

MEMORIAL ROCAS AR

Augmented reality audio walk where the user can learn about the memories of a place in ruins



Direction: Pepe Rovano
Email: peperovano@gmail.com
Tel: +569 95809747
Address: Doce de Febrero #1599 – B
Viña del Mar.
ZIP: 2581463
Valparaíso Region – Chile

Production: Natalia Cabrera
Email: natalia.cabrera.f@gmail.com
Tel: +56940706756
Address: Managua 2222, apt 37.
ZIP: 2581463
Santiago – Chile



www.memorialrocas.cl



Project description

A black and white film, shot in 1971, is the only documentation of summers in the cabins of Rocas de Santo Domingo, Chile. Built initially as a vacation center for the poorest workers, these buildings were transformed, after the coup d'etat of Pinochet into the first school of torture used by agents of the dictatorship. Hundreds of people opposed to the regime disappeared there. Some years ago, with democracy's return, the army destroyed these cabins, leaving only the foundation and some debris. Today, the place has been declared a memorial site and a national Monument in Chile. However, as it remains under the ownership of the army, its protection is null, limiting the possibility of recovering its historical and patrimonial value.

The project "Memorial Rocas AR" aims to rescue and reconstruct this site's the memory. Through the use of an augmented reality app, visitors can experience different layers of the area's history without touching it's physical remains.

Two versions have been proposed. The first will allow the visitor to tour the ruins of the cabins of Rocas de Santo Domingo. Thanks to the possibilities offered by augmented reality, the user can visit the site and see how the cabins looked before being destroyed, find images and audiovisual material and listen to testimonies from holidaymakers, Pinochet's secret agents and survivors of this torture center.

The second version of "Memorial Rocas AR" is an installation that physically represents the ruins of one of the cabins through the construction of pillars similar to the remnants in the real site. Visitors can use an app with smartphones or tablets to find different passages of the stories from this site and explore Chile's current disputed history.

The project is currently in the visual design, 3D animation and programming stage of the app. At the same time we are working to continue with the compilation of archival material and testimonies and building a website that hosts videos and images of activities carried out by the community of survivors as well as other found footage.

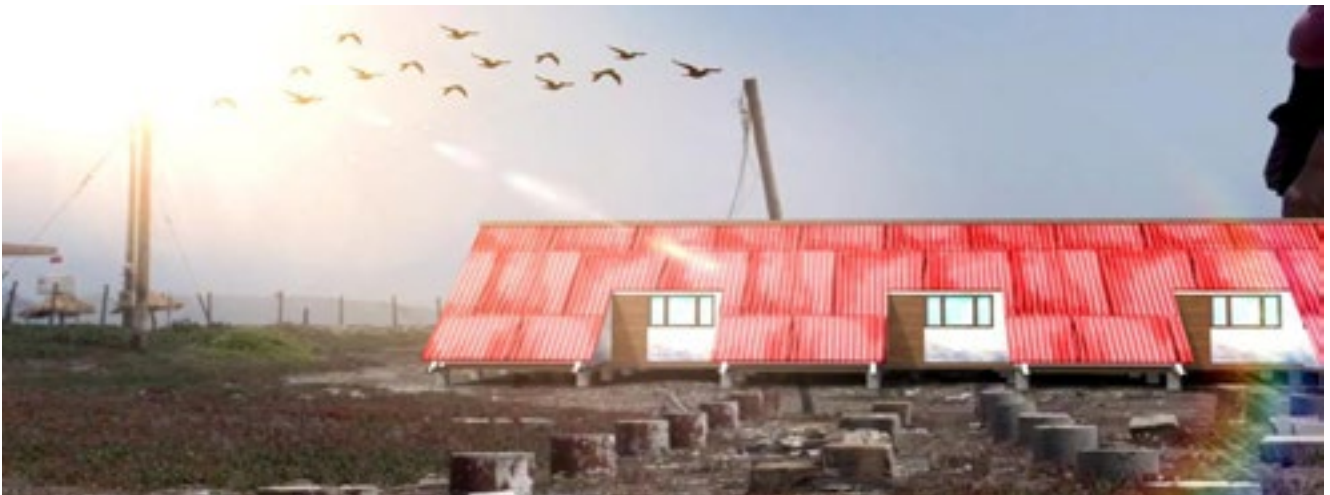
"Memorial Rocas AR" won financing from Fondo Nacional para el Desarrollo Cultural y las Artes (Fondart 2018) of the Chilean Ministry of Culture to develop the on-site version. It has the support of the Universidad de Valparaíso, the Museo de la Memoria y los Derechos Humanos Santiago de Chile and the Fundación para la Memoria de San Antonio.

