

career? And how does that relate to bridge-making, or perhaps to bridge-being?

Pilar: It has mainly been a way to make a living, but I also think one my roles in the world is to be a bridge. A translator or interpreter does that very clearly. When I started doing video, I was in a way translating the written word into another medium. I've also done other translations and published them, both poetry and essays, such as Chicano poetry in Mexican literary magazines, or John Beverley's prologue to *Speaking desde las heridas*.³ Lately, I've been translating some of my favorite Mary Oliver poems, as an exercise, but also as a way to learn from and share her wisdom. There are so many good poets that are not being translated into Spanish, let alone published, in Mexico.

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Until 2010, Pilar Rodríguez Aranda was involved with Artists in a transborder project called "A Prayer for Juárez/Una oración por Juárez." The same collective continues working together today, redubbed *Contra la Violencia el Arte* (Against Violence, Art).

Pilar: What inspired me to get involved was a small event held by Self Help Graphics in Los Angeles, where perhaps 30 of us, mostly artists and activists, got together to do readings and performances in response to 16 years of feminicides.

She explains that what she had been looking for was "a ritualization of a deeply hurtful experience," adding that her hopes are that "this will contribute to end the cycle of violence, in which," she concludes, "the real enemy is, in fact, ourselves." ■■■

NOTES

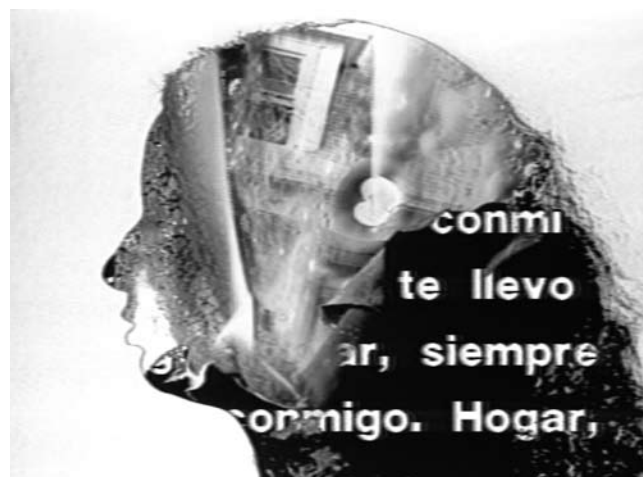
¹ Author of *The Eros of Everyday Life: Essays on Ecology, Gender and Society* (New York: Doubleday, 1995).

² See Jean Shinoda Bolen, *Crossing to Avalon: A Woman's Midlife Pilgrimage* (San Francisco: Harper, 1994).

³ Claire Joysmith, ed., *Speaking desde las heridas. Cibertestimonios transfronterizos/transborder*. Prologues by John Beverley, Cristina Rivera Garza, and María Antonia Oliver-Rotger (Mexico City: CISAN-UNAM/ITESM-Cátedra Humanidades, campus Toluca/ITESM-Cátedra Alfonso Reyes, campus Monterrey, and Whittier College, California, 2009).

FURTHER REFERENCES

<http://poemasdella-anarca.blogspot.com/>
<http://poemsheis.blogspot.com/>
<http://anarcafilms.blogspot.com/>



Courtesy of Pilar Rodríguez

Frame from the video *The Idea We Live In*.

BILINGÜE FOOL

by Pilar Rodríguez Aranda

*Words sometimes are
 puras chingaderas
 Repeticiones parangoneras
 Repetitions of falsas promesas
 Pochas calmas de monolingua espera
 Why, I have even switched codes
 as if in disguise
 Las words somehow have become
 my way to surmise
 Pages of dolor - rincón
 Looking for an imposible perdón
 Worst of all
 Looking for entendimiento
 Las palabras siempre engañan
 ¿Es love? Es lust?
 ¿cómo los separas?
 ¿Cuál es el que nos chitea?
 Do you know what you quieres?
 Do yo?*

