



## **The Cloud: white balloons suspended in the sky over the United States/Mexico border wall**

**La nube**

October 14, 2005

16 minutes 54 seconds

[inSite Archive](#)

UC San Diego Library Digital Collections  
<https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb40303142>

Transcribed by: Hanaa Moosavi, Sarah Fuchs

Translated by: Miriam Camacho Cabrera

Copyright: Unknown (US)

Use: This work is available from the UC San Diego Library. This digital copy of the work is intended to support research, teaching, and private study.

Constraint(s) on Use: This work may be protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.). Use of this work beyond that allowed by "fair use" requires the written permission of the copyright holders(s). Responsibility for obtaining permissions and any use and distribution of this work rests exclusively with the user and not the UC San Diego Libraries. Inquiries can be made to the UC San Diego Libraries department having custody of the work.

Time	Transcription	Translation
00:00	[inSite_Archive_00 Alfredo Jaar/ La nube> The Cloud]	
00:08	[Project Documentation/ October 14, 2000 17 min.]	
00:18	[Organ Chords]	
00:19	[ANGOLA 72 FILMS]	
00:25	[The US-Mexican border embodies an enormous social inequality and an astounding disequilibrium of political and economic power. One of the greatest ironies at the dawn of the 21st century is that as economic globalization is being celebrated as the triumph of international capitalism across frontiers, the border between Mexico and the United States has seen implemented the most draconian military measures in its history designed to prevent immigrant workers from crossing the same "open frontiers".]	
00:54	[An obscene amount of manpower and resources has been poured in recent years in an effort to stem the flow of undocumented immigrants. Today, more than 3,000 Border Patrol agents are patrolling the 66-mile border in San Diego County alone. These agents have implemented military-style tactics to seal the border. They have erected miles of high-security fencing, buried thousands of motion sensors along the border trails and deployed dozens of helicopters equipped with infrared detectors.]	

- 1:21 [In the last decade alone, it is estimated that more than three thousand people have died trying to cross the border. These deaths have been the result of shootings by US immigration Officials, drowning, extreme climatic conditions, and automobile accidents, some of them caused by high-speed chases by the Border Patrol.]
- 1:40 [The following event was created as an ephemeral monument in the memory of those who lost their lives trying to cross the border.]
- 1:52 [Organ chords playing]
- 01:58 [ANGOLA 72 Films]
- 2:02 [presents]
- 2:04 [The Cloud]
- 2:07 [a project by]
- 2:10 [Alfredo Jaar]
- 2:19 [Valle del Matador, Tijuana—San Diego, US—Mexican border]
- 8:47 Speaker 1: El descenso. Es un círculo todo. Lo que miramos. La memoria. El dios que pensamos como un sol que asciende y huye en el descenso. Sufro en medio del olvido y la memoria. A tientas, arrastrando un extraño solsticio que me lleva a contar noches de indescifrables estrellas. Sostenido como una pincelada en el viento. Creo, encontrar el centro del mundo. La tormenta arrastra encinos. Leyendas cuarteadas por los

Speaker 1: The descent. Everything is a circle. What we see. Memory. The god we imagine as a sun that ascends and flees in the descent. Blindly, dragging a strange solstice that leads me to count nights of indecipherable stars. Held like a brush stroke in the wind. Think I've found the center of the world. The storm drags trees. Legends cracked by lightning. My home, like a lab animal, split in two. My street moves between the lights where lightning broke my happiness. Everything is a circle.

rayos. Mi casa, como un animal en un laboratorio,  
partida en dos. Mi calle, se mueve entre las luces donde  
un rayo partió mi felicidad. Es un círculo todo. Lo que  
miramos. La memoria. El dios que pensamos como un  
sol que asciende y huye en el descenso. Sufro en medio  
del olvido y la memoria.

What we see. Memory. The god we imagine as a sun that  
ascends and flees in the descent. I suffer in the midst of  
forgetfulness and memory.

10:53 Speaker 2: Un momento de silencio por favor. One  
minute of silence please.

11:30 [violin playing]

15:25 [MUSIC - Tomaso Albinoni, Adagio in G minor,  
Johann Sebastian Bach, Brandenburg Concert Nr. 5: Second Movement, Suite Nr. 1 in G major: Sarabande, Sonata Nr. 1  
in G minor: Adagio, Suite Nr. 2 in D minor: Sarabande  
Francesco Maria Veracini, Sonata Prima in G minor: Overtura

#### MUSICIANS

Olena Getman, Piano | Boris Glouzman, Oboe | Pavel Getman, Bassoon | Wilfridio Terrazas, Transverse flute | Omar  
Firestone, Cello | Natalia Vostriakova, Violin

#### SOUND

Oscar Inzuna, Oscar Guzman | Baja Sound Producciones

#### MUSIC PRODUCTION

Gloria Barajas, Sergio Ramírez-Cárdenas | Producciones Cerca del Mar

#### BALLOONS COORDINATION

Rebecca Simantob

#### POETRY

Victor Hugo Limon, From his boom *Nombre en blanco*, Editores del Hotel Ambosmundos e Imago ediciones Tijuana, 1997

ACTRESSES

Aurora Gil, Patricia Higuera

PROJECT DIRECTOR

Michel Golino

PROJECT COORDINATORS

Margara de Leon, Cecilia Garza, Merete Kjaer, Wendell Kling, Tobias Ostrander, Zlatan Vukosavljevic, Hayde Zavala

PROJECT ASSISTANTS

Cristobal Lehyt, Ivan Diaz, Jose Luis Martin, Oscar Conant, Itzel Martines, Claudia Algara, Blanca Quiariarte

THANKS

American Friends US/MEXICO Border Program, San Diego | Casa de la Madre Assunta, Tijuana | Casa del Migrante, Tijuana | California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, San Diego | Casa YMCA de Menores Migrantes, Tijuana | Casa de Apoyo al Migrante, Tijuana | Fernando Plasencia | Direccion de Obras y Servicios Publicos Municipales | Direccion de Policia y Transito Municipal | XVI Ayuntamiento de Tijuana

INSITE200

CURATORS

Susan Buck-Morss, Ivo Mesquita, Osvaldo Sanchez, Sally Yard

DIRECTORS

Carmen Cuenca, Michael Krichman

CAMERA

Mark Arbitrario, Beth Bird, Brennan Hubbell, Daniel Martinico, Per Sandén, Kenny Strickland

STILL PHOTOGRAPHY

Elana Bernardi, Amy Joergensen, Kirthi Nath, Praneet Soi, Jee Young Sim, Bekkah Walker

A FILM BY Alfredo Jaar, Per Sandén]

16:38 [© Alfredo Jaar 2000]