

# M A C O N A D O

LATIN AMERICA SPEAKS

SEPTEMBER 30, 1986. VOL. 1 NO. 4 STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK

## FESTIVAL LATINO IN NEW YORK

### LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES AT STONY BROOK

The triumph of the People's Sandinista Revolution in Nicaragua, the situation in El Salvador, the creation and support of the Contras by the U.S., and the effort of the Contadora countries to mediate a peace accord for the region, have prompted many people throughout the nation to get involved or at least interested in the development of events in Central America and the rest of Latin America.

In Stony Brook there has been some manifestations of interest: some groups like H.O.L.A. (Hands Off Latin America) and L.A.S.O. (Latin American Students Organization), have shown films and slides; they have held discussions, bake sales and many other activities, either to raise funds for the people of Central America or just to show what their situation is. In the campus media there has been also some manifestations of interest: editorials, viewpoints and letters to the editor have been written reflecting opinions on some of the events that we hear so much but know so little.

Not only we ignore the nature of the conflict in Central America, but also the conflicts in other parts of Latin America like Chile, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Haiti. These conflicts as well as other conflicts in the rest of the world, are totally ignored (or avoided) by the so-called mass media. Since Central America and Latin America in general are so close to the U.S., we consider necessary that a student knows about these conflicts because the way things are developing, all of us could be, sooner or later, taking part there; not as mere spectators but as direct actors.

We would like to give a list of courses being taught at Stony Brook which will help clarify some of

About three weeks ago New York City had the opportunity to see the greatest Latin cultural event in the United States: the Festival Latino in New York.

More than one hundred presentations took place in a period of a month. They ranged from dances, concerts and films to the latest in Latin theater.

This was a very important occasion since it was the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the original idea of Oscar Ciccone, Cecilia Vega and a group of members from the artistic community. This idea was product of the isolation that the Latin culture suffers in the United States.

The first festival was called Festival de Teatro Popular (Popular Theater Festival) and only lasted ten days. It only focused on theater as its name clearly indicates. This trend lasted until 1984 when the aggressive New York producer, Joseph Papp, gave it the name of Festival Latino in New York and broadened its scope.

the confusion caused by the so-called mass media. The best part to start would be history, because by analyzing the past carefully, we can understand many--if not all--of the things that seem like a mess to us now. History 213 and 216 give a good insight of how things have been in the past and why they happened. History 330, 331, 335 and 383 (formerly 332) approach in more detail the modern Latin American societies and the historical and ahistorical phenomena that shapes them. History 421 and 422 covers different topics as slavery, 20th century revolutions, culture and ideology, and many others that vary according to student demand and faculty interest.

There are other courses in the Department of Anthropology which deals with the different peoples that compose Latin American societies. Some of those courses are anthropology 209, 219, 301 and 307.

The Festival Latino had the best talent in the arts. There were more than twenty theater companies from Latin America, Europe and the United States. La Candelaria, a theater company from Colombia, performed Guadalupe Años Sin Cuenta. Rajatabla from Venezuela performed La Muerte de García Lorca (García Lorca's Death). The Teatro del Sesenta performed La Verdadera Historia de Pedro Navaja (The True Story of Pedro Navaja). The performances were held in the Delacorte Theater in Central Park and the new York Public Theater.

Films from twelve Latin American countries and two European countries that acted as co-sponsors were shown. There were more than twenty films of recent production including the two joint productions Oriana (France-Venezuela) and Será Posible el Sur (West Germany-Argentina). The highlight of the festival was Acta General de Chile (Chile General Record), a four hour documentary of opponents of General Augusto Pinochet.

In the Department of Africana Studies there are also some courses that do an in depth study of Caribbean societies. These courses will help people understand the societies of those lands known by their beauty and richness since Columbus times. Some of those courses are Africana Studies 239 and 240.

There are many other courses taught at Stony Brook that deal with Latin America and all its complex problems. They range from Pre-Columbian art, in the Department of Art, to modern Latin American literature, in the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature. Of course, there are other courses that, in some way or another, deal with Latin America; therefore, we urge those interested to contact all the different departments mentioned and inquire about the courses offered. We also urge those interested, to keep an eye on the campus media for

Other good films were Niños Desaparecidos (Disappeared Children) from Argentina and Tiempo de Morir (Time to Die), a Colombian-Cuban production with a screenplay by García Márquez. The films were shown at the New York Public Theater.

