

Paz Encina

February 10 – 12

The Roy and Nitua Titus Theaters

MoMA invites Paz Encina, one of Paraguayan cinema's most compelling voices, to present her two features—the award-winning *Paraguayan Hammock* (2006) and *Memory Exercises* (2016)—along with rarely screened short films. Born in 1971, at the height of the one of the bloodiest dictatorships in the South Cone, Encina fuses complex soundscapes with an intensely poetic visual language to evoke the violence that for centuries has been ingrained in the Paraguayan landscape. Her characters speak in a lyrical combination of Spanish and Guarani (evoking the literary language of Augusto Roa Bastos and Juan Rulfo) as they confront traumas both historical and enduring, whether the return of a son after a long absence, the unhealed wounds of war, the dispossession of the lands of the Guaranies, or the effects of shock-therapy capitalism. In her documentaries, Encina uses archival material made during the decades-long dictatorship of Alfredo Stroessner to portray a harrowing bureaucracy of death, reawakening the language of *denuncia*, a cry for justice yet to be achieved. All films are directed by Paz Encina, from Paraguay, and in Spanish and Guarani with English subtitles.

Organized by Natalia Brizuela, Professor, University of California, Berkeley, and Kathy Geritz, Curator, Pacific Film Archive; and organized for The Museum of Modern Art by Mónica Ríos, intern.

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