

# #17, The New Dead End Street The Summer School of Slow Orientation in Zapatism

A video installation by Chto Delat (2017)



In the Sixth Declaration of the Selva Lacandona by Zapatistas in Chiapas and some other documents were introduced the idea of Zapatistas's embassy – which should go in Mexico and into the world and deliver the message of Zapatista. The idea of encuentros (horizontal meetings) with local people would help to share information on zapatistas movement and to collect reports on the struggle against neoliberalism world wide. We do not know for sure if this plan was realized but we met in Mexico some people who definitely were part of this process.

Our film is based on the idea of anticipation of this embassy which actually has not yet arrived to Russia. And we have organized a long process of getting deep inside in the ideas of Zapatistas – the reading group, course of Zapatista's spanish and practices of community building culminated in the 2 weeks summer school where 17 young people share a house at the country side and live in temporary commune.

The film reflects this process of being together and how the Zapatistas way of life could be practice and question outside of genuine indigenous experience – how we as Europeans/Russian with all burdens of our political and cultural histories would imagine to change our lives and society. Realized in the Zapatistas tradition of anti-culmination and with a great deal of famous Zapatistas' irony well-known from the texts of subcomandante Markos, the participants of the film immersed and investigate what is the meaning progress and how to live in harmony with the earth and land, what could mean "For everyone, everything. For us, nothing" (Para todos todo, para nosotros nada), what could be theology of emancipation in Russian situation, what is the role of culture in a process of liberation and how we are able to build an autonomy of "good people" in a hostile world.

The film can be considered as an upgrade of European pastoral tradition and reflects the frustration of young urban generation living under the pressure of society and capital and trying to find a way to get out of deadlines of new political reaction and to overcome its unhappy mindset and establish possible new forms of life inspired by Zapatistas ideas.

The film is constructed in attempt to grasp another form of temporality – the time of slow process which is a result in itself. That's why the film's edit is realized in a several versions which includes different numbers of points (chapters). This points creates a mental map reflecting the real space of the film making.

## Displays for the installation of The Slow Orientation in Zapatism

This project was realized at different venues and have different elements which varies depends on the space and situation.

### 1) Mental Map of Chiapas

A textile work which shows a mental map of State Chiapas superimposed over the map of village Siverskaya where the Summer School took place. This piece was realized as a textile work 4x4 meters and was shown at MUAC where it is now in the collection. Later we use a high quality print for the installations.

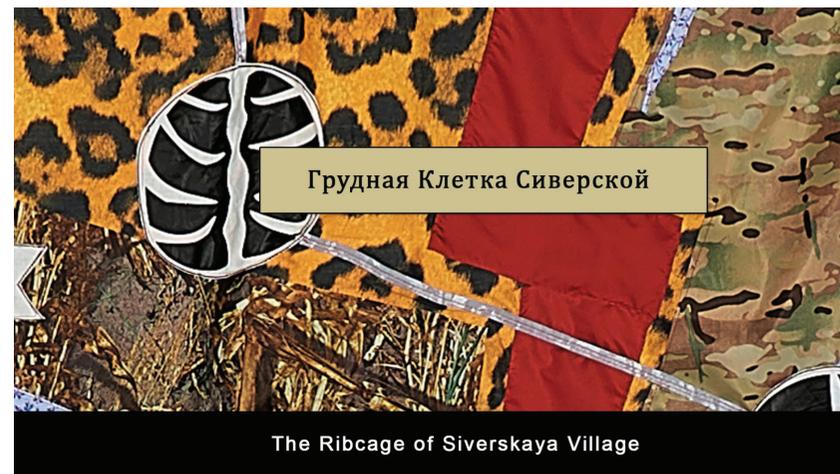
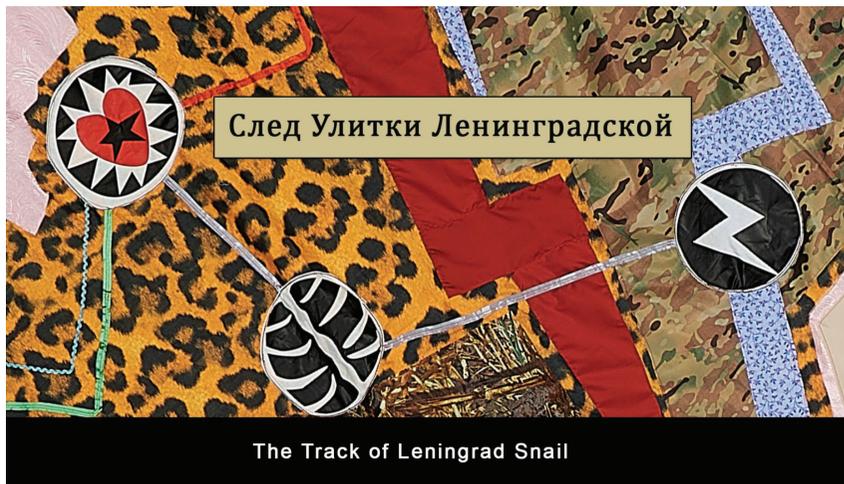
2) **Colour table.** This element consists of 7 different color which corresponds with 7 quotes from Subcommandante Markos and 7 thesis