Two concerts for Peace and Friendship were held in which important figures of the New Latin American Song were present. The first concert was held on August 11th in Central Park and had the performance of Mercedes Sosa, the Voice of America, from Argentina. The group Macotal with Luis Mejia Godoy from Nicaragua and from Mexico, the singer Eugenia León.

The second concert was held on the 25th in Central Park also. Three groups performed: Jose María Vitier and his group from Cuba; Paolo Mora and his group from Brazil; and Dave Valentín and his group from the United States.

The festival is a constantly expanding idea; it will have performances in Puerto Rico, Mexico City and the most important cities of the United States. Some day we hope to have our own Festival Latino in Stony Brook; until then, we can only wait forever or start working RIGHT NOW.

coming movies, conferences, speakers and many, many other events.

#### L.A.S.O. CALENDAR

- Latin Reunion.....10/9/86
- Meet Herman Badillo..10/16
- Gral. Body Meeting...10/16
- Gral. Body Meeting...10/16
- Halloween Party.....10/30
- Gral. Body Meeting...11/06
- Latin Day.....11/13
- Gral. Body Meeting...11/20
- Play in Broadway.....12/06
- End of Semester Party12/12

# UNDOCUMENTED TO RESIST

## UNDERGROUND MEDIA

by Juan A. Jiménez

"[Latin America] is an object lesson in the gulf between illusion and reality. The crisis in the region is increasingly reduced to a shadow play, with reality reduced to one-dimensional black-and-white. Washington intentionally distorts and oversimplifies, for defined political ends; most media coverage, whether through deliberate malice or simple incompetence, leaves surface appearances unchallenged. Both sets of shadows converge to produce caricatures of reality-- "tatalitarian dungeons" and "democratic success stories," election lines and bang-bang."

MACONDO has realized the war the Reagan Administration, allied with the U.S. media, is fighting. It is a war aimed at disinforming the public with the sole purpose of getting the people who care about Latin America confused and consequently uninterested so that it can take any measure (ranging from massive military intervention to covert actions) to benefit its supportive economic elite. To counter this war which affects us all, MACONDO has emerged as the vanguard of the truth.

Each month, MACONDO will publish a list of organizations, their addresses and telephone number as well as a brief description of their activities. Students interested in finding the truth amidst the war of lies the Reagan Administration has thrown at us should contact these organizations. These individuals have always challenged the private version of the truth the mass media and the Administration is offering to the public. It is not surprising why they have been labeled the "underground" or alternate media.

**American Friends Service Committee, Latin America Program, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. Tel: (215) 241-7159.**

"Since 1961 the American Friends Service Committee has been working in Central America, focusing on human need, development, and the democratic empowerment of people in the region. Through thirty regional and area offices in the United States, AFSC seeks to inform the public

about developments in Central America and to encourage support for social justice in the area."

**FOCUS:** Latin America and Caribbean. Human rights. Militarism, peace, disarmament. women. national liberation struggles. transnational corporations. social justice.

**ACTIVITIES:** Popular education. research and writing. solidarity work. intern programs. networking. Congressional testimony. documentation and information. workshops and seminars. justice and peace ministries. foreign service.

**RESOURCES:** Speakers. audiovisuals. study-action guides. books and literature.

**Americas Watch, 712 G.St., SE, Suite 3, Washington DC 20003. Tel: (202) 546-9336.**

"Americas Watch has monitored human rights conditions in Latin America and U.S. policy with regard to human rights there since 1981."

**FOCUS:** Latin America and Caribbean. Third World general. Middle East. Africa. Asia and Pacific. Human rights. foreign aid and trade. labor. national liberation struggles. native peoples.

**ACTIVITIES:** Popular education. research and writing. media. documentation and information. publisher. fact-finding missions.

