







Raúl Zurita

Santiago, Chile, 1950



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Poet and member of CADA, he developed an anomalous work for the Chilean literary and artistic tradition. Loaded with gestures that seek to transcend history, his poetry is situated in a metaphysical time, where the desert and the sky are the mirrors on which the monumental vision of the mystical poet is reflected. Far from militant realism as the only possible language for the political art of the time, Zurita seeks in religion, in the abstract language of mathematics, and the Chilean landscape the forms that express his anxiety. The body itself is a matter of art and sacrifice: he tried to burn his eyes with acid and slashed his face, trusting in the transcendent experience of pain. The trilogy of poems of these years (Purgatorio, 1979; Anteparaíso, 1982; La Vida Nueva, 1982) is accompanied by gestures that demonstrate this search while expanding the field of art together with literature towards a new visual language.





"La Vida Nueva"





"La Vida Nueva" Writings in the sky

In July 1982 over Queens, New York (USA), Zurita wrote the poem La Vida Nueva using five planes that traced it with letters of white smoke that were outlined against the blue of the sky. The poem was written in Spanish as a tribute to the Spanish-speaking population of the United States: Chicanos, Latinos, and by extension the marginalized and segregated from all over the world. Drawn at an altitude of 5,000 meters, each of the 15 sentences measured between 5 and 7 kilometers, so they were seen from wide sectors of the city. The visual artist Juan Downey made the film record of this writing and the photographs of it were made by Ana María López and Lionel Cid, forming part of the book Anteparaíso, published in November of that year.





"La vida nueva"

Media: Video

Date: June 2nd, 1982. Camera: Juan Downey Direction: Raúl Zurita Duration: 34 min. 58 seg.

Format: MOV

Price: USD\$ 25.000

Link Vimeo: https://vimeo.com/561894134

Pass: Aninat2021



Poema

"La vida nueva"

MI DIOS ES HAMBRE

MI DIOS ES NIEVE

MI DIOS ES NO

MI DIOS ES DESENGAÑO

MI DIOS ES CARROÑA

MI DIOS ES PARAÍSO

MI DIOS ES PAMPA

MI DIOS ES CHICANO

MI DIOS ES CÁNCER

MI DIOS ES VACÍO

MI DIOS ES HERIDA

MI DIOS ES GHETO

MI DIOS ES DOLOR

MI DIOS ES

MI AMOR DE DIOS

MY GOD IS HUNGER

MY GOD IS SNOW

MY GOD IS NO

MY GOD IS REGRET

MY GOD IS CARION

MY GOD IS PARADISE

MY GOD IS PAMPA

MY GOD IS CHICANO

MY GOD IS CANCER

MY GOD IS EMPTINESS

MY GOD IS WOUND

MY GOD IS GHETTO

MY GOD IS PAIN

MY GOD IS

MY LOVE OF GOD





"Ni pena ni miedo,1993"





"Ni pena ni miedo"

"Neither pain nor fear" was made in 1993. In the first 3 years of the return to democracy in Chile, Zurita conceived this phrase in the Atacama desert. With an extension of 3.5 kilometers and a calligraphy from a Spanish-American spelling book, it shows a heroic way of facing the future, hope and tragedy. Every word was made with old bulldozers and power shovels, which only made it legible from an airplane distance. The reader looks at the ground.





"Ni pena ni miedo" Writing on Atacama desert

Media: B&W photography on cotton Hahnemuhle paper (photographer: Guy Wenborne)

Date: 1993 - edition 2021

Edition: 1/6

Size: 110 x 110 cm. Price: USD\$ 7.000



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