Raúl Silva (Lima, 1991)

Researcher in arts. In the last years I have focused on working from historic memory, approaching the relations between the colonial religious imagery the ideal of modernity, the paradigm of progress and the aftermath of the internal armed conflict in Perú.

My metodological approach involves academic research, curatorship and art as a technical medium to build a series of projects based on the reproduction of visual historical archives, texts and artworks.

I hold a BA in Fine Arts from Pontifical Catholic University of Peru and currently studying a MA in Arts at the Dutch Art Institute in the University of ArtEZ.

Noteworthy recent exhibitions include: *Gods are not in nature* (2019) in ICPNA Gallery (PE), *To align fissures* (2018), *Contextualization of forms* (2017) in Wu Gallery (PE) and *Constitutions* (2016) in L'Imaginaire Gallery of the French Alliance (PE). I have participated in publications with the following magazines: Bisagra, Textos Arte (PUCP), Ansible, Illaky Times, among others.

I was awarded with an Honorable Mention at the Contemporary Art Price (ICPNA, 2018) and the X Painting Salon of the Central Reserve Bank of Peru (2018). I was finalist in the Visual Arts National Prize of Trujillo (2018), Passport for an artist Contest (2015 and 2016) and the ICPNA VII Painting Salon (2015).

Distance

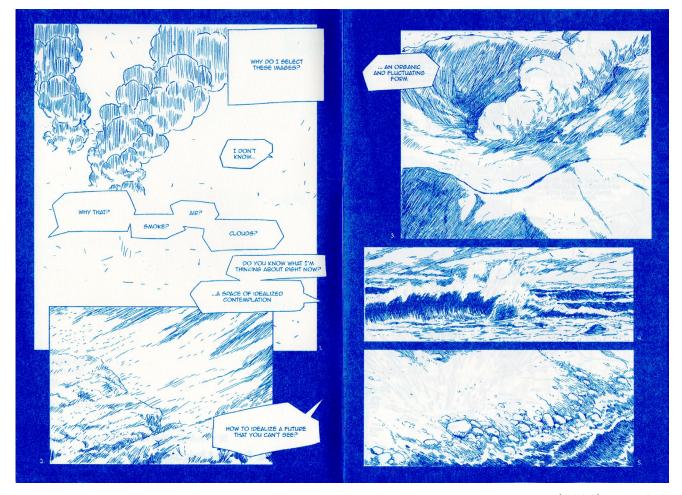
In collaboration with Paula Eslava

A fragmented script was edited from the transcription of periodic conversations with Paula Eslava. The main ideas suggest a certain antagonism between the rational and the emotional, and its analogy with other relationships such as the technological and the natural or the physical and the spiritual. From there, reflections are opened on how we both take position about these comparisons in relation to our personal experience. The project is developed in a comic boook format, based on the redrawing of graphic illustrations from various printed sources that are part of a common conversation imagery.

Paula Eslava (Navarra, 1992)

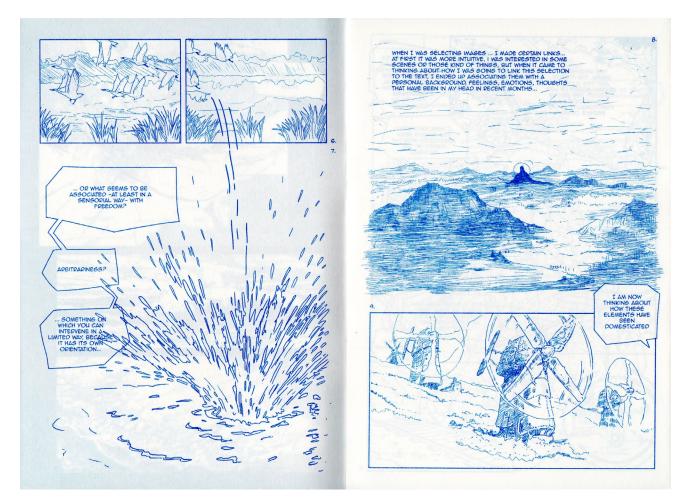
Magister in Cultural Studies from PUCP and graduated in Fine Arts with a major in Arts-Based Research from the University of Barcelona. She has experience in cultural management and teaching. Her interests are focused on artistic institutions and contemporary art history.