**RESOURCES:** Literature

by Julia Santos  
-----Unity-----

Los Angeles-- "Those who run this country think that by passing some law they can run us out of our homes, split up our families and terrorize our communities. But we will never let them get away with it. We aren't the kind of people to lie down and let them walk all over us," a tenant organizer in San Fernando Gardens housing project told Unity.

The issue at hand is a March decision by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to enforce a 1981 law denying federal housing subsidies to the undocumented. HUD said evictions would begin in October, but due to a storm of protest, the deadline was pushed back. Now, according to HUD, evictions are to begin in mid-March 1987.

By denying public housing to the most vulnerable undocumented sector, the government is attacking the living standard and democratic rights of the entire Chicano community. Whole families may be thrown into the streets, creating a new wave of homelessness. Families with any undocumented members will face a dilemma: keeping the family together and losing their home, or driving out undocumented relatives, thus putting documented against undocumented.

Word of the HUD ruling is spreading through the projects, and a growing

number of both documented and undocumented are getting ready. An aggressive door-to-door campaign is in the works, aimed at educating and mobilizing the tenants. Know-Your-Rights workshops have been held, and plans to deal with evictions are being formed.

In Los Angeles tenants in the Casa Maravilla and Parkside Apartment complexes, community activists and students have formed the Comité Pro Familias Unidas. This group has already gathered thousands of signatures on petitions opposing the evictions. In the San Fernando Gardens housing project, up to 70 tenants attended meetings to form Proyectos Unidos de Pacoima.

Congress is already feeling the heat, and housing officials are now saying that evictions in the face of active opposition will not be that easy. Rep. Ed Roybal, D-Calif., has introduced a measure to allow families in federally subsidized housing to stay as long as one member of the family is a U.S. citizen. While supporting the measure, most Chicano activists are continuing efforts to overturn the entire 1981 law.

Locally, on the initiative of Comité Pro Familias Unidas, Los Angeles City Councilman Richard Alatorre introduced a resolution opposing the evictions and calling on Congress to allow all tenants to remain whether or not a household member is a citizen or legal U.S. resident. Significantly, the City Council here, in the country's second largest city and the one with the largest Chicano-Mexicano population, passed the resolution August 15.

The tenants' success hinges on two factors. First, the tenants must unite and organize themselves around concrete plans for defense against the evictions. Second, the entire community must come together, both Chicanos and Mexicanos.

As a Proyectos Unidos organizer said, "There's no substitute for knocking on every door in these projects and bringing the strength of our entire community into play. That's how we're going to turn up the heat on Congress and make sure that none of the undocumented are thrown out into the street."

## DESDE MANAGUA

"Sólo una carta cercana como el mar y el cielo."  
Managua, Nicaragua

Querida hermana I.C.:

Con un cariño hermoso te saludo. Aquí nos encontramos bien, extrañando quizás el calor de nuestra familia completa, extrañándote a ti...

Hermana, me decís que has conocido a muchas personas de aquí de Centro América, por lo que deduzco que debes de estar al tanto de los conflictos sociales que afectan a estas pobres y calurosas tierras.

No se si sabrás que sufrimos en esta tierra nuestra una de las conmociones políticas más grandes desde la lucha por la independencia y la lucha de Sandino contra la intervención norteamericana. Nuestra pobre

patria casi sin recursos se enfrenta actualmente a una de las guerras mas injustas que se nos haya impuesto. Enfrentamos nada menos que a uno de los estados más poderosos de la tierra que en una voluntad política de exterminar la Revolución, no ha cesado su financiamiento pese al repudio internacional.

Como describirte los efectos de esta guerra en nuestro país: miles de personas han muerto; nos han cortado el acceso al comercio internacional para aislarnos de la comunidad internacional para que no podamos adquirir lo que necesitamos y además; nos destruyen lo poco que hemos logrado construir.

# EDITORIAL

For years, the Latin community at Stony Brook has been divided on many crucial issues, as how to run L.A.S.O. or how to improve it, and how to best spread our cultural values throughout the Stony Brook campus. Many students, who have chosen not to attend L.A.S.O. meetings at all, criticize the executive board because the members do not perform the duties and obligations the constitution mandates. The board, on the other hand, criticize those students for their apathy. Some other students that have chosen to attend the meetings blame L.A.S.O. Constitution because it is too broad and does not deliver any real obligation upon the officers.

