

## ANEXO # 4

### • TATIANA PARCERO •

#### STATEMENT

My work is autobiographical. I work with my body as a way to reconstruct -through photography and video - personal experiences, cultural and social symbols. I explore it as a map, where I can relate different concepts as identity, memory, territory and time. Working with different visual materials I like the idea to translate emotions and moods; in re-inventing and recreating personal experiences and visual metaphors. I move from particularity to generality: my knowledge as a reflection of what other people could have also experience. I am interested in exploring the relationship between human beings and life; between the man and the land; between nature and the body; following - in a way - the vision of Pre-Columbian cultures: the body as the earth, the rivers as the vein, the lakes as the organs.

During the early '90s, I decided to dedicate my life to photography – after getting my B.A. in Psychology. Thereupon, I began doing portraits as a search for self-knowledge and cure. Later on, my portraits were to me a way of finding traces of my own history and identity. In 1992, I left Mexico City and moved to New York, where I obtained my Masters in Arts and Photography from *New York University* and the *International Center of Photography*. There, I started working with the concept of 'map', with the need of defining my own space; "El mapa de mi cuerpo" (The Map of my Body) marked the beginning of a project that would include several series of photographs and videos. Between 1994 and 1996, I finished "Cartografía interior" (Interior Cartography). Juxtaposing acetates and color photographs of anatomy diagrams and codices - Maya, Aztec and Mixtec - I tried to reconstruct and redefine parts of my inner

body; to exteriorize what it is impossible to see through bare eyes.

The following year I got married, moved to Argentina and became a mother. The pictures of “Nuevo Mundo” (New World) 1998-1999, describe those changes. I superposed photographs of my pregnancy and my postpartum together with pictures of my daughter; and maps of the first explorations to the earth, as well as with astral drawings . I wanted to fuse new things with old things, present with past, things we hold inside with the exterior. During 2000-01 I change the main subject in my work, and I started a new Series of portraits of foreign women. These portraits are more formal but stills they are a collage of images of the everyday life they might show certain things about each one of these women. I'm interested in portrait their feelings and desires, something about their past, their present, their dreams and anxieties, and for being far away from their homeland.

My work is related to the values and beliefs I grew with. The history and culture of my native country and my religion. Rituals and traditions are - in a visible or subtle way - reflected in my pictures. Living outside my native country motivated me to work with those elements in order to reinvent my own space within every place I live; in order to avoid losing my identity and the cords that - symbolically - connect me with what is far away. I am constantly searching for something; something I left many years ago and to what I hope to return: the land, my land.

-Tatiana Parceró