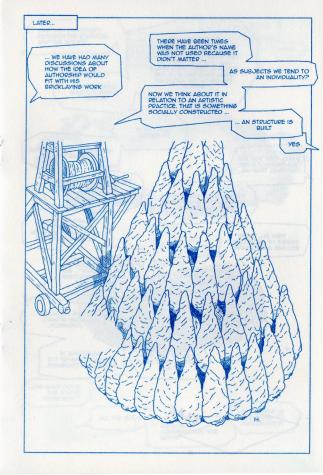


Distance (2020). Page 2-3

Cover of *Distance*20x13.5 cm
Riso printing / Ed. 25
2020





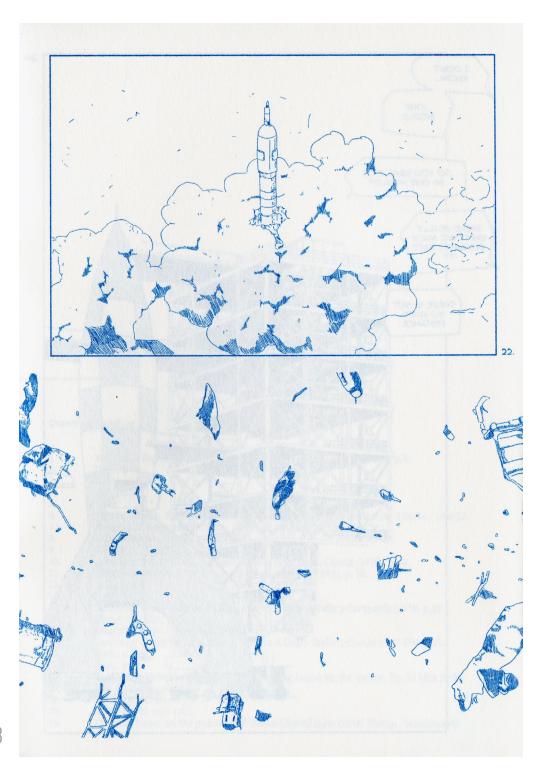


Distance (2020). Page 4-5

Distance (2020). Page 6-7



Distance (2020). Page 9



Distance (2020). Page 13

Past or future, continuity or progress

The difference of the collective subjectivities between people from the countryside and the city has been shaped by a tension between the idea of backwardness and progress, from the paradigms of modernity and in a context of strong social and economic inequality. These historical relationships have been produced since colonization, and have become more complex since the second half of the twentieth century through migratory movements from rural areas to the capital, the agrarian reform and the internal armed conflict in the 1980s.

Past or Future, Continuity or Progress proposes a series of performances that deepen these discussions through personal testimony, fiction and history, seeking to problematize the discourse of progress and its relationship with neoliberalism, associated with an intersubjective and affective memory.

Likewise, the project proposes a conceptual interaction with digital design and printing, as forms of reproduction for the dissemination of content.

Before starting, an A3 print of an almost abstract drawing is distributed among the attendees. The performance consists of reading a text while I draw with a pad on my computer, giving a sense to the abstract drawing.

The textual proposal is a semi-fictional testimony that narrates the migration of my parents in Perú, their relation with commerce and their will to progress. During the reading this is contrasted with reflections that suggest a subjective inheritance inherent in me, related with a neoliberal logic, present as a will to progress lying in my unconscious and that I have not decided to own.

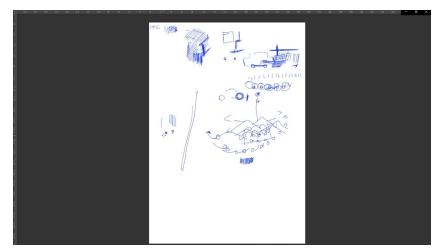
Throughout the performance I compare this with the idea of automatic drawing -as an involuntary aesthetic inclination- while I speak about the impossibility of changing the present from the transformation of a concrete event in the past, appealing to a structural problem that contains it and will continue reproducing it despite specific changes in our personal environment. The performance ends when I finish the drawing and the audience realize that the drawing I made is exactly the same as the one they are holding.



