

IDB Cultural Center  
1300 New York Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D.C., 20577

# FIRST LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN VIDEO ART COMPETITION AND EXHIBIT

**Argentina**  
**Barbados**  
**Belize**  
**Bolivia**  
**Brazil**  
**Chile**  
**Colombia**  
**Costa Rica**  
**Dominican Republic**  
**Ecuador**  
**El Salvador**  
**Guatemala**  
**Haiti**  
**Mexico**  
**Panama**  
**Paraguay**  
**Peru**  
**Suriname**  
**Trinidad & Tobago**  
**Uruguay**  
**Venezuela**



December 5, 2002 - January 17, 2003

**The Cultural Center  
of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)**

announces the opening of the

**FIRST LATIN AMERICAN  
AND CARIBBEAN  
VIDEO ART COMPETITION AND  
EXHIBIT**

open December 5, 2002 to January 17, 2003

The exhibit features 53 videos, under five minutes each, selected by a panel of experts from among 235 from 21 countries. Two award winners and four Honorable Mentions went to artists from Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Venezuela.

Awards were given by the Cultural Center and the Information and Communication Technology for Development Division of the Inter-American Development Bank.

This is the first ever video exhibit in Washington representing the region and constitutes a benchmark for the state of video art in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The contest and exhibition are organized by the IDB Cultural Center.

The exhibit will also be presented at Rome's Istituto Italo Latinoamericano, in March of 2003, and will then travel on a circuit of international museums.

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An exhibition of video art from Latin American and the Caribbean, the first ever presented in Washington will be on display at the Art Gallery of the IDB Cultural Center between December 5, 2002, and January 17, 2003.

The Cultural Center of the Inter-American Development Bank and the Information and Communication Technology for Development Division of the IDB announced earlier this year a competition and international video art exhibition to be held in December 2002 to January 2003 at the IDB Cultural Center Art Gallery in Washington, D.C., and in March-April 2003 at the Istituto Italo-Latinoamericano (IILA) in Rome. The objectives of the competition were to broaden the discussion of economic and social factors that affect Latin America and the Caribbean with the participation of individuals who use technology-based visual media; encourage those working in the cultural milieu to use their creative abilities to formulate viewpoints that enhance public awareness and understanding; inspire the public to consider possible alternatives and solutions; and establish a benchmark for the advancement of video art as a form of expression in the region.

According to Mirna Liévano de Marques, IDB External Relations Advisor, “Through the First Latin American and Caribbean Video Art Competition and Exhibit, the Cultural Center of the Inter-American Development Bank and the IDB's Information and Communication Technology for Development Division combined forces to reach a cultural segment of Latin America and the Caribbean that blends art and technology. The response was overwhelming.

“The social and economic reality of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the role of communications in development appealed to a large group of people who work with cutting-edge video technology. It is the first international video contest of its kind in Washington, D.C., a benchmark that has afforded talented artists an opportunity to show their abilities. These mostly young filmmakers presented short films on social issues the IDB works with every day, such as justice, security, social inclusion, ethnicity and the environment, among many other issues. As a result, we have a chance to experience the everyday reality of life in the Region as video artists see it. The results are poignant, revealing and educational. They also underscore and celebrate the key role of culture in the development process.”

In the words of Félix Angel, Curator and General Coordinator of the Cultural Center, “The strength of the exhibition lies with those video artists who were able to interpret particular issues affecting their countries, and who reflect, in their personal ways, their social and economic realities. The significant response to the call proves that the IDB Cultural Center was able to penetrate an entire community not yet familiar with the IDB and its agenda. The outstanding number of excellent pieces received from certain countries attests to their past economic well being, their long standing attention to education and the visual tradition in the realm of filmmaking. In some countries it appears that artists have been able to keep up technologically but are having difficulty in adjusting video to artistic terms, or they are having difficulties adjusting to the current situation. The structure of many pieces shows that practically in all countries the boundaries

between documentary, short film, performance recording and video art are somehow blurred.

