



LARC Resources on Guatemala

Brother Towns (Pueblos Hermanos)

Over a thousand immigrant workers from the highland Maya community of Jacaltenango, Guatemala live and work in Jupiter, Florida, a coastal resort town. The two towns are thousands of miles apart. *Brother Towns/Pueblos Hermanos*, filmed in both Guatemala and the U.S., chronicles how and why people migrate across borders, how people make and remake their communities when they travel far from home, and how people maintain families despite their travel. *Brother Towns/Pueblos Hermanos* is the story of local and international controversy. News of undocumented immigrants is familiar in nearly every community across the U.S., and citizens must choose how they respond to this issue. Our story includes voices of those opposed to undocumented immigrants as well as advocates helping migrants who seek work and hope, whether documented or not. Because we are all immigrants, this is a universal human story, and quintessential American one. All of us understand family, both its challenges and its promise. Two towns. Two nations. Thousands of paths connecting them. 2010. English and Spanish with subtitles, 50 minutes.

La Camioneta

Every day dozens of decommissioned school buses leave the United States on a southward migration that carries them to Guatemala, where they are repaired, repainted, and resurrected as the brightly-colored camionetas that bring the vast majority of Guatemalans to work each day. Since 2006, nearly 1,000 camioneta drivers and fare-collectors have been murdered for either refusing or being unable to pay the extortion money demanded by local Guatemalan gangs. *La Camioneta* follows one such bus on its transformative journey: a journey between North and South, between life and death, and through an unfolding collection of moments, people, and places that serve to quietly remind us of the interconnected worlds in which we live. Includes a 52 minute version intended for classroom use. English and Spanish, 72 minutes.

The Dark Light of Dawn

Commissioned by the Guatemala Human Rights Commission/USA, this documentary examines the recent years of conflict in Guatemala. Traces the manipulation of political power in the country and shows that after the return of civilian rule, military repression has not abated. Includes depictions of human rights violations, especially against the Indian population. English, 28 minutes.

Dictator in the Dock

A 23 episode short film series from the genocide trial of Efraín Ríos Montt. The *Dictator in the Dock* series brings viewers into the courtroom as former dictator General Efraín Ríos Montt stands trial for genocide and crimes against humanity in Guatemala. This historic case marked



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the first time, anywhere in the world, that a former head of state was tried for genocide in a national court, in the country where the crimes were committed. It is also the first time in the history of South or North America, that the genocide of indigenous peoples was tried in a court of law, significantly in a country of the Americas with a majority indigenous population. Spanish and Maya with English subtitles, 140 minutes.

Dirty Secrets: Jennifer Everardo & the CIA in Guatemala

This film follows the efforts of Jennifer Harbury to determine the truth about what happened to her husband Everardo, a Guatemalan rebel leader, and all disappeared people in Guatemala. Her efforts for disclosure from the U.S. government brought forth disturbing revelations about the CIA in Guatemala. 1998. English, 56 minutes.

Goodbye Baby

The number of adoptions from Guatemala to the US has risen dramatically in recent years - as has the controversy. What is seen as an act of love by adoptive parents is viewed with suspicion inside Guatemala, and the film examines the ramifications that money, private lawyers, media coverage and women's rights have on the adoption process. Informed by the filmmaker's own experiences - she's the mother of two children adopted from Guatemala, where she's lived on and off during the past 25 years - 'Goodbye Baby' provides an insightful look into the dramatic and sometimes difficult world of intercountry adoption. 2005. English, 58 minutes.

Granito: How to Nail a Dictator

Sometimes a film makes history; it doesn't just document it. Part political thriller, part memoir, Yates transports us back in time through a riveting, haunting tale of genocide and returns to the present with a cast of characters joined by destiny and the quest to bring a malevolent dictator to justice. This film relates the process of trying to bring Rios Mont, former dictator of Guatemala, to trial for his atrocities. Spanish with English subtitles, 82 minutes.

Guatemala: The Human Price of Coffee

Coffee is second only to oil as the world's most valuable traded commodity, but small-scale producers rarely profit from it. This program reveals the hardship and uncertainty faced by coffee farmers in Guatemala, and how many are taking steps to obtain better prices and build better lives. Analyzing the country's traumatic history and the lingering effects of its civil war, the video sheds light on the reluctance of some citizens to organize for fear of persecution and murder. Part five in the Fighting the Tide series clearly demonstrates that behind every pound of coffee lies a story of human struggle. English, 26 minutes.

Guatemala: Natural and Diverse

Guatemala, a developing country with great opportunities for investors, is characterized by its hospitality, its traditions, and the variety of ecosystems, volcanoes, flora, and fauna. The variety of destinations allows you to sail across the magic Caribbean or to visit Antigua, Guatemala,



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which preserves the architecture and city-planning of a Spanish City. A tourism video for Guatemala. Spanish with English Subtitles.