Thesis:

1. Ask questions
2. Streams descend from the mountains
3. The heart works like sight and hearing
4. Equality
5. Anticulmination
6. Weakness is stronger than power
7. Miracle

### 3) Vitrines

Inside the vitrines we collect an assemblage of different object, ephemera, picture materials which have direct and indirect relations to the project. Some of them shows the lines of our inspirations, other open up to the public some historical origins of our usage of certain elements in the film (like reference to Malevitch peasant series and his color theory)



#### 4) The film “#17, The New Dead End Street. Summer School of Orientation in Zapatism”.

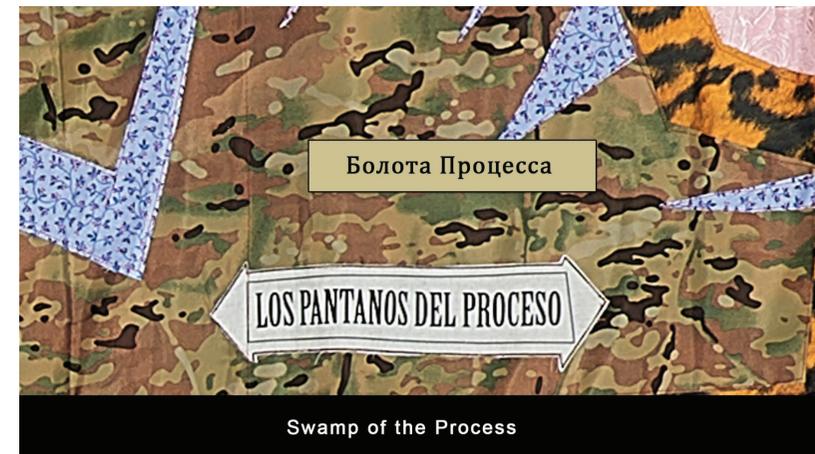
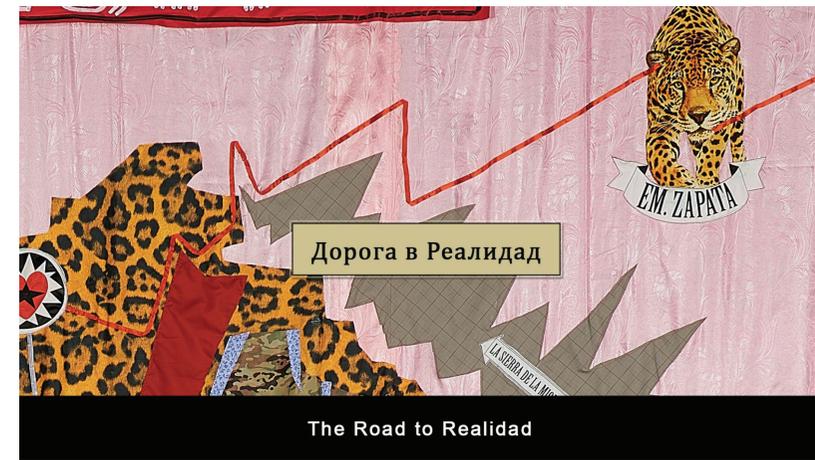
Film is realized in a few versions

- a) Director’s cut – multiscreen film, duration 1:30 minutes, Russian Language with Russian and Spanish subtitles.
- b) 3 channel video installation – film is realized in chapters and it is open structure
- c) on line video-archive with all chapters realized

#### 5) Original Zapatista painting and posters

For our exhibition at MUAC we have made an agreement with Zapatista festival of arts - CompARTE for Humanity to show some substantial body of Zapatista’s artists.

