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Public Projections

2001

9 minutes, 4 seconds

Transcribed by: Jennifer Donovan

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Time	Transcription
00:01	[Krzysztof Wodiczko] [Public Projections]
00:09	[Tijuana 2001]
00:53	Speaker 1: Cállate! Es la última vez que lo haces! ¡No me vuelvas a gritar! ¡No me vuelvas a insultar! ¡Jamás me vuelvas a insultar! Es lo último que voy a permitirte. Nunca jamás vuelvas a gritarme. [English subtitles: Shut up! That's the last time you're going to do that to me! Don't ever yell at me! Don't ever insult me! Don't ever insult me again! That's the last thing I am going to allow you to do! Never yell at me again!]
01:18	Speaker 2: Cuando trataste de cruzar la frontera, ibas muy digno tu con [tu] novia nueva, Americana. Mejor vida, sin hijos. Mejor trabajo, más dinero. Pero al llegar a la línea, se voltearon todos tus papeles. Te bajaron, te esposaron las manos, como si hubieras cometido algún delito. Tomaron todos tus huellas digitales. Te subieron a un camión. Te esposaron pies. Te encerraron por tres días. Fuiste juzgado por una juez. Pero no en mis propias manos. Ya en aquellos días, te hicieron sentir peor que los criminales, como si hubieras matado o violado, sin necesidad de golpearte. Hirieron tu orgullo. Tu orgullo de Mexicano. Te pisotearon. Y es la manera que tú me hacías sentir, cada grito que me dabas, cada ofensa que dirigías hacia mi, en no servir para nada, en ser una idiota, en ser una estúpida. Saldaron la cuenta que tenía contigo. [English subtitles: When you tried to cross the border. You were so dignified with your new American girlfriend. Better life, without children. A better job, more money. But, when you arrived at the border the roles were reversed. They handcuffed your wrists as if you'd committed some kind of crime. All your fingerprints were taken. You were put on a bus. Your feet handcuffed. You were locked up for three days, for three days. You were judged by a female judge. In those days, you were made to feel like a criminal, as if you had killed someone or raped someone, without their needing to physically hit you. Your pride was wounded. Your pride as a Mexican. You were stomped on. And that's how you made me feel, each time you yelled at me, with each slight, that I wasn't worth anything, that I was a stupid person, a dummy. They closed the account that I had pending with you.]
03:44	[Crying]
03:58	Speaker 3: Nos golpeó también con la cachita de su pistola. Y, este, mi amiga Wendy, era novia de Hector, y se puso como loca, histérica. A ver que, bueno,

que estaban golpeando a Hector, y nos estaban golpeando a nosotros. Este, quiso golpear a un policia con las manos, este, le empezó a golpear. Entonces, bueno, eso fue mucho rato, no? De que lo tuvieron golpeando, nosotros nos golpearon, y a ella le subieron, un policia la agarró, y este, y la subió a la patrulla. Entonces, después se subió el otro, el que iba manejando la patrulla, y este, y se fueron. Entonces, nosotros, pues, ya estábamos, bueno, Rosaria y yo estábamos muy nerviosas. Y vimos a Hector tirado en el piso, todo sangrado. Y este, le hablábamos, pero no nos contestaba.

[English subtitles: One of the policemen hit us with the butt of his gun. My friend Wendy (she was Hector's girlfriend), she went crazy. She was hysterical. She saw that they were beating Hector and hitting him. She tried to hit one of the police agents with her hand. And that went on for a long time. One of the agents grabbed her and they put her in the patrol car. And then the one who was driving the patrol car got in and they left. Rosaria and I were really nervous. We saw Hector there laying on the ground, bloody. We spoke to him and he didn't answer.]

05:17 Speaker 4: Estaba yo calentando tortillas, porque les estaba dando de comer a mis hijos, y como que en mi mente, en mi mente empecé a oír que decía la niña, "Mami, Mami." Subí corriendo, y allí encontré a mi niña, roja de su cara, llorando, encogida todas sus piernitas, y le digo, "¿qué te pasó? ¿qué te pasó?" Y la había amenazado. Le decía que si me decía, me iba a matar a mí, y a ella. Le pegaba para que no me dijera. Ya cuando me platico la niña me dijo, "Don Mario me estaba, con su boca tocandome mi partesito y mi cuerpo." Llorando la niña, ustedes no saben. En ese momento tan mal, y tenía que tener una decisión inmediata porque era lo peor que me había pasado. Fui corriendo, la agarre, y la vestí rápido y me fui corriendo a denunciarlo.

[English subtitles: I was making tortillas to feed my little girls, and in my mind I heard my little girl saying, "Mommy, mommy." I run upstairs and I found my little girl red in the face crying. Her little legs drawn up against her, and I said, "What happened? What happened to you?" He threatened her. He said that if I said anything he was going to kill her, and he was going to kill me as well. He hit her so that she wouldn't say anything. She said Don Mario touched her with his mouth, touched her parts, touched her all over her body. She was crying, you have no idea. I felt so bad. I had to make a decision to leave. It's the worst thing that ever happened to me. I ran and got her dressed and filed a complaint against him.]

07:18 [Tijuana 2001]
[preparations]

7:32 [siren sounds] [crosstalk]

07:56 Speaker 5: So in black, you guys, and black cameras are ready to roll.

08:12 Speaker 6: Pasó un mes para que yo me enterara de esto, ya que estaba con mi madre en Tzicatlán. Regrese a Tijuana. Supo la experiencia. Y hasta en esta forma sentí--

08:28 Speaker 7: Y, este, también he soñado con toros, que - del tamaño de elefantes. Pero son muchos toros, muchos que me rodean, y me encajan los cuernos, y está allí lloviendo muy fuerte. Muy fuerte, y yo trato de pedir auxilio, pero nadie, nadie me escucha. Después de esto, ya que pasó cinco años, pues si cambio la vida de nosotros cuatro. Nunca llegué a la lunada Rosarito, pero--

[English subtitles: And I have also dreamt of bulls, the size of elephants. There are many bulls, many of them surrounding me, ramming their horns into me. It's raining very hard, and I try to yell out for help and no one, no one hears me. After five years the lives of the four of us have really changed after that party that night.