

« DANZAR O MORIR »

Sierra Tarahumara, Mexico Installation Performance

SYLVIE MARCHAND

LIONEL CAMBURET
LELIO MOEHR



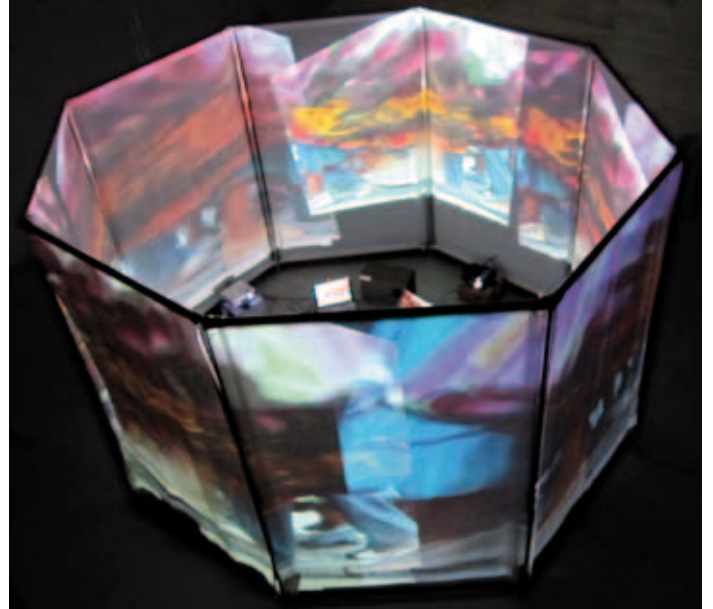
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'*Danzar o Morir*' is a Raramuri phrase.
Which strongest statement could one address to the world of today ?

«*Danzar o Morir*» was filmed, photographed, recorded by Sylvie Marchand with Raramuri dancers during a week long run across the Mexican Sierra Tarahumara in Norogachi.

«*Danzar o Morir*» is presented as a four screen projection circle, driven by computers, combining one hour of video, digital photographs, sequences of computer animation, videogramms and a sound/musical score .

«*Danzar o Morir*» is shown either :
- as an installation (loop computer driven)
- as a live video performance played by the authors in real time



The Raramuri community's dances and rituals are yet very strong, and Raramuri vividly fight for their culture in the midst of the most violent urban centers such as Chihuahua or Ciudad Juarez where they are much threatened.

'Dancing' is a gesture of resistance and a cultural statement for survival.

Sylvie and Lionel anchor their film creation into a wider cultural exchange with Raramuri people :
in October 2010, they performed '*Danzar o Morir*' in Tarahumara settlements (asentamiento) in Chihuahua, and during the OMAWARI festival in Ciudad Juarez.



Field Recording, Norogachi, Sierra Tarahumara



The videos show Raramuri Dances shot by Sylvie Marchand as she was introduced into the Norogachic Raramuri community by performer artist Gustavo Alvarez during the semana Santa. The video dances are interweaved with Fire video art movies as a pictorial creation. The public circulates around the cylinder.

The films are linked together as a ring. They draw the circular movement of drums and danse energy alternating with Nature light and fire.

« I was impressed by the power of colors activated by the rythm of Raramuri's dance. The beat of the drums, bright skies, vivid dresses, strong lines cutting through the earth, were an impressive paint pallet offering a diversity of movements and compositions, from the most abstract to the strongly vivid.



I worked this piece remembering Kandisky 's re-searches about « the sonority of colours » thinking that spirituality could develop one complete synthesis of all arts. And Klee's writing about painting as « polyphonic, and rythmic». In a word I worked the magnificent Raramuri dances researching movement as a connection between sound and image, creating 'polyphonic' compositions, «with several voices», several layers of meaning.

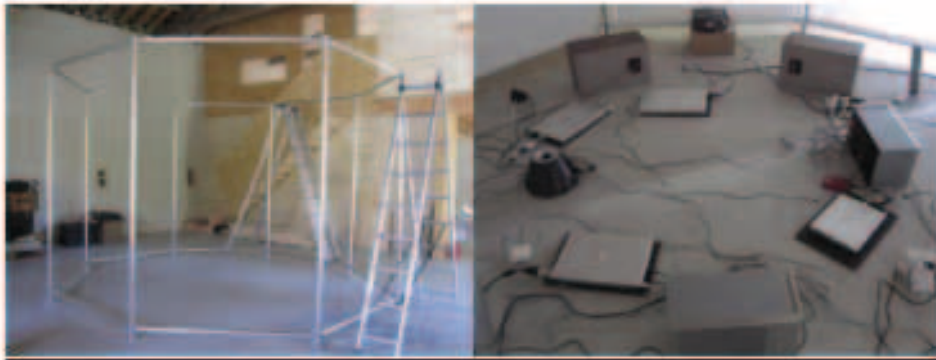
Dancing color superimpose, meet, melt, like sounds do, giving rise to a pictorial composition, a trail of images, endlessly meaningful.



But to me the most important is the Raramuri people cultural resistance, and I 'm particularly attached to building my art work as a form of dialog with them.

Danzar o Morir, Installation, Ciudad Juarez, Sept 2010.

PLAN DE LA ESTRUCTURA REDONDA



DIAMETER : 4 M

ALTURA : 2,50 M

- 8 aluminium tubos : Diametro : 4 cm, Altura 2,50 m
- 16 aluminium tubos : Diametro : 4 cm, Altura : 1,50 m



32 Angle variable, diametre 40 mm .
8 plaques de base insert diametre 40 mm



TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

DANZAR O MORIR

Gigacircus / Lionel Camburet, SCENOGRAPHER

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Equipment and computers provided and brought by Gigacircus Art Group :

(weight : 45 kg, volume 3 m3)

2 Mac mini Intel Core Duo

2 Metrox video card.

3 Mac MacBookPro + softwares + 3external disques

2 vidéo projectors INFOCUS IN 2106 EP wide angle 2200 Lumens

8 Telas para projection screens

Electric (European) & computer connections

Iron connexions for screens :

32 Angle variable, diametre 40 mm .

8 plaques de base insert diametre 40 mm

Specific equipement to be provided by the Festival organisation :

- 4 Auto Amplified Speakers (Sound Device) (Compact Speaker System)
- (eventually 2 video projectors wide angle 2200 Lumens)
- Electric cable connections
- 2 ladders (escabel, escalera, échelle)



«Danzar o Morir» Performance, Chihuahua, Asentamiento Raramuri. September 2010