Performance in Radio kootwijk Arnhem, The Netherlands. November, 2020

ALC MAR -:

Left
Screens of the process of drawing





Right Untitled Print/Ed.90 2020



This project is a dissertation designed specifically for an english-speaking audience: I read in spanish a set of quotes drawn from various sources, texts of artistic pieces, academic texts and testimonies. Most of the texts were extracted from responses by members of Sendero Luminoso and the MRTA, in which they refer to social inequalities experienced in the 80s.

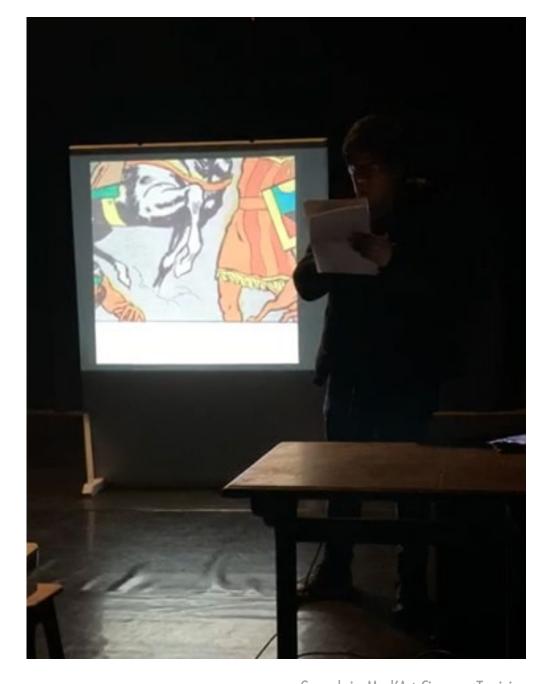
As I read, I present a series of 7 images that are reproduced in different rhythms decided by me, in relation with the content of the text I am reading.

The 7 images have been extracted from archives produced between the mid-16th century and 1992. Once the dissertation is finished, I start over, this time in english, with the intention of deciphering it for non-spanish speakers.

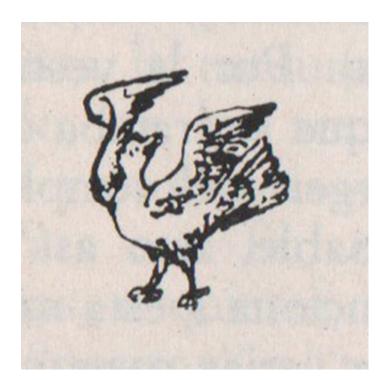
Download the script of the performance. *Past or future, continuity or progress*



Fragment of the image presentation



Speech in Mad'Art Cinema, Tunisia. March, 2020





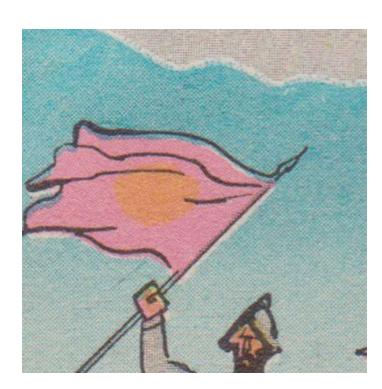


Fragment of the image presentation

"(...) Inkarri is how the sun god is called, god of the indigenous world, creator of all that exists. When the Spanish arrived to Peru, Inkarri was taken prisoner and executed, and his limbs were dispersed in the four regions that conformed his empire, Tahuantinsuyo. The myth of Inkarri asserts that his head remains alive, and that the body of Inkarri is regenerating in silence. Once this is accomplished, Inkarri will return, defeat the colonizers and restore the Tahuantinsuyo, recovering the world order broken by the invasion. Other versions tell that his return will mean the end of the world and the final judgement. This is called the Myth of Inkarri."







Fragment of the image presentation

"Knowing how to read and write is the equivalent of opening the eyes, the "awakening" (rickchay), entering the day after being in the night (tuta), that is the world of darkness and ignorance. The school will take the role of the fire that allows men to get out of the darkness of the cave and renounce their customs. The indigenous world is associated with backwardness, and the western world is associated with progress (...) the population has to choose between one or the other. (...)"