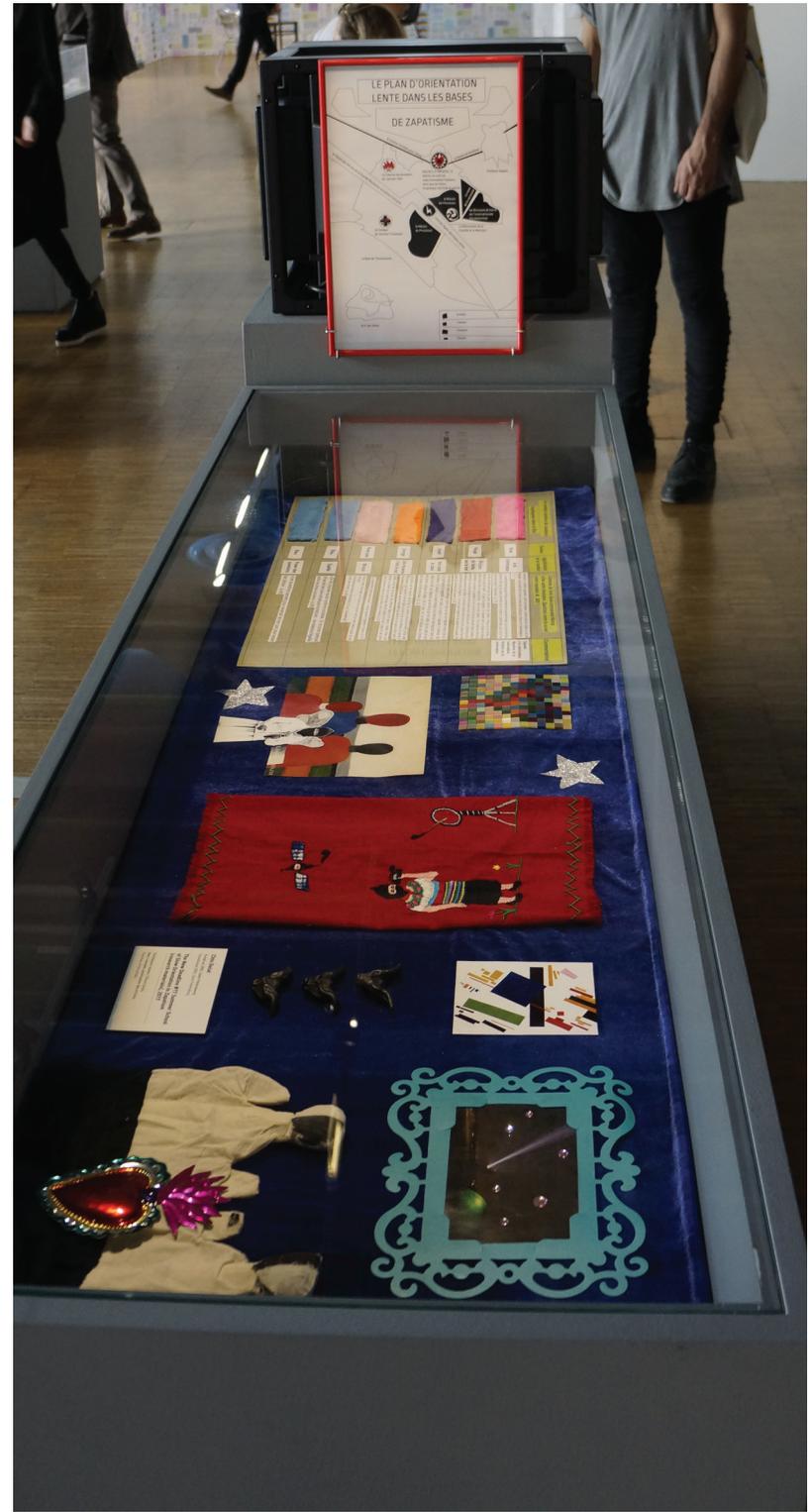
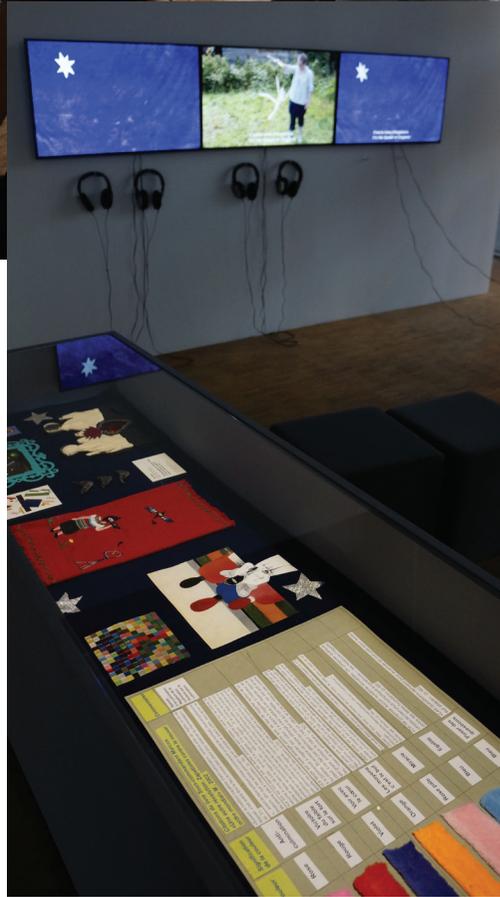
The presence of this works helps to create a comprehensive overview of the influence of Zapatista aesthetics on our works and celebrate its international impact on the works of many other activists and artist worldwide.