The reason for L.A.S.O. ineffectiveness can seem hard to find because of the complexity of the problem. We, the Latin people, are to blame for the crisis in L.A.S.O. We, the executive board and the members have contributed to the worsening of that crisis by taking the easy way out and not facing reality. This whole issue of L.A.S.O. ineffectiveness can be summarized to one simple phrase: lack of interest. However, there is only one formula to find and correct this problem in L.A.S.O.. The formula is active participation from all members--Chileans, Salvadoreans, Argentinians, Bolivians, Ecuatorians,

Peruvians--to broaden the general membership.

There is no way we can have "cumbia," "tango," "rancheras," or other kinds of music played at our parties if the people who want that music do not come to our meetings and suggest so. The only way we can have more representation in L.A.S.O. is if people from other region of Latin America (not just from the Caribbean) come to the meetings and bring some more new ideas.

The other people responsible for L.A.S.O. "disunity" are the executive board members. The responsibilities of the executive board is to integrate the Latin community to L.A.S.O.. They have to develop new campaigns aimed at getting more active participants from the different part of our continent. The old slogan, "If they do not come to our meetings, they are not interested in our organization" is counterproductive. What makes an organization powerful and dynamic is its desire to get new members and to satisfy their demands.

We have seen the new executive board taking power and making new plans for this year. Let's ask them to perform their duties satisfactorily. Let's come to L.A.S.O. meetings and say "Yes, I agree with that," or "No, I oppose that plan."

Bueno hermana, como comprenderás, uno tiene que sentir en lo más hondo el sufrimiento de estos los sectores humildes de nuestra patria. De aquellos se se levantan, ahora que tienen oportunidades para hacerlo. Pero te digo, nuestro principio es mantener orgullosos la soberanía y el honor nacional, aun cuando represente ser un camino difícil, pero que hemos considerado como un compromiso. Compromiso que hemos adquirido con el resto de América Latina y con aquellos países hermanos nuestros que se debaten entre el dilema de seguir manteniendo relaciones economicas injustas con los estados poderosos o asumir posiciones independientes a costa de sufrir las represalias que ello conlleva como nos sucede actualmente a nosotros.

Pero te aseguro que nuestra Revolución en un fenómeno social espontáneo y que expresa en su contenido esencial las necesidades de las amplias mayorías explotadas de nuestros pueblos. No es casual que actualmente se den intensos problemas políticos en países como Chile, Uruguay, Panamá, etc. Ya no queremos la dominación aunque ello signifique que nos dejen en harapos y hambrientos si ese es el precio a pagar. Y no es que seamos fanáticos ni nada por el estilo, somos simplemente una generación nueva con un concepto mas claro y digno de la vida.

Quisiera contarte tantas cosas...

Quando oigas noticias acerca de Nicaragua acuérdate que tenés un hermano que una vez se puso un pañuelo roji-negro y se fue a las calles a buscar una barricada para luchar por defender el derecho de nuestro pueblo a un futuro. Ese mismo hermano defiende actualmente ese mismo derecho y todavía te lleva en el corazón. Te puedo asegurar que jamás apoyaría una acción que no considerara justa. Durante años he trabajado incansablemente, hermana, por construir, por crear una nueva sociedad. Mi vida ha transcurrido en tremendas dificultades, pero también he aprendido como se forman los hombres y también me gradué de hombre en la lucha.

Espero no haberte cansado con mis consideraciones pero consideré oportuno hacerlas. Quiero decirte que quisiera expresarles el amor más grande que les pueda tener pero es tarea difícil explicar algo que tan sólo se siente en aquellos lugares del alma que son altares. Quiero que sepas que no los siento lejos sino cerca con sonrisas. Pero bueno, recibe un beso enorme de alguien para el que no podrás dejar de significar un cariño, un recuerdo pero tan cercano como el mar y el cielo...

Te quiere,  
tu hermano en Managua.

## INDEPENDENTISTAS AWAIT TRIAL

Amy Brooks and  
Victoria Barrera  
-----Unity-----

Hartford, Conn.-- Last year on August 30, 200 U.S. FBI agents and federal marshals raided 30 houses in Puerto Rico, leaving some children locked in their homes after arresting the parents.

