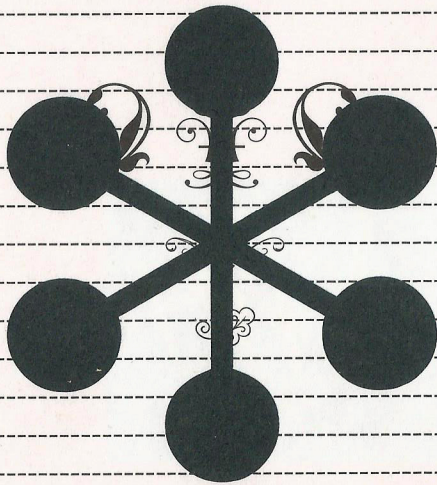


OR
GALLERY

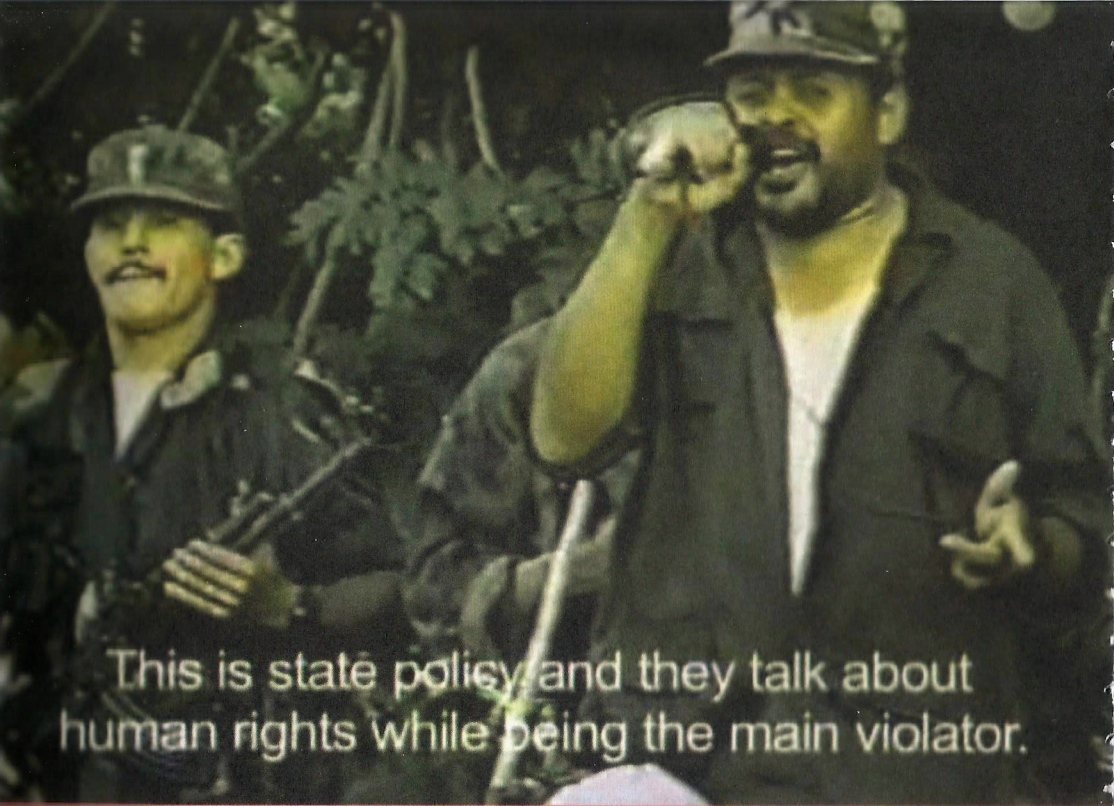


EXHIBITIONS

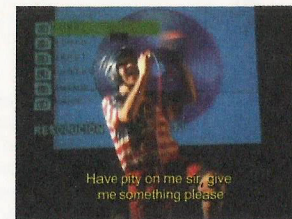
January 2006 – June 2007

You're
still
here

and
so
are
we



This is state policy, and they talk about human rights while being the main violator.



HELENA PRODUCCIONES

Cali en el espejo

Wilson Díaz
Ana María Millán
Andrés Sandoval
Claudia Patricia Sarria
Juan David Medina

May 18-June 23, 2007



your smile is sweet and tender and
it arises in me something special

Helena Producciones is a non-profit, interdisciplinary collective best known for organizing the International Performance Festival in Cali, Colombia. The collective is also responsible for 'Loop' a semi-weekly television program that aired in Cali from 2000-2001 and that utilized the format of the variety show to disseminate the activities of local artists and bands (especially punk). They have also collaborated on several occasions with Jairo Pinilla, a Colombian director whose low budget horror/thriller films from the early 80s have become cult classics. All of Helena's projects are engaged with institutional critique and the making visible of countercultural practices deemed irrelevant by mainstream institutions but which drastically outnumber the handful of names that come to mind when thinking about contemporary art in Colombia— and among which, ironically, two of Helena's members may be counted. Perhaps more importantly, the daily spectacle of social and economic conflict and 'underdevelopment' specific to the Colombian context often proves to be fierce, even unfair, competition for contemporary art: it is difficult to find work more interesting or complicated than the context that produces it and to which it attempts to critically respond.

Cali has been described as 'the periphery of the periphery,' where geographical isolation, economic disparity and cultural malaise exist alongside a relaxed, tropical cultural milieu in which nothing ever really seems to happen. 'Cali en el espejo' can be roughly translated as 'Cali in the mirror,' and draws attention to an interest in the narrative of a particular place while shunning the idea of configuring a homogenous local scene efficiently packaged and ready for international consumption.