# Cosmopolis #1: Collective Intelligence

Centre Pompidou, Paris  
October 18–December 18, 2017





# #17, The New Dead End Street

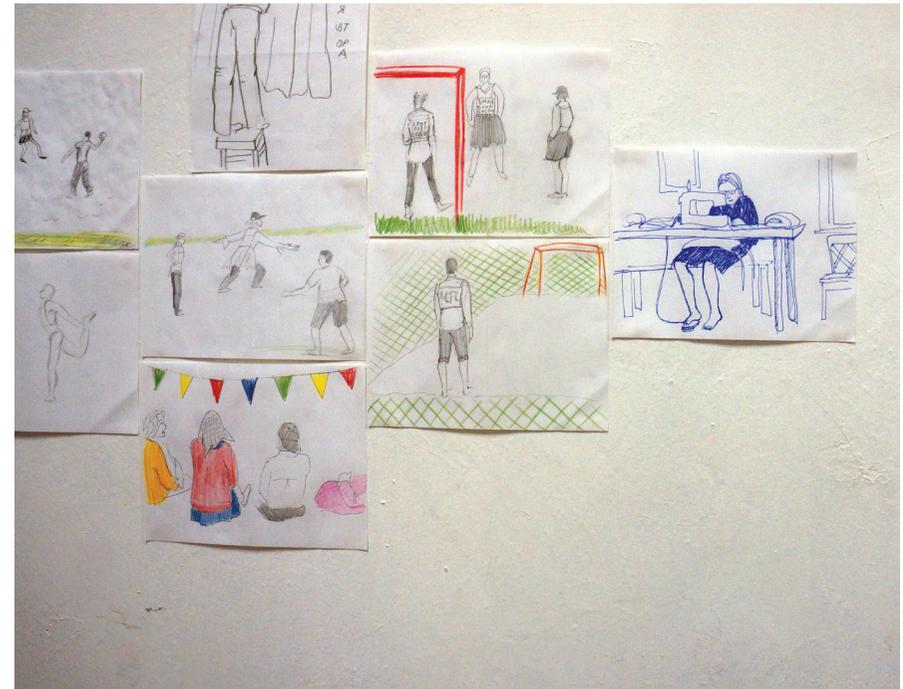
Exhibitions, screenings, discussions

Rosa House of Culture, Saint Petersburg  
September 05 –October 12, 2017





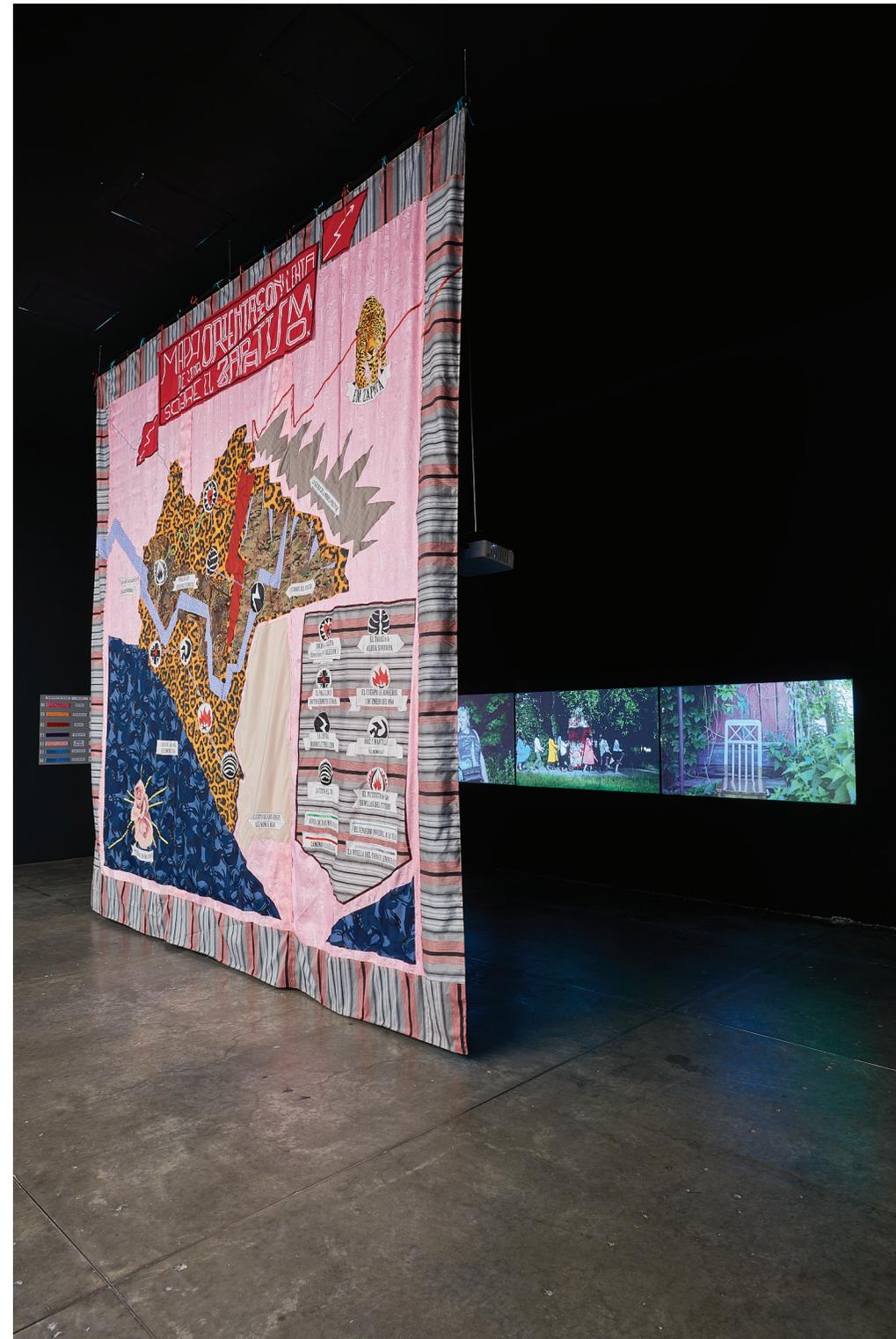


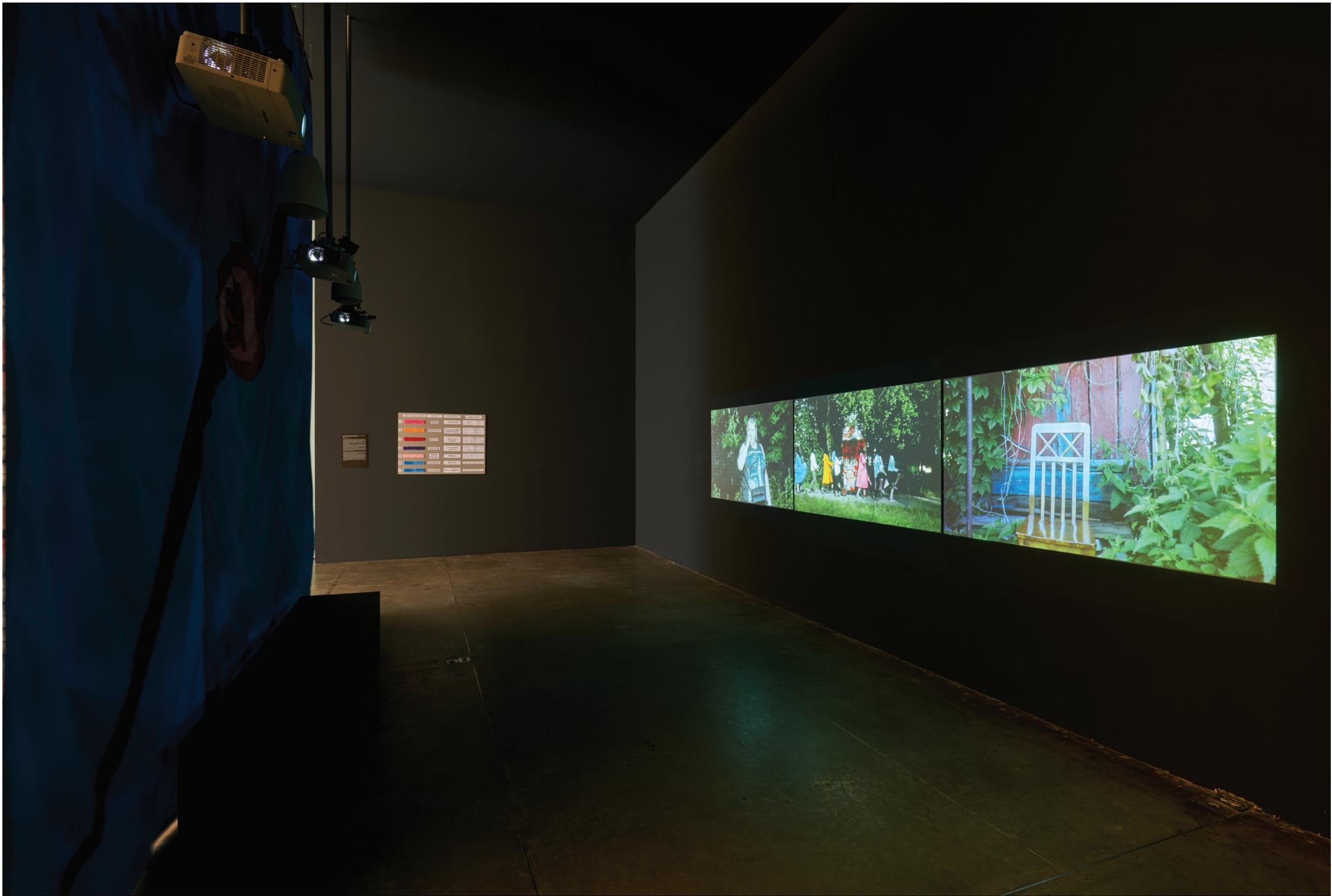


# When we Thought We Had all the Answers, Life Changed the Questions

solo-show at MUAC, Mexico

Date: 18.11.2017 - 22.04.2018





Project	Year	Location	Medium
1	2010	London	Video
2	2011	London	Video
3	2012	London	Video
4	2013	London	Video
5	2014	London	Video
6	2015	London	Video
7	2016	London	Video
8	2017	London	Video
9	2018	London	Video
10	2019	London	Video
11	2020	London	Video
12	2021	London	Video
13	2022	London	Video
14	2023	London	Video
15	2024	London	Video





The display of the works of Zapatista's artist from Zapatista festival of arts - ComPARTE for Humanity

