

Murales (por la expropiación definitiva de todas las empresas) / Murals (for the indefinite expropriation of all the companies)

Directed collectively by: Grupo Alavío and Mascaró

Date: 2004

Country: Argentina

Language: Spanish (no subtitles)

Running time: 30'

Availability in the UK: Queen Mary, University of London, Library

Murales is a documentary about the relationship between the process of factory recovery in Argentina and mural artists working on the topic. It contains a series of interviews with mural artists and workers from recovered factories, and shows the artists producing their politically committed works on the walls outside the factories. There is a parallel montage which alternates between the artists painting their murals and the workers doing their work: the editing thus establishes an equivalence between manual work and intellectual/cultural work.

The film covers mural artwork produced in several recovered businesses in the areas of footwear, catering, printing and wood production: Viniplast (Cooperativa de Trabajo / Work Cooperative), Bauen Hotel, Gráfica Sol ["Sol" Printing Company] and Maderera Córdoba [Córdoba Timber Company]. The artists discuss the relationship between the murals and their surroundings, highlighting the importance of the public nature of their art within industrial areas of the cities. They all agree that with their art they are contributing to the process of the recovery of factories, represented in their work through symbols of factory opening and of the value of work. One of the artists affirms that when an artist paints a mural, he/she is recovering a space for the community, in the same way that when the workers recover a factory, they are recovering a work space for the community. The spaces recovered by the murals is there for the people to see and know about the process of recovered factories.

The documentary is divided into four sections, each devoted to a different recovered factory. Inter-titles are inserted with quotations about art, work and solidarity from authors such as León Felipe, Jorge Luis Borges, Nicolás Guillén, César Vallejo, Bertolt Brecht and Soledad Gustavo. The film ends with the slogans 'For the definitive expropriation of all the recovered companies' and 'Freedom to all political prisoners'.

Real characters are presented on location.

RELATED INFORMATION

Other documentaries by Mascaró Cine Americano include:

Gaviotas blindadas (Historias del PRT-ERP) / Armoured Seagulls (Stories of the PRT-ERP) (2006)

Uso mis manos, uso mis ideas // I Use My Hands, I Use My Ideas (2003)

El Che, poeta y periodista / Che, Poet and Journalist (2002)

Los policías y los guardias / The Policemen and the Guards (2002)

Clase (la política sindical del PRT-ERP en Córdoba) / Class (The Trade Union Politics of the Córdoba PRT-ERP [Workers' Revolutionary Party-People's Revolutionary Army])

Other documentaries by Grupo Alavío include:

Recital Solidario en Zanón / Solidarity Concert in Zanón (2005)
Hotel Pismanta Cooperativa / Pismanta Hotel, Cooperative (2005)
Con lo que tengamos a mano (en defensa de Zanón) / With What We Have To Hand (In Defence of Zanón) (2005)
Compañeras / Women Cofrades (2005)
La Foresta / La Foresta (2005)
Acto en Plaza Lorea (1 de mayo) / Political Act in Lorea Square (1st of May) (2005)
B.A.U.E.N. es de los trabajadores / B.A.U.E.N. Belongs To The Workers (2005)
A tres años, Puente Pueyrredón / Pueyrredón Bridge, Three Years On (2005)
Hopital Perrando / Perrando Hospital (la Salud en Chaco) (2005)
Maderera Santiago (San Juan) / Santiago Timber Company (San Juan) (2005)
Chilavert recupera / Chilavert Recovers (2004)
Diana (2004)
Fallujah bajo sitio / Fallujah Under Siege (2004)
Josu (2004)
La toma de La Toma / The Take of The Take (2004)
Maderera Córdoba Cooperativa / Córdoba Timber Company, Cooperative (2004)
Marcha del 14 de septiembre / 14th of September March (2004)
Mujer / Woman (2004)
Murales / Murals (2004) [in collaboration with Mascaró Cine Americano]
Noticias de ayer / News From Yesterday (2004)
Por una jornada de 6 horas / For A Six-Hour Working Day (2004)
Presos del Petróleo / Oil Prisoners (2004)
Recital Solidario en Zanón / Solidarity Concert in Zanón (2004)
Resistencia / Resistance (2004)
Brukman, obreras en lucha / Brukman, Women Workers in Struggle (2003)
Chila, 30 años después / Chila, 30 Years Alter (2003)
Mate y Arcilla / Mate and Clay (2003)
Nuestra Agua / Our Water (2003)
Perú, de vidas y exilios / Peru, Of Lives and Exiles (2003)
Por el mismo camino / By The Same Way (2003)
Quilmes, el sabor de la explotación (Bloqueo a la Cervecería Quilmes) / Quilmes, The Taste of Exploitation (Blockade To The Quilmes Brewery) (2003)
Recuperando nuestro trabajo (Cerámicas del Valle – Neuquén) / Recovering Our Work (Clay Products From the Valley – Neuquén) (2003)
Se alarga la noche / The Night Gets Longer (2003)

Brukman confecciones, el segundo desalojo / Brukman Confections, the Second Eviction (2002)

Bloqueo al polo petroquímico / Blockade To The Petrochemical Pole (2002)

Carta de un Escritor / A Writer's Letter (2002)

Crónicas de Libertad (Organizando la resistencia) / Chronicles of Freedom (Organising Resistance) (2002)

El rostro de la Dignidad (Memoria del MTD de Solano) / The Face of Dignity (Memory of MTD Solano) (2002)

La selección Nazzional / The Nazzional Football Team (2002)

Libertad a Diego y Carlos / Freedom to Diego and Carlos (2002)

Martín (2002)

Informe sobre mortalidad infantil / Report on Child Mortality (2001)

Infecciones en vías aéreas superiores / Infections in Upper Respiratory Tract (1998)

Inmunización en la infancia / Immunization in Childhood (1999)

Vivir con asma / Living with Asthma (1999)

Agustín / Agustín (1996)

Urubú / Urubú (1996)

Carta de un escritor a la junta militar / Letter to the Military Junta (1996)

Asentamiento Agustín Ramírez / Settlement Agustín Ramírez (1996)

Para Cuba solidaridad / Solidarity for Cuba (1995)

Desalojo de Bodegas Giol / Eviction from Giol Wine Production Company (1994)

Viejos son los trapos / Only the Clothes on my Back are Old (1993)

Grupo Alavío has also directed a daily TV news programme for Channel 4 Utopía [Utopia] (1994-96) and a weekly programme entitled *Días de utopía / Days of Utopia* for the same TV channel (1994-96).

Publications on Grupo Alavío and Mascaró include:

Vieira, Else R P. *Interview with Fabián Pierucci*

<http://www.modern-languages.qmul.ac.uk/hispstudies/ladocs/argentinadirectors/index.htm>

Grupo Alavío's and Mascaró's websites:

<http://www.alavio.org/>

<http://www.mascarocine.org/>

Annotated by Guillermo Olivera

Postdoctoral Research Assistant, 2005-06

AHRC Project [*Brazilian and Argentine Documentary Film-Making*](#)

Project Director: Else R P Vieira

Department of Hispanic Studies, Queen Mary, University of London

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