Sobre el cielo de la historia

(About / Over the sky of history)

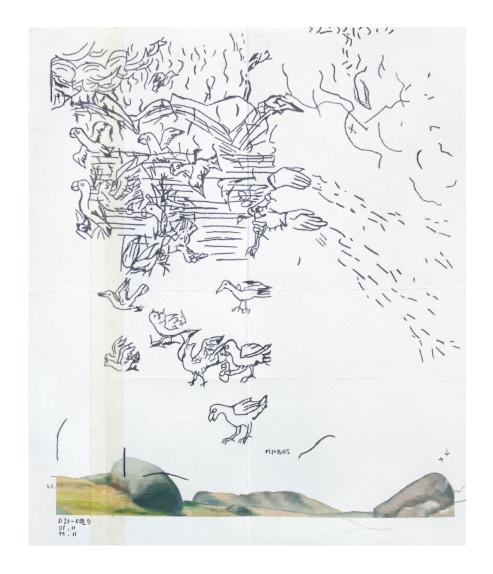
The arrival of oil painting in Peru was linked with the project of christian evangelization and the colonization process of America. Oil painting becomes a fundamental medium of communication in the middle XVI century and the production of catholic icons developes its own way to approach the indigenous communities. Sobre el cielo de la historia (About/Over the sky of history) is based on the reaplication of fragments of colonial paintings -specially by Bernardo Bitti, one of the first jesuit painters who arrived America- aiming to construct a dislocated landscape or new ruinous scenario from the contact

with other sources reproduced in oil: references to the internal armed conflict in Peru (1980) and/or signs of references associated with informal work and neoliberal economic growth in the peruvian context.

The objective, was to build a series of sensorial exercises of reproduction in modular sheets. This idea works as a visual map to explore the implications of religious ideology, the paradigm of modernity, the ideal of progress and the signs of collapse in peruvian history.



Lett
0120-RORD01
Drawing and oil on paper
50 x 42 cm
2020



0120-R01 Drawing and oil on paper 30.7 x 25.6 cm 2020









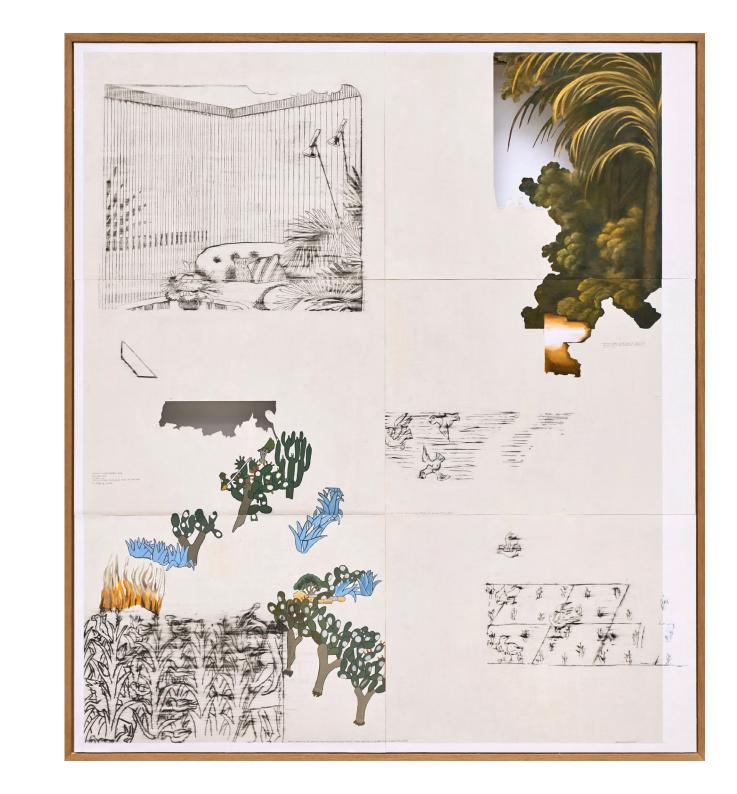








Sobre el cielo de la historia 05
(About/Over the sky of history 05)
Oil on paper
180x140 cm
2018



Sobre el cielo de la historia 04
(About/Over the sky of history 04)
Oil on paper
180x140 cm
2018









Sobre el cielo de la historia 03 (About/Over the sky of history 02) Oil on paper 72x54 cm c/u 2017

Sobre el cielo de la historia 02 (About/Over the sky of history 03)
Oil on paper
72x54 cm c/u
2017