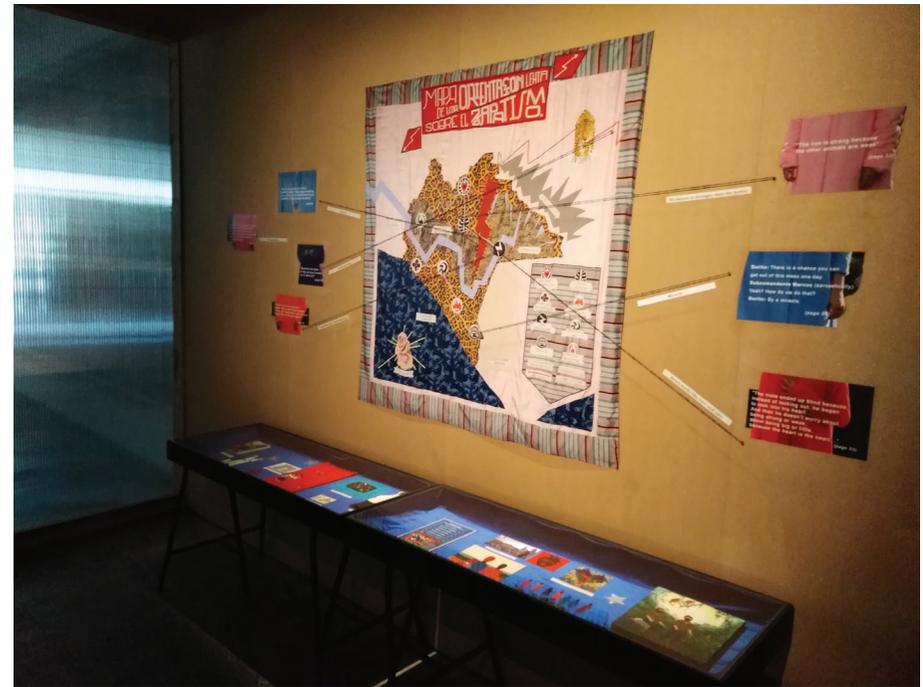


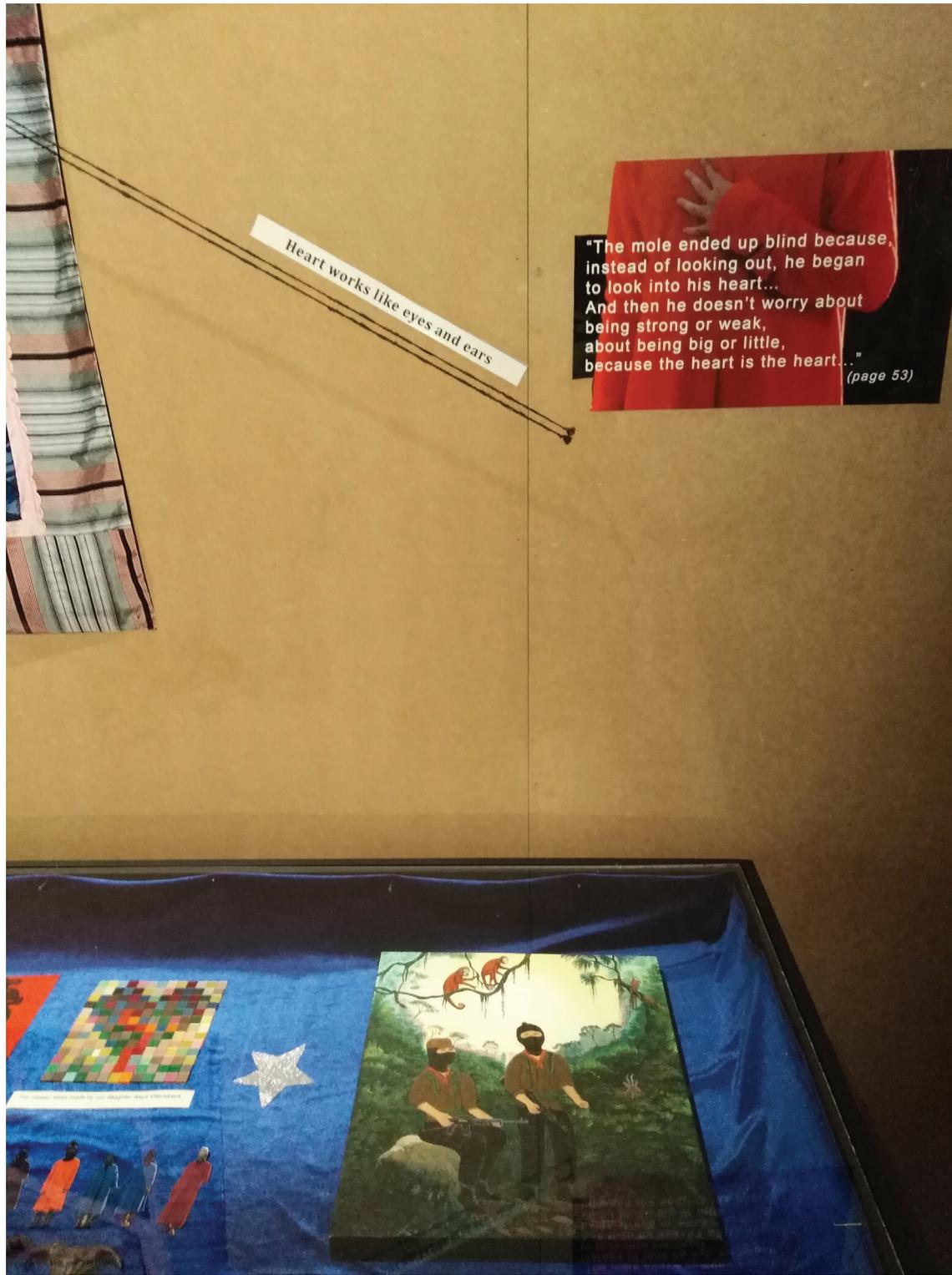