The 11 arrested were taken to a U.S. military base, then whisked off to secret holding cells in the U.S. Others arrested in Mexico and the U.S. also were brought to face charges in Hartford.

The U.S. government accuses the defendants of being members of "Los Macheteros," a group prosecutors claim carried out a 1984 \$7 million robbery of a Wells Fargo depot in West Hartford. In pretrial hearings, only the flimsiest evidence was produced, not to mention the assumption that Los

Macheteros is guilty of the robbery without even a trial!

What the defendants have in common is their work in the independence movement in Puerto Rico, a U.S. colony. Some have never even been in the U.S. before. By charging them with this crime, the U.S. is attempting to strike a severe blow at the struggle for Puerto Rican independence and self-determination.

Defendant Jorge Firipnacci, a well-known Puerto Rican labor lawyer, told us that prosecutors will try "to present the defendants as people who are terrorists...The people of the U.S. must know we are not terrorists, but people who are deeply involved in the struggle for peace and justice in our homeland."

No trial date has yet been set. Nine defendants

are still incarcerated in New York City's Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC), having been denied bail. There, in early August, two defendants, Orlando Gonzalez Claudio and Filiberto Ojeda Rios, were beaten, drugged and thrown into solitary simply because one refused to remove a Puerto Rican flag from his shirt.

The CCAR is working to win a fair trial, including a multiracial jury, and objective media coverage by organizing and mobilizing support in Hartford, the site of the trial. The legal defense team will include William Kunstler and many lawyers from the National Lawyers Guild.

For more information, contact: CCAR, c/o Circulo Cultural, Mariana Bracetti P.O. Box 6159, Hartford, CT 06106 (203) 523-7428.

MACONDO Is published by the Latin American Student Organization and directed by the Cultural Committee. Note: L.A.S.O. does not necessarily agree with some of the views expressed in the articles.

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¡EXTRA! ¡EXTRA! ¡EXTRA!

EL COMITE CULTURAL (COMITE PERIODISTICO) SE REUNIRA EL MARTES 30

HORA: 8:00

LUGAR: "NON-SMOKERS' LOUNGE" EN LA UNION.

TODOS ESTAN INVITADOS.

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GRACIAS A:

-SHERI HERBIN POR SU AYUDA EN LAS ARTES GRAFICAS.

-TODOS LOS MIEMBROS DEL COMITE CULTURAL.

-LASO POR SU APOYO ECONOMICO.

# PAGINA LITERARIA

SOMOS

Dagoberto López

Soy Antillano  
Casto antillano  
Vernáculo sin tiempo de una estirpe  
[mestiza]  
Camino entre tu amor sobre las mariposas  
Llama sobre el dolor del mineral  
[perdido]

Soy hueco de la mina que a destiempo  
vendieron  
pañuelo sin secar  
quizás por no mojarse

Soy Antillano  
Puro Antillano  
aborigen del hambre  
el llanto y la pobreza  
"Nacido de media noche a toda hora"

Vengo del fondo de la piel morena  
y he llegado hasta aquí  
a través de los siglos y los mares

He besado tus lágrimas  
con el beso eterno de la noche redentora  
Tengo mis manos clavadas en tu pelo y tu  
sonrisa

Mis huellas son tus huellas  
a través de los siglos  
Mis ojos son tus ojos  
igual que tus pupilas

Llevo el sol de la tarde  
a través de su cuerpo  
tengo todas tus lágrimas  
metidas en mis huesos  
tus huesos  
nuestros huesos

Tus callos me rodean  
desde el Africa Antigua  
hasta la piel enamorada y violada  
de la raza taína  
desde el ombligo roto hasta la edad  
[moderna]  
Yo soy tu misma sangre de retazo en

y crujo y salto igual que las panteras

Mira mi piel y el color de mis palabras  
No te asombres al oírme ni al mirarme  
he han cambiado la lengua  
pero nunca el sendero JAMAS...