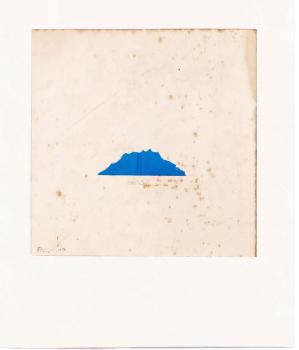


Sobre el cielo de la historia 01
(About/Over the sky of history 01)
Oil on paper
180x140 cm
2017











Untitled
Oil and mixed media on paper
23 x 20 cm
2015

The gods are not in nature

"The gods are not in the nature, but beyond it", is a fragment of a text by the Peruvian architect Wiley Ludeña: Notes about the landscape, landscaping and cultural identity in Peru (1997), where he paraphrases and recontextualizes the approach of Lynn White (in The Historical Roots of Our Ecologic Crisis, 1967) about the evangelization process and its consequences on the changes of paradigm in the relation human-ecology. This idea bursts as an imperative that moves the subject away from the divine cult to nature, turning its approach into domination and domestication of it. Perhaps, this could be read as a historical milestone to address the separation between countryside and city, nature-civilization and the socio-cultural changes that occurred in later years in relation to the ideas of progress and modernity in the Peruvian context.

The project makes use of a set of visual and textual information through the selection, transcription, reproduction or resize of physical and virtual files dated between the seventeenth century to the present: a spatial display based on the contact of different historical references. . . .

The literary word, as a unit, is unstable; it corresponds to a sociocultural structure that determines its meaning and transforms it. The text then becomes a crossroads of textual surfaces: multiple writings where meaning is given not only for its independent meaning, but for its use in history: its past meaning, its authors, its recipients. The intertext it's that: constituted by a set of multiple citations, identifiable, connected in a non-linear way in the present and finally expressed in a circular way in time. All text is an intertext.

Under these conditions, I think about the possibilities that exist between the intertext and the image from a nominal character that allows me to review the historical conditions that produce them, change their meaning and alter the way in which they are related.

(Exctract of the exhibition text, 2019)

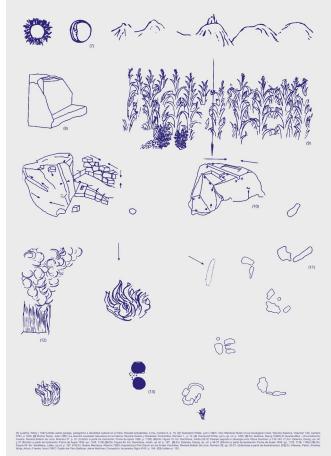












Los dioses no están en la naturaleza, sino más allá de ella (The gods are not in nature, but beyond it)

Print / Ed.1000

2019

Back side
Untitled (Scenario 02)
Instalation. Oil on wooden structure and printss
335x240 cm
2019





Scenario model 06 Watercolor on wood Width: 52 cm. aprox. 2019







0119-R01 Watercolour on paper 72x51 cm 2019

0219-R01 Watercolour on paper 72x51 cm 2019

0319-R01 Watercolour on paper 72x51 cm 2019





0819-R01 Watercolour on paper 72x51 cm 2019

Right 0719-R01 Watercolour on paper 72x51 cm 2019





Los dioses no están en la naturaleza The gods are not in nature Mixed media on paper 150x210 cm 2019

...a la del futuro y del progreso.

Entre el hábito y el cambio ... el cambio;

Entre la seguridad y el riesgo... el riesgo : Entre el pasado y el futuro : Entre lo conocido y lo desconocido... lo desconocido : Entre la continuidad y el progreso ...el progreso : Entre permanecer y partir, partieron.

tenían que competir, pero no solo contra personas sino también contra el sistema.
 para vivir, comerciar, manufacturar,









A la conquista del futuro y del progreso (To the conquer of the future and the progress) Print / Ed.1000



El bien futuro (The sake of future) Print / Ed. 1000



Los marcos de la hegemonía nunca se construyen en perfec-ta articulación. Las voces e identidades excluidas no se reducen a una dependencia absoluta a las estructuras; quedan siempre los rastros de la agencia espontánea y las huellas de lo que desencaja. Lo nuenas de to que desencaja. Lo invisibilizado puede reaparecer y desacomodar las categorias construidas, exigir nuevos criterios de significación...