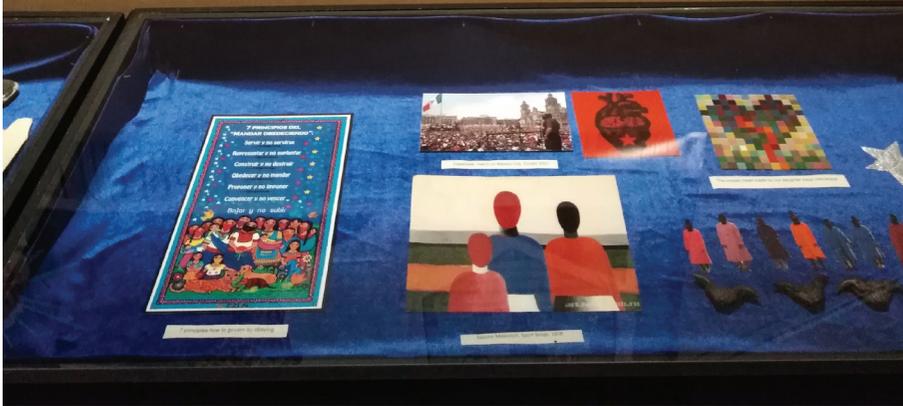
# «Extra States: Nations in Liquidation»

