art and resistance



Talks, events, film and exhibits accompanying the Chilean Patchwork Exhibition

AIR GALLERY

125, Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2

March 15 - April 1 1978

Just as the mass movement in Chile (which brought Allende to power as President) tended to disseminate the idea that art is not the affair of a tiny minority, but "part of the whole productivity of a people", so more and more people came in contact with or practised in the different art forms, in a way often linked with workers' and popular organisations. These developments were cut short by the military dictatorship which seized power in 1973, but they could not be crushed. This creativity today inevitably adopts the form of "resistance".

CALENDAR

Throughout the Exhibition

Documentary exhibit. How political prisoners have struggled to organise themselves to overcome the conditions in the concentration camps and the vital part artistic expression has played in this. We are deeply grateful to Chilean exiles in Britain for lending material to this part of the exhibition.

Banner The patchwork banner (based on no. 52 in the main exhibition) is by John Dugger, artist-organiser of the Banner Arts Project. It was first seen at the Peter Seeger and Quilapayan concert for Chile at the Royal Albert Hall (March 7th 1978) and commissioned by the Chile Solidarity Campaign.

Wednesday, March 15th at 6.30pm MANUEL ANTEVIL, a Mapuche Indian and trade union leader from Tamuco in South Chile, will talk about the Mapuche people, how they have preserved their culture despite invasions and repression, and how in modern Chile this culture has become integrated into the political struggle.

Thursday March 16th at 1.00pm and 6.30pm. Film.
CHILE: THE MOST PAINFUL HOUR. The Jonathan Dimbleby report for Thames Television's This Week series, shown late last year, which was filmed largely secretly in Chile, shows the reality behind the patchworks and brilliantly brings out the courage of the people.

Friday, March 17th at 1.00pm and 6.30pm. Film. CHILE: THE MOST PAINFUL HOUR.

Saturday, March 18th at 2.00pm. Talk by CHILEANS in Britain about the patchworks, about the women who make them, the workshops they have set up, and the meaning of the images they use.

Tuesday, March 21st at 1.00pm and 6.30pm. Film. CHILE: THE MOST PAINFUL HOUR

Thursday, March 23rd at 1.00pm and 6.30pm. Film. CHILE: THE MOST PAINFUL HOUR.

Saturday, March 25th.

2.00pm. Talk by GUY BRETT: Democratic form and content in the patchworks and other popular art forms of today.

4.30pm. Talk by JAIME GOMEZ on the history of popular theatre in Chile from the beginning of the century, and his experience in forming theatre groups in the shanty-towns at the edge of Santiago as part of the programme of the (now extinct) School of Drama of the University of Chile.

Tuesday, March 20th at 1.00pm and 6.30pm. Film CHILE: THE MOST PAINFUL HOUR.

Thursday, March 30th at 1.00pm and 6.30pm. Film CHILE: THE MOST PAINFUL HOUR

Friday, March 31st at 6.30pm. Talk by JOAN JARA and JAN FAIRLEY on Chilean music and the New Song Movement. Jan Fairley lived in Chile from 1971-1973, interviewed all the leading Chilean popular musicians and is writing a book on the New Song Movement. Illustrated with tapes.

Saturday, April 1st.

2.00pm. Talk by HUGO MEDINA of Teatro Popular Chileno about the growth of the shanty-town theatre groups during the Allende government, the kind of plays they made, and how the people received them.

4.30pm. Poems written in prison. FRANCISCO MORALES reading and talking about some of the hundreds of poems written and smuggled out of prisons under the military dictatorship. Starting at 7.30pm. GRAND PEÑA: MUSIC AND SONG. With KELI KURI, the Chilean folk group now living in Liverpool, RICARDO YOSELEWSKI, one of Chile's leading quena players (quena is the traditional Andean flute), and others. Empanadas and cinnamon wine.

All the events are free except the pena on April 1st which will be 50p at the door.

We thank the Arts Council of Grat Britain for financial assistance in mounting the accompanying events to the Chile Patchwork Exhibition.

The Air Gallery acknowledges financial assistance from The Arts Council of Great Britain and The Greater London Arts Association.

