ANGRY ARTS INFORMATIONAL LEAFLET #6 1978 * "CHILE" *

Produced in 1973-1976 by the Equipo Tercer Año with the collaboration of the Cuban Film Institute (ICAIC) and Chris Marker. b/w. Part I 106 min., Part II 99 min. Spanish/English with English subtitles.

What did the film-makers hope to do?

The film is an attempt to convey in as much detail as possible the nature and consequences of political events in Chile during the last year of the Allende government. What was happening was of great interest outside as well as inside of Chile, not just for other Latin Americans, but for the workers' movement on an international scale.... We realized that it would be a mistake to analyze events from a single perspective, because the interesting thing was to represent all points of view within the left. The same ideological battle then going on in Chile could occur in France or in Italy, for example, in a very similar way. And it will also occur in Mexico or in Venezuela when things enter a more critical phase. The far-reaching relevance of the political model then being tried in Chile was one of the factors that motivated us to make the film....

Part I, "The Insurrection of the Bourgeoisie," tries to shed light on a fundamental aspect of the problem in Chile: the mass uprising of the middle and upper sectors of the population, in collaboration with foreign interests, and the actions taken by the government and by the left as a whole to curb this insurrectionary escalation among the right-wing....

Part II, "The Coup d'Etat," centers around the same contradiction. It continues to show the mass agitation of the bourgeoisie in opposition to the democratic popular forces, but it adds a third dimension: the diverse and competing strategies which existed within the various groups on the left. This is why the second film is much more difficult than the first.... The bulk of the analysis is given directly by those who participated in the events which the film records - the viewer has to grasp for her/himself this triple contradiction.

From an interview with the director, Patricio Guzman

What are the contending forces in Chile?

There is some uncertainty about Chilean population statistics and the divisions given here should only be considered approximate. The total population is 10,230,000.

Bourgeoisie and big land-owners	6%
"Middle Class" (See below)	32%
Workers (Mining, manufacturing, some service)	38%
Peasants, both salaried and land-owning	24%

The term "middle class" includes the owners of small businesses and shops, the military, professionals and technicians, managers in both the state and private sectors, and many of the employees within the bureaucratic state apparatus. We have no figures on the occupational roles of women in the Chilean economy.

With over 70% of its population living in cities and with its large working and "middle" classes, Chile resembles the countries of Western Europe or North America. But it shares with Latin America, Asia and Africa a history of imperial conquest and domination that extends to this day.

What were the important political parties and organizations that were active in 1973?

RIGHT	pro military coup		* "Fatherland and Liberty" * National Party
	pro "legal" coup (but moving toward support of the National Party)		* Christian Democratic Party (PDC) the sector of Senator Frei * Independent Radical Party (PRI)
CENTER	legal opposition		* PDC, Senator Fuentealba sector
	qualified support to Popular Unity		* PDC, Senator Tomic sector
LEFT	POPULAR UNITY	Government	* Radical Party (PR) * Communist Party (PC) * Socialist Party (PS) * United Popular Action Movement (MAPU), Senator Gazmuri sector
		Internal Opposition	* MAPU, Senator Garreton sector * Christian Left
	Left opposition	* Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR)	* PS, Senator Altamirano