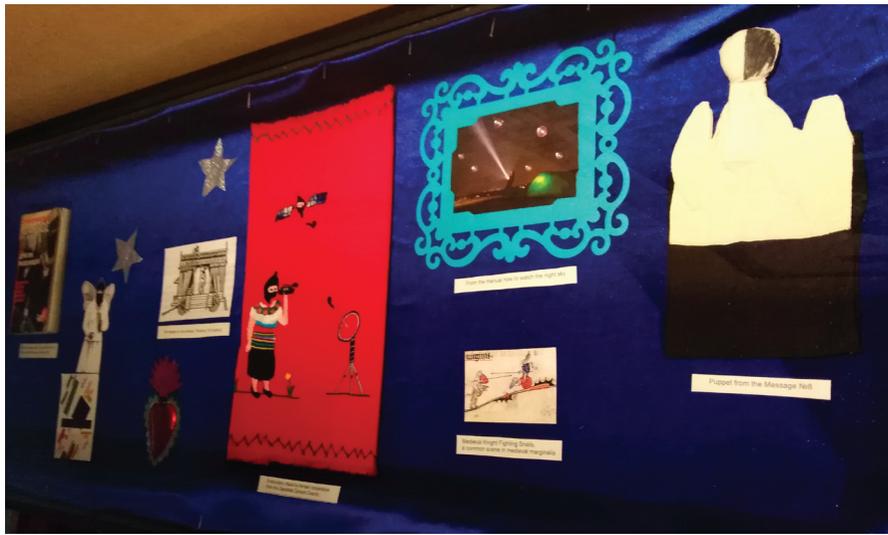
Display, film and Lecture performance at the exhibition

Extra City Kunsthal, Antwerp, Belgium  
Date: September 22–December 16, 2018









# Productions photographs (making of the film)