“In all countries, access to technology for the regular individual continues to be an outstanding issue, in some more than others of course, not only in physical terms but in economic terms as well. In Latin America and the Caribbean, technology still has a long way to go to fulfill its promise of making life—or at least work—simpler, cheaper and more functional. Judging from the clippings the IDB Representations sent to IDB headquarters—the general feeling among artists is that video, and video art in particular, requires resources they just do not have.

“Despite the unsympathetic and sometimes angry messages that video artists are sending to society’s leadership through their work, there are positive, optimistic and even humorous alternatives that assimilate the region’s problems and individual shortcomings. Taken as a group, the present exhibition may be a strong reminder of unsolved and lingering problems, but it is also a gratifying demonstration of the talent of the region that, despite chronic limitations, is found in abundance, and is waiting for better opportunities to help re-conceptualize the elusive idea of integral development.”

### **The Jury**

- **Anthony Gittens** (United States) is Executive Director of the DC Commission for the Arts and Humanities, the official cultural agency of the District of Columbia. The Commission's programs support and promote stability, vitality and diversity of artistic expression in the Nation's Capital. Mr. Gittens represents the city's cultural interests at numerous gatherings and cultural settings; he is also Founder and Director of Filmfest DC, the Washington, DC International Film Festival. Now in its sixteenth year, the festival brings to Washington the best in new world cinema during an annual 12-day celebration. In recognition of his efforts, Anthony Gittens was presented with the Mayor's Award for Excellence in Service to the Arts, and was selected as Public Humanist of the Year by the Humanities Council of Washington, DC. He was profiled on Public Television's *Eyes on the Prize* television series for his contributions to the Civil Rights Movement.

- **Ignacio Durán-Loera** (Mexico) is Director General of the Mexican Cultural Institute and Minister for Cultural Affairs of the Embassy of Mexico in Washington, D.C. Between 1972-2001 he held a number of positions, such as Vice President for International Affairs and Vice-President of Production at T.V. Azteca of Mexico, Director General at the Mexican Cultural Institute of Cinematography, Mexico City; Minister for Cultural Affairs at the Embassy of Mexico in Great Britain, Director General for Cultural Television of

Mexico, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Mexico in Sweden, and Deputy Director at the National Institute of Fine Arts of Mexico (INBA) . He has also produced feature films and documentaries for television channels 11 and 13, Mexico City and for the Productions Department at the BBC of London, England. Mr. Durán-Loera holds a Masters Degree at the London Film School, 1969-1972, a B.A. in Law, National Autonomous University of Mexico (U.N.A.M.), Mexico City, 1968, and has taught cinematography at various universities in Mexico and cinematography centers.

- **Albert J. Casciero** (Argentina) is Dean of Learning Resources at the University of the District of Columbia. A native of Argentina and now an U.S. citizen, Mr. Casciero graduated with honors from The City College of New York with a degree in Fine Arts. Later, he completed graduate work in Educational Technology at Teachers College, Columbia University. Mr. Casciero has several films and video documentaries to his credit as a cinematographer, director, and producer. He produced and photographed "*Carlos Fuentes, a Man of Two Worlds*," a documentary that received the *Golden Eagle Award* by CINE in 1989. He has also produced several audiovisual presentations about major Latin American artists and is the author of essays about film and filmmakers. Mr. Casciero is a member of the Board of Directors of *Filmfest DC*, the Washington, DC International Film Festival.

- **Danilo Piaggese** (Italy) has been *Chief of the Information and Communication Technology for Development Division (SDS/ICT)* at the *Inter-American Development Bank* in Washington, DC since 1999. The Division is in charge of structuring and implementing the Bank's policy to introduce ICT (Information and Communication Technology for Development) in the Bank's project portfolio, to provide technical assistance to borrowing member countries, and to better inform government decisions regarding ICT and its applications. Prior to the IADB assignment, from 1981 to 1991 Mr. Piaggese worked for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) at different duty stations in Africa and Latin America. From 1992 to 1998 he was part of the technical staff of TELESPAZIO, Società per Azioni per le Comunicazioni Spaziali, TELECOM-Italia Group in Rome, where he was in charge of the Strategic Alliances and International Activities Division. Mr. Piaggese also consulted at the European Union in Brussels, evaluating project proposals for funding in the field of telecommunications and environment. Mr. Piaggese holds a Masters degree in Physics with a diploma in Geophysics, *cum laude*, from the University of Rome (1980), and an Executive International Business Certificate from Georgetown University/John Cabot University, Washington, DC-Rome, (1996). His professional training is in remote sensing (1981); digital image processing and analysis (1986); technical cooperation project formulation and appraisal (1989); telecommunications (1995-1996) and technology transfer.

