

"Suppose you decide to get to know Chiapas. Suppose that you drive or take a bus. Suppose you ignore the federal army barracks. Suppose you don't notice the immigration checkpoint. You got here by one of three existing roads, but the natural wealth that leaves these lands doesn't travel over just these roads. Chiapas is bled through thousands of veins: through oil ducts and gas ducts, over electric wires, by railroad cars, through bank accounts, by trucks and vans, by ships and planes, over clandestine paths, third-rate roads, and mountain passes. The tribute that capitalism exacts from Chiapas has no historic parallel..."

**From the mountains of the Mexican southeast
Subcomandante Marcos
Zapataista Army of National Liberation, 1994**

HISTORICAL NOTE: On New Year's Day, 1994, the day the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) took effect, an armed force calling itself the Zapataista Army of National Liberation (EZLN) seized seven towns in the state of Chiapas, southeastern Mexico, and declared war on the military and the government. The masked rebels, mainly indigenous farmers, protested changes in Mexico's Constitution made by then-president Carlos Salinas de Gortari—particularly the abrogation of Article 27, which had promised land to every community. They issued the First Declaration of the Lacandon Jungle, demanding land, work, shelter, food, health, education, freedom, democracy and peace. The government responded with massive military force. The Federal Army drove the Zapatistas from the towns, killing many rebels and civilians, and surrounded them in the Lacandon jungle. But the new Zapatistas—named for martyred revolutionary leader Emiliano Zapata—had seized the imagination of the Mexican public, and also that of the world press. Their eloquent spokesman, Subcomandante Marcos, became an instant celebrity. After 13 days during which the rebels' statements and the Army's actions were broadcast around the world, support for the EZLN inside Mexico swelled, and financial markets trembled—the government declared a cease-fire and proposed negotiations. Peace talks began in February, 1994 and have been broken off several times; most recently in September, 1996, when the EZLN withdrew, claiming the government had failed to negotiate in good faith.

PRODUCTION HISTORY: Work on 13 DIAS/13 DAYS: How the New Zapatistas Shook the World was initiated by Paula Loera, Daniel Nugent, and Eva Tessler in 1994, and a staged reading was held by Borderlands at "The Revolution in Chiapas, Year Zero" conference in Tucson in February, 1995. Subsequently Joan Holden was invited to join the writing team and the two companies began collaborating. A work-in-progress version with music by Bwiva-Toli and visuals by the MM&M Multimedia Team was co-produced by the Pima College Drama Department, Borderlands and the SFMT, co-commissioned by the Pima Community College Center for the Arts (Tucson), Arizona State University West (Phoenix) and Xicmendio Arres (Mesa) under a creation grant from the National Performance Network.

The present substantially revised show is produced by the SFMT in association with Borderlands, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, Grants for the Arts of the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, the California Arts Council and the Honig Fund of the Vanguard Public Foundation.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Arizona Theatre Company; Don Evans; Barclay Goldsmith; Carol Williams; Michael Orah; Dan Corr; Jim Vastola, AVTIS; Jay Moss, Cheyron Audio Visual; Jack Davis, Mike Dingle, and the South of Market Cultural Center; Flynn; Oakland Audio Visual; Michele Acosta, Western Images; Nate Reed; John West; Kevin Hanley and Beronio Lumber; Cole Street Hardware; Anderson Paints; Transmission; Chris Carlsson, Caitlin Manning, Susan Castelan; Mike Cavanaugh; Sarah Roos, Black Boxes; Emily Hunt; Marie Acosta-Colon; Mitch Goddard; Marianne Dissard; Bwiva-Toli; and the workshop production cast and crew.

THE SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE
LIVE
MUSIC
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VIDEO

13 DIAS/13 DAYS
How the New Zapatistas Shook the World

The San Francisco Mime Troupe never does pantomime. It is a Tony Award-winning theater ensemble founded in 1959, dedicated to creating shows that enlighten and entertain, and performing them for the broadest possible audience. The company performs free each summer in San Francisco Bay Area parks.

Borderlands Theater of Tucson, Arizona is a multicultural arts organization founded in 1986 to present, for Tucson and surrounding areas, theater which reflects and leads to an understanding of the multi-racial/multi-ethnic diversity of the border region.

Xochil Films of San Francisco is an independent production company, founded in 1981, committed to the creation, realization and distribution of films and videos dealing with all aspects of the Latino and Chicano experience.

SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE STAFF
GENERAL MANAGER: Patrick Osbon
BUSINESS MANAGER: Peggy Rose
PUBLICIST: Diana Scott
OFFICE MANAGER: Marteville Sales



To the people of Mexico:

Brothers and sisters,
Through my voice speaks the voice of
the Zapatista Army of National
Liberation. Today we have come this far,
to the center of this country that is called
Mexico, to say to you, to all the Mexican
men and women, as many words as we
the Zapatistas have... We want a Mexico
that takes us into account as human
beings, that respects us and that recog-
nizes our dignity. We arrive here in order
to shout, together with all, that no
longer, that never more will there be
Mexico without us.

From the Zocalo of Mexico City,
Comandante Ramona
Zapataista Army of National Liberation, 1996

SPECIAL NOTE: Documentary footage on village life, agriculture, and military action provided by: Soco Aguilar, from **CHIAPAS FOR BEGINNERS** (forthcoming from Xochil Films, San Francisco); and Thor Anderson and Glenn Shepherd, from **SACRED GAMES: RITUAL WARFARE IN A MAYA VILLAGE** (available from University of California Extension Media), and the forthcoming **ZAPATISTAS: VOICES ON THE EDGE OF REVOLUTION**, cinematography by Carlos Martinez Suarez.

YES, PLEASE ADD MY NAME TO THE SFMT'S MAILING LIST:

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