

[PERSONAL]—geographies—

—VIRGINIA VILLAPLANA—

POINTS OF SUPPORT, ZONES OF RESISTANCE

a conversation with REMEDIOS MONTERO (CELIA) *and* FLORIAN GARCÍA (EL GRANDE)
documentary essay, 44:25, 2009-2018

El instante de la memoria is a transdisciplinary project dealing with the construction of memory and representation. The narration is contextualized by the francoist repression after the Civil War in Spain and by the instauration of the imaginary basis, upon which will later be built the official version of transition, leaving the open wounds and imposing the logic of oblivion in present-day Spain.

During the winter of 2008, I filmed several video conversations with Remedios Montero (Celia) and Florian García (El grande) in Valencia. A part of this material was used for an experimental documentary essay titled Points of Support. Zones of Resistance. It was January and it was cold. Once a week I would carry them a bag of oranges and they would thank me—as they lived alone in an apartment without elevator, it was hard for them to bring the groceries up. Every evening Remedios Montero (Celia) and Florian García (El grande) would tell me an episode from their lives during the Spanish Civil War and in its aftermath under Franco repression. Only after one year I was able to get the strength to face this material again. I started from the open wounds that were caused by the oblivion and by the actual struggles of our present. This is the last documentary record filmed before the death of Florian García who died on April 17, 2009 and Remedios Montero who died on October 24, 2010. This is a story about a territory of resistance, about guerrilleros and their fight against Franco within the Agrupación Guerrillera del Levante y Aragón (A.G.L.A.).

The project is accompanied by the book El instante de la memoria, a documentary novel as a process of transformation of writing through the use of images and documents in personal editing, as a narrative montage that connects multiples nodes of experience and invites for further research into the places of pain and resistance.

For my family

In the fractures of what is remembered and told

Enrique Villaplana Gómez 21/01/1940

Matilde Villaplana Linares 16/01/1941

Vicente Villaplana Royo 20/04/1942

Juan Villaplana Gómez 27/07/1942

*Virginia Villaplana Ruiz is a writer, visual artist and independent cultural producer. Her artistic practice expands into critical theory, editorial work, curatorship and teaching in domains of communication theory, media studies, discourse analysis, gender studies, cinema, participatory culture & technology, with a focus on “the political”. She is a professor at the Department of Media and Communication Science at the University of Murcia and a member of Spanish collective art group Subtramas. She has taught and researched in several European and Latin American universities Universidad del Alto de Bolivia. Villaplana makes and studies socially engaged media practices that contribute to political change and individual and community growth. She investigates transnational relations under the impact of digital memory of queer people, as well as resources and information around the issues of social exclusion, such as those with regard to sex work, prison and borders. Currently, she conducts a research on Subplots- Collaborative audiovisual practices in rethinking critical imaginary. Digital practices, experiences, and visual media methodologies (Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía Madrid). She is author of the books: Softfiction. Chick Strand, *Visuality affects and experimental film* (2016), *The moment of memory* (2010), *Infinitive Cinema* (2008) and *Cultural narratives of gender violence* (2005). She is also a co-editor of the *Journal Art and Politics of Identity*. Lives and works in Murcia and Madrid.*