traces the life of a pioneer in higher education from his humble roots in New York City to his days in combat in World War II to the founding of the only institution dedicated solely to the Puerto Rican experience in the United States.

11:35 am

EL SALVADOR - LIBERATION THEOLOGY - CIVIL WAR

La palabra en el bosque

USA, 2011, 56'

Carlos Henriquez & Jeff Gould, dirs.

Spanish w/ English subtitles

During the 1970's, hundreds of peasants in a remote region of El Salvador began to emulate early Christians, working the land together and building communities based in solidarity. By the 1980's, the National Guard staged scorched earth operations against their villages. The film explores the impact of Liberation Theology on Salvadoran peasants and the consequences.

IF
CS

12:35 pm

URUGUAY - ARGENTINA - BOTNIA PULP MILL - LABOR

Un puente demasiado largo / A Bridge Too Long

Uruguay, 2007, 88'

Alejandro Ventura & Matías Ventura, dirs.

Spanish w/ English subtitles

In 2006, a major diplomatic row broke out between Argentina and Uruguay when the construction of two pulp mills was started on the Uruguayan side of the Uruguay River. The film brings testimonies from all sides of the conflict.



2:10 pm
CHILE - *MIR* MILITANTS - EXILED CHILDREN

El edificio de los chilenos /The Chilean Building

Chile, France, Cuba, Holland, 2010, 95'
Macarena Aguiló, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles



Towards the end of the seventies, the MIR militants exiled in Europe decided to return to Chile to support the fight against the dictatorship. Many had children and could not take them with them. To shelter these children, the idea of a community center was born. Project Home gathered sixty kids that were left to the care of twenty people, named Social Parents.

3:50 pm
VENEZUELA - ALTERNATIVE / COMMUNITY MEDIA

People's Media Venezuela /Venezuela: Comunicadores sociales

New Zealand, Venezuela, 2012, 30'
K. Lehman & G. Peters, dirs.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

This film offers a way of thinking about the role of participatory media in effecting social change. Comunicadores sociales from different areas of Venezuela describe media projects that have released the energy, creativity and humor of communities constructing participatory democracy amidst social change.

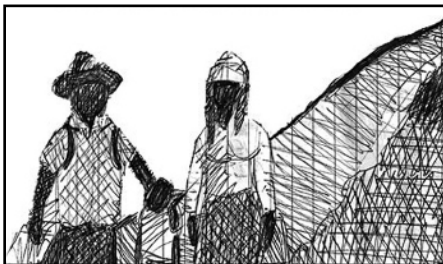
IF **4:25 pm**
COLOMBIA - AFRODESCENDENTS - MEDELLIN
YOUTH - DISPLACEMENT

Con la casa al hombro / Our Home On Our Shoulders

Colombia, 2010, 50'
Andrés García & Camilo Pérez, dirs.
Spanish w/ English subtitles



The film interlaces the stories of a group of five Afro-Colombian young men and women whose lives were distressed by displacement and resettlement in Medellin. A multimedia presentation parallels the dynamism of the youth portrayed in the film.



IF CS **5:20 pm**
COLOMBIA - PACIFIC COAST - GLOBALIZATION

El vuelco del cangrejo / Crab Trap

Colombia, 2009, 95'
Oscar Ruiz Navia, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles **F**

At La Barra, an isolated village on the Pacific Coast of Colombia, Cerebro, leader of the native Afro-Colombian community, is at odds with the white man, a landowner who wants to build a hotel on the beach. Daniel, a strange and urban looking presence, arrives to the village looking for a motorboat to leave the country. The film tells the story of a young man trying to flee his past and the clash between a remote village and modernity.



IF **7:00 pm**
ARGENTINA - WARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Revolución: El cruce de Los Andes / Revolution: The Crossing of the Andes

Argentina, 2010, 93'
Leandro Ipiña, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles **F**

The film is narrated by an elder who, in his youth, was an amanuensis of General San Martin, and struggles in 1880 to survive in a boarding house. This intimate portrayal is interlaced with a visual deployment of fantastic dimensions covering the first crossing of The Andes, by which San Martin brought liberation to Colonial Spanish South America.



Friday

8:30 am
CHILE - CHILDREN OF ACTIVISTS - EXILE

Generation Exile / La Generación del Exilio

USA, 2010, 70'
Rodrigo Dorfman, dir.
English



When Rodrigo Dorfman was six years old, he was forced into exile because of the revolutionary activities of his father, Chilean writer Ariel Dorfman. Now, thirty-five years later, Rodrigo weaves his experience of exile through the eyes of four women. Spanning four continents and a hundred years of personal history, the film is a meditation on the search for identity.