- **Félix Angel** (Colombia) is the *General Coordinator and Curator of the IDB Cultural Center*. He acted as convener and participated in the deliberations with a voice but no vote.
- **Enrica Murrura** (Italy) from the *IDB Information and Communication Technology for Development Division* substituted for Mr. Piaggese during some of the deliberations.

## **THE WINNERS**

### **IDB Cultural Center AWARD**

#### ◆ **Aria**, 2002

Brooke Alfaro (Panama)

e-mail: balfaro@cwpanama.net

Original format: MDV

Length: 3' 20"

The frame opens with what seems to be an abstract composition, an image so powerful in its articulation that for a minute our senses feel captivated by notions of structure, balance, texture and the like .

**Brooke Alfaro** (Panama, 1949), graduated in 1976 as an architect at the University of Panama and later studied painting at New York's Art Students League in New York. After 20 years of activity as an outstanding painter and the recipient of several distinctions in local competitions, Alfaro stopped painting and began to work with video. His work is characterized by caustic and provocative irony in a painterly dimension where the limits between reality and fiction always mingle.

### **IDB Information and Communication Technology for Development Division (SDS/ICT) AWARD**

#### ◆ **Sonetos** (Sonnets), 2001

Eduardo Baggio and Carlos Rocha (Brazil)

e-mail: eduardobaggio@uol.com.br

Original format: MDV

Length: 3'

Images suggested by the poems and the titles are put into three different contexts: Latin American integration, the African legacy, and Brazil's military coup on March 31, 1964.

**Eduardo Tulio Baggio** (Brazil, 1976) studied journalism and social communication, and specialized in audiovisual communication, later obtaining a Masters Degree in Communications and Language in Curitiba, Brazil. He has been producing short films and videos independently since 1997. In 2001

"Sonnets" received two different awards at the Curitiba 6<sup>th</sup> Film and Video Festival, and Best Video award at the Latin American Video Festival at Campo Grande. He lives in Curitiba.

**Carlos Rocha** (Brazil, 1966) graduated in Social Communications and Public Relations at the Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFPR) in 1995. He is a syndicated photojournalist and is a founder member of International Amnesty in the State of Paraná. He is a professor of photography, video and documentary production at UFPR since 1996.

### HONORABLE MENTION

◆ **Mira la Tele** (Watch TV), 2001

Carlos Fernando Osuna

e-mail: ascoartes@yahoo.com

Original format: MDV

Length: 4' 40"

Humanity is a value on its way to extinction.

**Carlos Fernando Osuna** (Colombia, 1980) studied at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana and has participated in workshops about acting techniques and cinematography. He received this year a Pre-Columbian Golden Circle award at the 2002 Santafé de Bogotá Film Festival in the category of fiction. Since 1999 he has participated in about ten group exhibitions in Santafé de Bogotá.

### HONORABLE MENTION

◆ **Para llegar al cielo** (To reach the sky), 2002

Ester Guízar Mares and Maries Mendiola Galván (Mexico)

e-mail: estymar@yahoo.com

Original format: Betacam SP

Length: 5'

A little girl dies during an electric storm while climbing the wall of the patio where she is confined, trying to reach the sky .

**Ester Guízar Mares** (Mexico, 1963) studied communications graphic design at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana in Mexico City. She specialized in computer design in Boston. Between 1995 and 1998 she worked as art director and coordinator for a local company, in charge of design, animation, special effects and post production.

**Maries Mendiola Galván** (Mexico 1963) obtained her bachelors in Visual Arts at the School of Fine Arts of the UNAM and is currently a professor of drawing at the La Salle University in Mexico City. In 1994 she received the graphics

award at the VI Diego Rivera Biennial. In 1997 the two of them received a scholarship from the National Fund for the Arts and Culture (FONCA) to develop "Las Nueve Moradas" (The Nine Dwellings), a video animation film, and again in 2001 for "Para Llegar al Cielo."