(13)

En el año 1986, fui teniente gobernador. El 28 de febrero fui a trabajar a mi chacra y en ese momento me capturó una patrulla del ejército. Me gol-pean y me diene "tú eres la vigi-lancia" Me obligan a acompa-farios. Me obligan a ayudarlos a seguir a los terroristas.

Llegaban de tiempo en tiempo. Me daban cualquier tarva, desde llevar viveres a avisar a los comuneros y orga-nizar eventos. Ya en el año 88, me obligaban a pintar piedras o paredes, alusivas a lo que dicen.

Al cabo de estos 3 meses yo manifesté que queria estar un tiempo en mi tierra, me he ido hasta allà, pensaba ver a Lima nuevamente pero no pude, he estado en la sierra de Piura, donde unos parientes me dierron trabajo, hasta que algunas personas que ceran vecinos parcece que empezaron a sosperece que empezaron a sosperente que me denuncien sali de abide al la cabo de la c



Mi papá se había enferma-do, y mi hermana menor se quedó sola en la chacra. Al ver que no había nadie que vele por ella, yo acudo. Regreso a ese lugar en el 91, para hacer res-petar los terrenos de mi padre.

Trabajaba, sembraba papa, cultivos. Quizás me tenían ren-cor por tierra, y agua.

Yo estudie en Chincha, ter-mine de estudiar la secundaria en Chincha a los 25 años.

He perdido todo al ser de-tenido. Los caminos que había trazado, los he perdido total-mente.

Blos nos identificaban. Te decian "Spera en tal lugar y te despera de la deciana Seguin el informe de la policia, estaba de coquirardos. Intentulu des aparacere. No policia poner una demunicia; es peor. Tenia que proteger a un finellia. Tenia que penar en diso. Dedia soba.

Me da una condena de 15 adios.

Me hablaron de cuestiones politicas. Que ellos luchaban por el pueblo, y todos estabamos llamados a apoyar.

Por eso me fui. Gestione mi traslado al año siguiente. En mis vaacciones, viaje a Lima para agilizar mi traslado legal como docente.





(1) Imager elaborada a partir del comir: Cossio. Jessio (2010) Massacre de Aernhauy 20 de Abril de 1988 Massacre de Paccha 11 de Dicimbre de 1989 (2) Imager digital resilicada a partir de la gráfica Las Zones Rigas. En El colvisió del miedo. Caretas. 26 de juin. 1985; pp. 26. (3) Pragmento descontenutariación de Agráno, Jose Caretas (2015) (1, or Rendedo Seche el Con de perdedos. (4) Pragmento descontenutariación de Petrão de Informe Final de Locación de la verienda y la recordical del Conforma (2015) (1, or Rendedo Seche el Con de perdedos. (4) Pragmento descontenutariación de Petrão de Informe Final de Locación de la verienda y la recordical del Conforma (2015) (1, or Rendedo Seche el Conforma (2015) (1, or Rendedo

Who is the culprit?

On January 24, 2018, the local newspaper Correo published an article that had a strong impact and generated heated discussions in local media and the public sphere: a series of paintings on wood made, a variation of traditional Sarhua paintings, called *Piraq Causa Who is the culprit?* were accused of apology to terrorism. This serie was a visual historical narrative that relates in great detail facts of the recent history since the appearance of Sendero Luminoso and the military forces to the town of Sarhua, located in the department of Ayacucho. These series contains a set of emblems and symbols alluding to Sendero Luminoso and the MRTA, as well as the communist movement.

The erroneous interpretation of the Piraq Causa series, although denied

and clarified mainly by an academic sector, evidenced the fear and immediate association of leftist political symbols with terrorism, ignoring the textual discourse and decontextualizing the general intention of the pieces.

This project Who is the culprit? is part of the specific context of the Contemporary Art Price 2018, launched few weeks after the Correo's news article. The proposal seeks to recontextualize the elements of the paintings to open a story built from isolated objects, where the military forces, settlers and terrorist movements end up being represented by elements that acquire a symbolic value as a sign.





From the Serie *Piraq Causa. Who is the culprit?* By the Association of Popular Artists of Sarhua Natural inks and pigments in wood. 60x80cm. 1991





Digital edition Who is the culprit? 60x80 cm. 2018









Return to a place. About the processes of deconstruction of a limit

"The pretension to define the limits of what is publicly authorized can become a vehicle for the lack of recognition and stigmatization, while the complex dimensions of the persons stay invisible. In that sense, we make the stereotype part of common sense while cancel the possibilities of giving a critical look to the social reality that surrounds us and our own role in it.