IF CS **9:45 am**
COLOMBIA - AFRO-COLOMBIAN COMMUNITIES
SEA LIVELIHOOD - LABOR

Tumaco Pacífico

Colombia, 2008, 90'
Samuel Córdoba, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

A journey into the pile-dwelling, Afro-Colombian communities of Tumaco on the South Pacific. Despite poverty, Tumaco residents are honoring the Pacific, the ocean that feeds and bathes them. The documentary gives voice to their residents, who provide testimonies of their daily lives, surviving in an endangered environment.

SPECIAL EVENT:
Q&A with Director Samuel Córdoba

IF CS **11:40 am**
URUGUAY - FILM ARCHIVE - FILM LOVERS

La vida útil / A Useful Life

Uruguay, Spain, 2010, 67'
Federico Veiroj, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles



Starring real-life Uruguayan critic Jorge Jellinek, the film offers a poetic take on the effort curators go through to bring important works to art houses. Much of the story focuses on Jellinek's Jorge, an employee of the Uruguayan Film Society (Cinemateca), for 25 years. Cinemateca played a key role in the years of dictatorship, but now it faces a harsh crisis, affecting everyone, starting with Jorge, the protagonist.

SPECIAL EVENT:
Santhosh Daniel - Director of Programs, Global & Film Initiative.

IF CS **1:00 pm**
COLOMBIA - URUGUAY - EXPERIMENTAL FILM
19 South, 65 West

Colombia, 2011, 30'
Juan David Soto, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

The film is an audiovisual journey between Colombia and Uruguay (two of the festival foci), where the filmmaker's uncle has been exiled for the past twenty years. The family reunion becomes the film itself.



IF CS **1:35 pm**
URUGUAY- BORDER STUDIES

La línea imaginaria / An Imaginary Line

Uruguay, 2008, 30'
Gonzalo Rodríguez & Ignacio Seimanas, dirs.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

Three traditional local festivities (*Farroupilha*, the social debut of *quinceañeras*, and a Horse Raid) illustrate social and cultural life in Aceguá, a village located on the Uruguay-Brazil border. The portrayal of the shared customs highlights the arbitrariness of national imaginaries.



IF
CS

2:10 pm
COLOMBIA - COMMISSION FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE
PARAMILITARY FORCES

Impunity / Impunidad

Switzerland, France & Colombia, 2010, 85'
Juan José Lozano & Hollman Morris, dirs.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

Colombia today: the biggest trial against paramilitary armies - accused of killing thousands of Colombians - is designed to create "peace and justice." Instead, the process comes to an abrupt halt, when the political and economic interests in the paramilitary war are uncovered. Are the victims' families doomed to stay victims forever or are they able to fight impunity?



IF

3:40 pm
ARGENTINA - WARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Belgrano

Argentina, 2010, 82'
Sebastián Pivotto, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

F

Based on the life of Argentine national hero Manuel Belgrano, creator of the Argentine flag, the film focuses on the last ten years of a man devoted to build a nation and a democracy. Unusual trueness in the treatment of a founding father brings additional interest to this film.



5:10 pm
ETHNOBIOGRAPHY - FILM STUDIES

Huellas y memoria de Jorge Prelorán / The Life of Jorge Prelorán

Argentina, 2009, 79'
Fermín Rivera, dir.
Spanish and English, w/ English subtitles



The film closely follows the life and work of Jorge Prelorán, who pioneered documentary film in Argentina, produced and directed more than seventy films, and received international awards and recognition, including a nomination for an Oscar. He transformed documentary filmmaking and created a new genre: the ethnobiography.



6:35 pm
CUBA - WARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Martí, el ojo del canario / Martí, the Eye of the Canary

Cuba, 2010, 120'
Fernando Pérez, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

F

The formative years of Cuban national hero José Martí are explored in a historical epic set during the 1860's in colonial Havana. The film follows "El Apóstol" from the age of nine to seventeen, as he experiences firsthand the often brutal inequalities of Spanish colonial rule, feels the fire of injustice rise within him, and navigates personal conflict with his Spanish father.



Saturday

8:30 am
MEXICO - STAGED DANCE

Danza Folklórica Escénica: El sello artístico de Rafael Zamarripa / Mexican Folkloric Dance: Rafael Zamarripa's Artistic Trademark

USA, 2010, 50'
Olga Nájera-Ramírez, dir.
English and Spanish w/ English subtitles

Rooted in the post-revolutionary period, Mexican folkloric dance blossomed in the 1960's and has become a thriving phenomenon in Mexico and the USA, and is performed all over the world. This documentary tells the story of this art form through the life and work of the internationally acclaimed artist and choreographer Rafael Zamarripa.