### HONORABLE MENTION

◆ **0'00**, (2000)

Humberto Polar (Peru)

e-mail: ydaleu65@yahoo.com

Original format: VHS

Length: 4'43"

The concept of nationality and one of its more symbolic icons, the flag, appears to be distorted in the light of profound social and economic crisis.

**Humberto Polar** (Peru, 1965) studied linguistics and literature at the Universidad Católica del Perú in Lima, and later took up art at the Universidad de los Andes, in Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia. He has participated in more than twenty group exhibitions and presented four individual gallery shows in Lima and Santafé de Bogotá. He has been awarded two distinctions at competitions in Lima. He lives in Santafé de Bogotá.

### HONORABLE MENTION

◆ **Vuelo Terreno** (Earthy Flight), 2002

David Morey (Venezuela)

e-mail: dmoreyc@hotmail.com

Original format: MDV

Length: 4' 30"

The *Petare* neighborhood, one of the most marginalized and excluded communities in Caracas, as seen from above becomes a picturesque fabric of uneven geometric patterns.

**David Morey** (Venezuela, 1956) studied architecture at the Simon Bolivar University, art at the Cristóbal Rojas School of Fine Arts, and graphic design at the Instituto de Diseño Neumann in Caracas. He currently works as film director in *A Pie Publicidad y Promoción, S.A.* His documentary-fiction series on Venezuelan artists was distinguished this year at the IV Caracas short film festival.



The following videos have been selected by the jurors for the Washington D.C. IDB Cultural Center Art Gallery exhibit:

### **Argentina**

- *Vacas (Cows)*, Gabriela Golder
- *Sueños (Dreams)*, Elena Isabel Laplana
- *Rac*, Mario Monje
- *La Otra Mirada (The Other Look)*, Guillermo Stein

### **Barbados**

- *African Connections 2000*, Esther Maria Jones

### **Belize**

- *The Dispute*, Richard Holder, Dennis C. Peyrefitte, and Norman Smith

### **Bolivia**

- *El Precio (The Price)*, Ximena Villegas Zelaya

### **Brazil**

- *Empilhado*, Frank Guidi
- *Sempre Tem Mais (There is Always More)*, Tadeu Jungle
- *Sao Paulo Fashion Week*, Daniel Hanai
- *Prato do Dia (Dish of the Day)*, Rafael Tavares
- *Talk to Me*, Camila Sposati

### **Chile**

- *d.Cruz a.Cruz (From Cross to Cross)*, Daniel Cruz Valenzuela.
- *Viaje (Journey)*, Marcelo Gaete Ardiles
- *Valor de Cambio/ Cambio de Valor (Money Exchange, Change of Value)*, Juan Carlos Gourdet and Alexis Llerena

- *Latin America Convulsa, Poesía de vida (Latin America Shaken, Poetry of Life)*, Diego Emilio Meza Soto

### **Colombia**

- *Shot on Location*, Fernando Arias
- *Colombia Sport*, Elkin Calderón Guevara
- *El Duelo + [El Show de la Muerte] (The Duel + [Death's Show])*, Andrés Alberto Lombana-Bermúdez
- *Exodo (Exodus)*, Ronald F. Meléndez Cardona
- *Diálogo de Paz (Peace Dialogue)*, Fernando Pertuz

### **Costa Rica**

- *Después del Tono (After the Tone)*, Christian Bermúdez
- *Labial (About Lips)*, Natasha Pachano

### **Dominican Republic**

- *Directrices (Directives)*, Mónica Ferreras de la Maza

### **Ecuador**

- *des\_arrollo (dev\_elopment)*, Cynthia Catalina Ayarza Dugan and Enrique Vinicio Villacís Tapia
- *I Like America and America Likes Me*, Giovanni Francisco Zapata Castellanos

### **El Salvador**

- *Papel de Girasol (Sunflower Paper)*, Elisa Archer
- *Triángulo + Cuadrado (Triangle + Square)*, Maura Mendoza