But the frames of hegemony are never constructed in perfect articulation. Excluded voices and identities are not reduced to absolute dependence on structures; there are always the traces of the spontaneous agency and the traces of what it dislodges. The invisibilized can reappear and disrupt the built categories, demand new meaning criteria and invite others to identify with cultural values that recognize the presence of difference."

Merino Obregón, Ruben. In the Colofón of Los Rendidos Sobre el don de perdonar of Jose Carlos Aguero, 2015.

What is positioned outside the hegemonic discourse linked to the internal armed conflict that took place in Peru between 1980 and 2000? Those

positions that exceed the limits already established as correct are usually stigmatized by the common criterion, silencing the voices of those who were linked to a condemnable act and directing them to a generalization that excludes differences and more complex aspects of their history.

Can we hear the voices of those who were accused of terrorism during the period of the 80s in Peru, without ignoring the moral judgment that exists about the development of such events?

Based on the testimonies of prisoners accused of terrorism in the Yanamilla prison (Ayacucho, Perú), the project proposes a set of processes of listening: A publication of fragments, their circulation through an exchange of testimonies in space public and a formal possibility, almost scenographic, as a representation of a place prior to violence where a voice-over reads mostly agrarian activities or associated to the field carried out by those who were sentenced.



Return to a place. About the processes of deconstruction of a limit

Exhibition view
PUCP Cultural Center
2016







Return to a place, About the processes of deconstruction of a limit (Ex. 1)

Public space intervention

2016

He sido un joven de una famila cristiana. Provengo de un colegio religioso y desde niño me han formado con valores cristianos. Me enseñaron que la colidardida y commardir acra la construir una sociedad más intera que se quería alcanzar, de cos-ntruir una sociedad más justa, la solidaridad y compartir eran los ideales que había que seguir. más libre, más democrática, fue Fui joven en los 80. Y uno siempre tenía ese impetu de querer cambiar las cosas. Y si tu ves que hay una posibilidad de hacerlo, un proyecto para llegar a ese cambio, te vas por ese camino.

Lamentablemente, entre lo que se dice y lo que se hace hay mucha distancia. Yo me siento peruano, ciudadano de Perú. Las cosas que de repente en un momento se pensaron que eran los ideales para lograr eso, fueron equivocadas. Las for-mas de lograr hacer esto fueron Yo me imagino que ustedes también han tenido ese senti-miento. He sido producto de mi épo-ca. Producto de la situación que

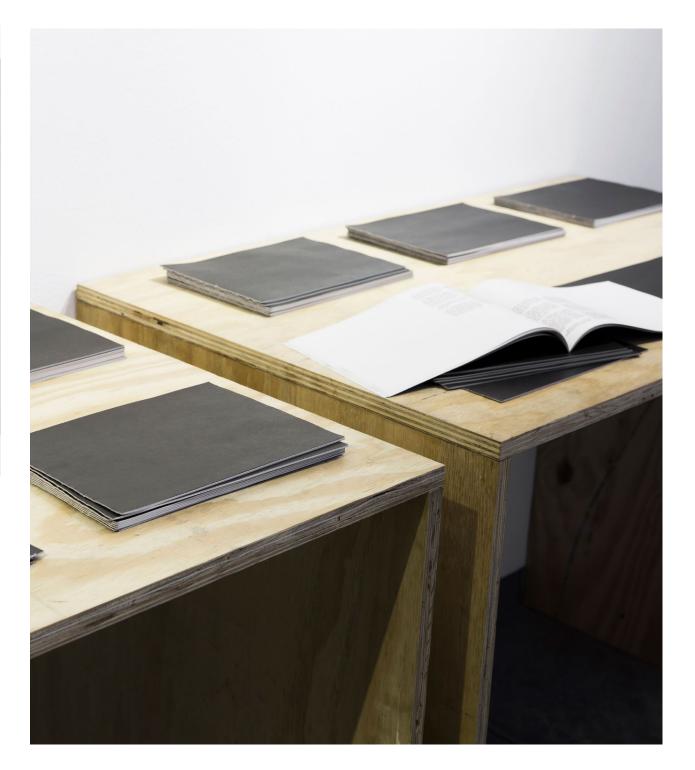
Publication Return to a place. About the processes of deconstruction of a limit (Ex. 2)

