

TROPIC POCKET

The images that inspired this movie were captured in a very small area of the Colombian jungle by people driven with different motives. From missionaries to soldiers, dealers or investors, they all wanted to justify and help understand their actions in this area.

As ideological conduits, each of these images impose a frame, a specific point of view. They have in common to hide the violent streak in each of them which leads to destroy others in the name of their justified cause. Practically, the various actions in this region limit the future of its inhabitants, keep today's life to daily routines and build the jungle's landscape based on individualists' objectives.

When watching these images, denunciation didn't seem necessary avoiding an added tension amongst the stakeholders of the area. The goal of this movie was to offer an imaginary map of the region, freeing itself from any imposed framework.

Images source :

1. Extracts from the film « La isla de los deseos ».

A fictional documentary shot in the 1950s by the Claretian missionaries that shows their action upon the native population and the Afro-Colombians in the area, through the process of evangelism and the missionaries' will to civilize them.

2. Videos downloaded on Internet by revolutionary groups and soldiers of the Colombian army.

In the context of the armed conflict that Colombia has been experiencing for years, the manipulation of truth through the use of images has now become an ordinary weapon for any soldier and any fighter, who are thus giving reports of their own missions.

3. Excerpt from the advertisement "Chevrolet Corvair daring the Darien" from 1961

Crossing the Darien Gap on the unfinished Panamerican highway. The vehicles, broken down during the trip, are said to have been abandoned in the jungle. One of the cars was found in the area in the early nineties.

4. Images shot in August 2010 with the inhabitants of the village of San Francisco de Asis.