Mírame en la mueca y en los siglos  
empapados de s Isalitre y de pimienta  
Mírame por dentro a través de tu herida

A través del mar y la lechuza  
A través del canto de los gallos  
A través del pico y la hierba  
A través del musgo y la paloma  
A través de tus  
CosasquesonmismismaCosas  
Aquí llevo en mi voz  
Tu canto libertario (amén)...

VERSAINOGRAM A SANTO DOMINGO  
de Pablo Neruda

Perdonen si les digo unas locuras  
en esta tarde de Febrero  
si se va me corazón cantando  
hacia Santo Domingo compañeros.

Vamos a recordar lo que ha pasado  
desde que don Cristóbal marinero  
puso los pies y descubrió la Isla.  
Ay ¡mejor no la hubiera descubierto!  
Porque ha sufrido tanto desde entonces  
que parece que el Diablo y no Jesús  
se entendió con Colón en ese aspecto.

Estos conquistadores españoles  
que llegaron de España con lo puesto  
buscaban oro, y lo buscaban tanto,  
como se les sirviese de alimento.

Enarbolando a Cristo en su cruz  
los garrotazos fueron argumentos  
tan poderosos que los indios vivos  
se convirtieron en cristianos muertos...

AQUI DONDE ES DELITO PENSAR

de Guadalupe Navas

[asesinada el 30 de agosto de '80]

Amigos ahora no me pregunten por el amor, el pan o la rosa  
aquí donde es delito pensar, soñar  
y decir lo que se siente  
aquí donde asesinan cada día la esperanza.

Sucede lo inesperado, lo brutal, lo inadmisibles,  
en mi angustiada Patria: resuenan tiros.  
¡Balas en el corazón, en la cabeza!  
Rios de sangre corren por las calles  
desenfrenados hasta el martirio.

Víctimas cómplices, testigos. No pregunten  
por los derechos humanos, por la justicia,  
la paz social.

Aquí tan solo nos basta sentir  
el golpe del frío en las entrañas,  
o arder con el bosque de los sueños  
para entender la devastación del hombre.

Por eso no me pregunten ahora, por el amor,  
el pan o la rosa aquí donde nos circunda el fuego de los barbaros,  
y crece la matanza como un desolladero.

No me pregunten por los muertos,  
en tanto no se levanten los puños de cólera y el odio  
del pueblo.

[retazo]

## FUTBOL FEMENINO

por Flor Melgar

Hace cuatro años se originó en la universidad de Stony Brook el primer equipo de fútbol femenino. Fue integrado por muchas jóvenes para quien el fútbol era un deporte nuevo y divertido. Hoy en día el equipo está bajo la dirección de Susan Ryan y su asistente Joe Huber, quienes se han esforzado para hacer éste no solamente un medio de diversión sino algo serio y constructivo.

Las chicas llegaron a Stony Brook una semana antes del comienzo de las clases. Durante este tiempo se entrenaron día y noche. Aunque les ha costado mucho, todas saben que el sacrificio vale la pena.

El equipo está compuesto por diez "freshwomen," ocho "sophomores," una "junior" y dos "seniors." Sus capitanas son Rose Hickey (sophomore), Coral Bublér (sophomore) y Lauren Beam (senior). Ellas piensan que el equipo tiene muchas integrantes nuevas, "sin embargo," según Rose, "tenemos el potencial suficiente para llegar muy lejos."

Nada más el miércoles 10 de septiembre derrotaron a Nassau Community College, dos goles a cero. Fue el primer éxito para las patriotas y como dice la portera Dawn McCue, "no será el último." La lista para los próximos juegos en Stony Brook es:

Fecha....	Contendiente..	Hora
Sept. 13	Suffolk C.C.	1:00
Sept. 19	Manhattanville	3:30
Oct. 3	Ithaca	2:00
Oct. 23	Iona	3:30
Oct. 25	St. John's	1:00

Todos están invitados a presenciar estos juegos ya que las chicas necesitan de nuestro apoyo.

¡Los esperamos!

DONDE HAY AMOR

de Claribel Pérez

Donde hay amor por ambas partes  
se espera todo lo necesario por conseguir  
aunque no sea parte del arte  
sería una cobardía echarse a huír.

El amor es vivir, el alma es cobarde,  
pero hay algo de fuego dentro que  
quema y que arde.