Hospitalito Santiago Atitlan

At the end of September, 2005, the Hospitalito of Santiago Atitlan in the highlands of Guatemala, supported by volunteer work and funding was up and running. A new wing was being built, while the main building already housed working clinics, a pharmacy, and a laboratory. This film was intended to be a progress report on the Hospitalito, but in the early hours of October 5, 2005....everything changed. 2005. English and Spanish with subtitles, 14 minutes.

The Houses Are Full of Smoke Part A: Guatemala

This three-part documentary questions U.S. policy in Central America. Includes interviews with the presidents of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, as well as indigenous villagers, CIA operatives, National Security officials, and death squad leaders. 1987. English, 58 minutes.

If the Mango Tree Could Speak: A Documentary About Children and War in Central America

An intimate portrait of ten boys and girls--ages 12 to 15--growing up in the midst of war in Guatemala and El Salvador. The children talk about war and peace, justice, ethnic identity, friendship, and marriage. In a series of touching vignettes, they share their dreams and hopes as well as their pain and loss. 1993. English, 58 minutes.

Killer's Paradise

Since 1999, more than two thousand women have been murdered in Guatemala, with the numbers escalating every year. Yet lawmakers and government officials just turn a blind eye. Powerful and uncompromising, *Killer's Paradise* uncovers one of the most emotionally wrenching human rights abuses taking place, while exposing the impunity allowed by an inept judicial system. No one knows who is behind these atrocious acts and nothing is being done to find the culprits. Cases are routinely closed and the murdered women dismissed as nobodies. But there are traces of hope: a grassroots human rights movement is emerging. Fuelled by frustration, anger, great sadness and loss, women and men like Norma Cruz, Maria Elena Peralta, and Jorge Velasquez are coming together for a common fight in the name of their daughters, wives and sisters. *Killer's Paradise* documents their heartbreaking stories and gripping testimonies to the stark reality in Guatemala. English and Spanish with English subtitles, 83 minutes.

Maya Arts and Crafts of Guatemala

A bilingual coloring book about Maya arts and crafts from Guatemala. The drawings in the book show a range of traditional arts and crafts of Guatemala's indigenous Maya people: weaving, fiber arts, pottery, and woodwork. These crafts are an essential part of Maya culture along with language, religious and spiritual beliefs, music and dance, folktales and legends, traditional medicine, and agriculture.



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Sipakapa is not for sale

Montana Exploradora, subsidiary of the Canadian/US transnational company Glamis Gold, received 45 million US dollars in financing from the World Bank to exploit an open-pit gold mine in Sipakapa, Guatemala. In accordance with ILO Convention 169, a Community Consultation was held in this Maya region to establish whether the population would accept or reject mining exploitation in its territory. The result was a resounding "NO" to mining. *Sipakapa Is Not For Sale* analyses the debate on mining exploitation and demonstrates the dignity of the Sipakapan People as they fight to defend their autonomy in the face of encroaching neoliberal megaprojects. 2005. Spanish with English subtitles, 55 minutes.

The Silence of Neto

Mixing magic-realism and historical events, "The Silence of Neto" is the first internationally acclaimed, award winning film produced entirely in Guatemala. filmed in the colonial city of Antigua, this film tells the politically-charged story of a young boy striving to follow his dreams while his country struggles to preserve democracy amidst CIA cold war propaganda. Through the eyes of young Neto, we are given an authentic insider's look at the diverse people of Guatemala and the historical events that have shaped their destiny. 1994. Spanish with English subtitles, 106 minutes.

Todos Santos Cuchumatan: Report from a Guatemalan Village

This film looks at one Mam village in the mountains of Guatemala, focusing on what remains of the traditional style of daily life and on the many socio-economic changes which have affected that lifestyle. 1982. English 41 minutes

Via Dolorosa (The Sorrowful Way)

Every year, in the colonial city of Antigua, Guatemala, the "sorrowful way" of Good Friday is recreated by a path of colored sawdust and flower petals. Along this road several hundred people take turns carrying a ponderous mahogany bier. Maya from the surrounding countryside come to observe the spectacle of townspeople garbed in Biblical and Roman military uniforms. Although some elements from this kind of procession have been borrowed by the Maya villagers, the contrast between the Spanish formality of this urban Via Dolorosa and the syncretic, lively, Indian festivals such as those in Tajimoltik could not be more striking. Spanish with English subtitles, 10 minutes.

When the Mountains Tremble

Documentary describing the struggle of the largely Indian peasantry in Guatemala against a heritage of state and foreign (U.S.) oppression. Includes extensive interviews with Indian activist Rigoberta Menchu, winner of the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize. Spanish with English subtitles, 90 minutes.