## Guatemala

- *Eso es lo que siento (That is what I Feel)*, Alejo Crisóstomo

## Haiti

- *Blackout*, Guy Régis, Jr with the Troupe NOUS

## Mexico

- *Sin Pudor (Shyless)*, Alfonso Arzapalo, Aldo Arzapalo, José Pérez López and Kalman Nicolás Muller Echevarría
- *Plastic Dream*, Irene Chouthier
- *Cucharas (Spoons)*, Berenice Gervassi
- *Realidad-Simulacro (Reality-Simulation)*, Verena Grimm Wiedemann
- *300/3*, Georgina Morales Bringas

## Panama

- *Buscando a Alguien (Looking for Someone)*, Brooke Alfaro
- *Creisi Blu (Crazy Blue)*, Brooke Alfaro

## Paraguay

- *La Cocina de Josefina (Josephine's Kitchen)*, Pedro Barrail
- *Domingo Ciudadino (Sunday in the City)*, Norah Giménez Duarte
- Popular vote award

## Peru

- *Robocuy (... Engendro del Neoliberalismo y la Globalización.) (Robocuy, Byproduct of Neoliberalism and Globalization)*, Cristian Alarcón Ismodes
- *Telúrico (Teluric)*, Luis García-Zapatero
- *La Chamba (Work)*, Diego Velásquez Roeschli.

## Suriname

- *A Ceremonial Dance*, Paul Woei

## Trinidad and Tobago

- *B.C. (Before Columbus)*, Robert Yao Ramesar

## Uruguay

- *Mala Sangre (Bad Blood)*, Silvia Beatriz Cacciatori Filloy
- *Pex*, Hernán González and Guillermo Carbonell

## Venezuela

- *So Won*, Diana López
- *El Sagrado Corazón (The Sacred Heart)*, Pedro Morales
- *Lucky Lady*, Roberto Mosquera



The following Latin American and Caribbean institutions will present the video exhibition as part of their regular program during 2003:

Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires, Argentina  
National Cultural Foundation, Barbados  
Image Factory Art Foundation, Belize City, Belize  
Fundação Cultural de Curitiba, Curitiba, Brazil  
Galería Bellas Artes, Corporación Cultural MetroArte, Santiago de Chile, Chile

Museo de Antioquia, Medellín, Colombia  
Museo de Arte Moderno de Bogotá, Colombia  
Museo de Arte Moderno de Bucaramanga, Colombia  
Museo de Arte Moderno de Cartagena, Colombia  
Fundación Museos del Banco Central, San José, Costa Rica  
Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana Benjamín Carrión, Quito, Ecuador  
Museo de Arte Moderno de El Salvador, San Salvador, El Salvador  
Fundación Mujeres en las Artes Leticia de Oyuela, Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
Cineclub El Pochote, Oaxaca, Mexico  
Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Panamá, Panama  
Alta Tecnología Andina, Lima, Peru  
Museo de Arte Moderno, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  
Caribbean Center for the Arts, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago



The video art exhibition in Washington will run from December 5, 2002 to January 17, 2003. A free, full-color brochure in English will be available to the public. Copies of the winners' artworks are available upon request for press purposes only. For photographs, please call 202 623 1213.

The IDB Cultural Center Art Gallery is located at 1300 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. and is open five days a week, Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., free of charge. The nearest Metro station is Metro Center (13th Street exit).

For guided tours of groups of ten or more (in English and Spanish) and for additional information about the IDB Cultural Center and its programs, please call (202)623-3774.

The Cultural Center home page is located at: [www.iadb.org/cultural/](http://www.iadb.org/cultural/)

E-mail address: [IDBCC@iadb.org](mailto:IDBCC@iadb.org)

**IDB Cultural Center contacts:**

- Félix Angel, General Coordinator and Curator (202) 623-3325
- Soledad Guerra, Assistant General Coordinator (202) 623-1213
- Anne Vena, Concerts and Lectures Coordinator (202) 623-3558
- Elba Agusti, Cultural Development in the Field  
Program and Administrative Assistant (202) 623-3774
- Susannah Rodee, IDB Art Collection  
Managing and Conservation Assistant (202) 623-3278