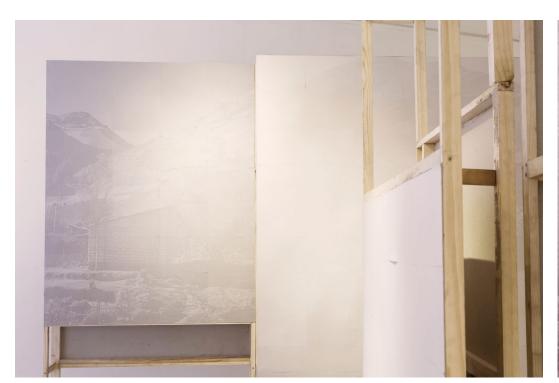
Newspaper and black printing ink

17 x 24 cm

Ed. 500

2016









Return to a place, About the processes of deconstruction of a limit (Ex. 3)

Printing ink, newspaper and wooden structure.

2016

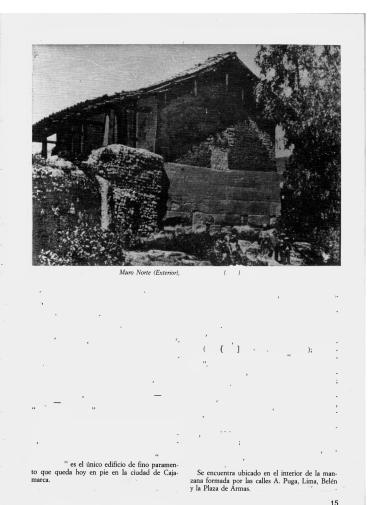
States of precarization: The ransom room

In the 27th edition of *Boletin de Lima* magazine, 1983, Idilio Santillana Valencia publishes a set of results obtained by the archaeological work in The Ransom Room, an enclosure that had housed the Inca Atahualpa prisoner and whose walls would have served as a reference for the rescue requested by the Spanish at the beginning of the S.XVI. The article *The Room of Rescue of Atahualpa*. *Archeological Approaches* also presents an annex of images that allow a representational approach to the architecture of the site.

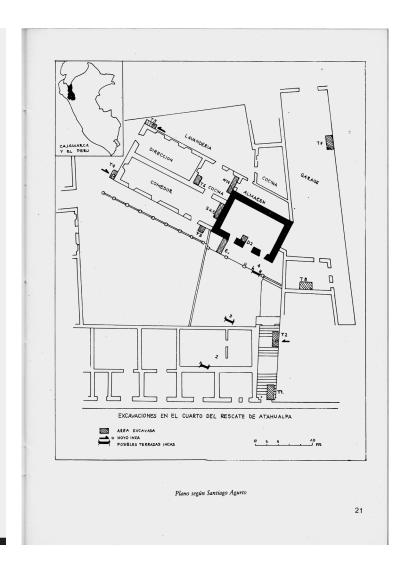
Based on this finding, I started compiling primary textual and visual sources about the Rescue Room, but also of suggestive ideas related to the idea of kidnapping, capture, domination, ideology. All produced between 1981 and 2000 and disseminated in various print media -mainly academic journals and print illustrations.

The purpose of the compilation was to edit and articulate a narrative in publication format, an object that develops an intertextual relationship between the story of the capture of Atahualpa, with a fictional and timeless story derived from fiction to themes like progress, religion, migration, precariousness and violence.

Subsequently, the project takes shape in a spatial field to formally represent the destructuring of the Ransom Room. A representational ruin from the planes, the scale, and deconstruction of a room that emulates the configuration of Inca stones from a precarious material.







A/P of the editorial project *States of precarization: The ransom room*Black printing ink on cotton paper

30.7 x 22 cm each
2016





Exercises before the edition
Black printing ink on cotton paper
25.2 x 32.5 cm each
2016

Precariousness states: The ransom room 01
Wooden structure , cardboard, black printing ink
Wu Gallery
2016



Up
Exercises before the edition
Black printing ink on cotton paper
25.2 x 32.5 cm each
2016

Right
Precariousness states. The ransom room
Drawing on paper
2016

