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

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

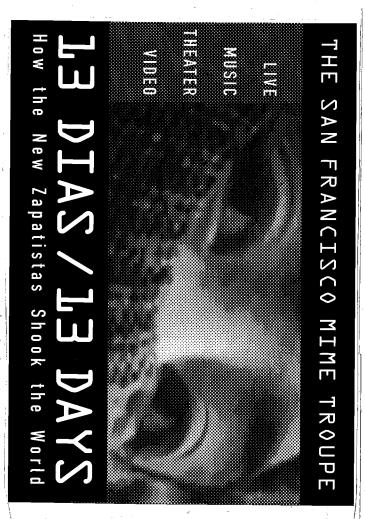
the government declared a cease-fire and proposed negotiations. Peace statements and the Army's actions were broadcast around the world, support for the EZLN inside Mexico swelled, and financial markets trembledalso that of the world press. Their eloquent spokesman, Subcomandante Marcos, became an instant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

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 Bwiya-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 Xicanindio Artes (Mesa) under a creation grant from the National Peformance Network.

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entertain, and performing them for the broadest possible audience. forms free each summer in San Francisco Bay Area parks. 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 nerforming them for the broadest possible audience. The company per-

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/multic-ethnic diversity of the border region. Xochitl Films of San Francisco is an independent production company, founded in 1981, committed to the creation, realization and distribution of films and videos deal-

1981, committed to the creation, realization and distributing with all aspects of the Latino and Chicano experience SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE STAFF

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To the people of Mexico

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

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

SPECIAL NOTE: Documentary footage on village life, agriculture, and military action provided by: Soco Aguilar, from CHIAPAS FOR BEGINNERS (forthcoming from Xochitl 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.

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