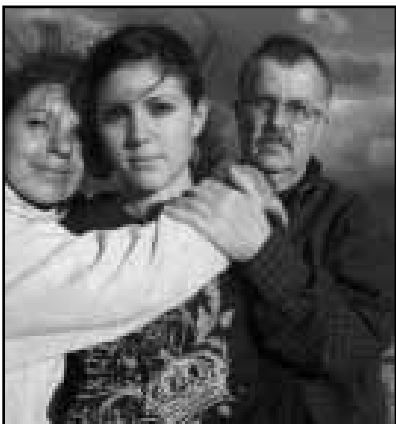
IF
CS

9:25 am
COLOMBIA - CALI - TESTIMONIAL FILM - FAMILY - LABOR

Migración / Migration

Colombia, 2008, 25'
Marcela Gómez Montoya, dir.
Spanish and English w/ English subtitles

The director recreates the history of her family, which separated when her parents and sister migrated to USA leaving her behind in Cali. Through home movies, audio archives and newsreels, the film investigates migration and family rift.



IF
CS

9:55 am
URUGUAY - ECONOMIC EXILE

Exiliados / Exiled

Uruguay, 2011, 86'
Mariana Viñoles, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

Departures, returns, and comings and goings constitute the core of this film, through a testimonial perspective. Formerly a host country, Uruguay has been affected by continuous population drainage - first, the dictatorship, and then the 2001 economic crisis. Exile has been affecting Uruguayans, and now one-sixth of its population lives abroad.



11:30 am
CUBA - NEW CINEMA

¿Por qué sabes que el mundo es redondo? / How Do You Know That The World Is Round?

Cuba, 2011, 17'
Amílcar Fera Flores, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles.

SH

■ THE CUBAN FIVE - ANTI-CASTRO ESPIONAGE

Will the Real Terrorist Please Stand Up

USA, 2011, 80'
Saul Landau, dir.
English and Spanish w/ English subtitles

This documentary shows how the US-backed violence against Cuba has continued for decades. The film combines fascinating archival footage with testimonies by anti-Cuba militants, a rare recorded interview from prison with one of the Cuban five, American actor and activist Danny Glover, and Fidel Castro himself (filmed recently).

SPECIAL EVENT:
Q&A with Director Saul Landau

IF
CS

1:20 pm
COLOMBIA - COMMUNITIES BY THE GUAVIARE RIVER

Meandros / Meanders

Colombia, 2010, 93'
Hector Ulloque Franco & Manuel Ruiz Montealegre, dirs.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

A visual and narrative journey along the Guaviare River in a region of Amazonian Colombia. This region is rich in natural resources and home to the Nunak-Makús indigenous peoples. It is also home to the largest coca fields in the country, turning the Guaviare into a staging theater for drug trafficking and armed conflict. The films explores the illegal drug trade and the effect it has on communities as well as the heroism of the men and women defending their villages.

SPECIAL EVENT:

Q&A with director Manuel Ruiz

IF
CS

3:15 pm
URUGUAY - FILM ARCHIVE - FILM LOVERS

C3M-Cinematoteca del tercer mundo / C3M-Third World Film Archive

Uruguay, 2001, 61'
Lucía Jacob, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles

An exploration of the project "Third World Film Archive," which emerged in Montevideo in the 1960's. It was inspired by Marcha, the historic periodical, and propelled by artists, film lovers, activists and critics, for whom cinema was called to play a crucial role in social and political change.



4:20 pm
CHILE - MEMORY - ASTRONOMY - ARCHAEOLOGY

Nostalgia por la luz / Nostalgia for the Light

France, Germany & Chile, 2011, 90'
Patricio Guzmán, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles



The film stages the various layers of memory existing in the Atacama desert: the Pre-Columbian mummies, 19th century explorers and miners, the remains of Pinochet political prisoners, and the astral memory, which can be traced using the highest telescope on earth (the Very Large Telescope (VLT), placed in the Atacama desert), to present a complex reflection on memory, violence, and human survival.

5:55 pm
EL SALVADOR - DISSAPAPPEARD CHILDREN - CIVIL WAR

Niños de la memoria / Children of Memory

USA, 2012, 64'
Maria Teresa Rodriguez, dir.
Spanish and English w/ English subtitles



The story of the search of hundreds of children who disappeared during the Salvadoran Civil War. Many were survivors of massacres carried out by the U.S.-trained Salvadoran Army. Taken away from the massacre sites by soldiers, some grew up in orphanages or were "sold" into adoption abroad, not knowing their true story or identity. The film weaves together three separate yet intertwined journeys in the search for family, identity and justice in El Salvador, and asks the larger question: How can a post-war society right the wrongs of the past?



IF
CS

7:00 pm
URUGUAY - WARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Artigas: La Redota

Uruguay, Spain, 2011, 18'
César Charlone, dir.
Spanish w/ English subtitles



In 1884, the famous painter Juan Manuel Blanes, from Uruguay, is asked to create a portrait of José Artigas. There is only one drawing of his face, done in his old age, so Blanes must imagine what he looked like by reading up on his ideas and learning about his life. The film is a fresh look at the 1811 Orientales Exodus, one of the founding myths of the Uruguayan nation.