Memorial Rocas Teaser <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNiiw13gcmc&t=11s>

Visual presentation of the project

These images show the memorial site's current state. The ruins are full of debris and there is no protection around them.

The mockups shown here illustrate the on-site version of the "Memorial Rocas AR" app that is being designed and developed. The use of augmented reality lets the audience see and hear the multiple layers of memories of the ruins.



This image on the right is a mockup of the installation. It will consist of a physical recreation of the foundations of one of the destroyed cabins and maybe some debris and dirt around it (it wouldn't look as clean as Carl Andre's insta-llarion).

The audience will be able to interact with the installation through iPads with headsets run-ning the "Memorial Rocas AR" app version adapted to this exhibition.



Reference and mockup image: Installation by Carl Andre at Dia:Beacon

Creators

Pepe Rovano / Director

Master in Audiovisual Communication from the University of Ferrara, Italy. He is a PhD candidate from the Universidad de Valparaíso and a scholar of the National Commission for Science and Technology (CONICYT, Chile) where he is researching interactive narratives in Latin America and developing "Memorial Rocas AR" as his thesis project.

Pepe has developed a career as a documentary director and producer. He has directed "L'eco della Bici" (Italy, 2006 Audience Prize at the X Festival Documentary in Europe - Torino 2006), "Three Steps to the Return" (Spain 2009), "Tawantinsuyo" (Peru 2006) and "Ada" (Italy 2012).

Recently he has been awarded the Chilean Audiovisual Fund for the development and production of his interactive documentary project "Black Demon Team". He has also been funded by the Chilean Consejo Nacional de Televisión (CNTV) for the production of the documentary series "Without Borders", aired on national Chilean television during 2018. In 2019 he released the book "Escritos Desobedientes. Historias de hijas, hijos y familiares de genocidas por la memoria, la verdad y la justicia" published by the Editorial Marea (Buenos Aires, Argentina).

Natalia Cabrera / Producer

Media artist and interactive storyteller based in Santiago de Chile. Her work expands from documentary filmmaking, interactive installations to virtual reality worlds and AR apps. She has a Bachelor degree in Film Production from Universidad de Chile and Masters degree in Media Arts from ITP, New York University as a scholar of the Chilean Council of Science and Technology.

She is currently working as a producer and interactive narratives designer at "Memorial Rocas AR" project, an augmented reality documentary about a place that no longer exists. She also directs "Buller's Drop VR", a virtual reality experience where the audience can become a mushroom and live its reproductive cycle. Both projects are financed by the Ministry of Culture of Chile.

www.nataliacabrera.com

Examples of previous interactive installations produced by Natalia Cabrera:

"Profiles of the disposed", documentary VR installation www.nataliacabrera.com/profiles-of-thedisposed/

"Fragments", multiscreen interactive installation www.nataliacabrera.com/interactive-shortfilm-fragments/

"Pulse", interactive installation www.nataliacabrera.com/pulse/

Total Films and Media Lab / Production Company

Total Films & Media Lab is an award winning company located in Viña del Mar, Chile, dedicated to audiovisual and transmedia production, specializing in documentary films, TV series, interactive and immersive experiences (360°-VR-AR- MX). Their productions have participated in important festivals and international audiovisual markets, such as Casual Connect (San Francisco, USA), DokLeipzig (Leipzig, Germany), Doc Sheffield (UK), Festival of Locarno (Switzerland), Ventana Sur (Argentina), Rio Content Market (Brazil) and DocMontevideo (Uruguay).

www.totalfilms.com

Examples of previous work:

"Black Demon Team", docuGame www.blackdemonteam.cl

"Without Borders", documentary TV series <https://youtu.be/UESgnGTyDUs>

"The Heritage", autobiographic documentary (in postproduction) <https://youtu.be/dETTYmRKZBE>

Brillo Colectivo / Co-Production Company

Brillo is a digital studio and art collective based in Santiago of Chile. Co-founders Paola G. Olea and Javier Garay both have a background in motion graphics and interaction design, as well as creative coding and 3d animation. Brillo's work is based on the emotional response of their audiences, telling stories through interactive pieces that explore the possibilities of experiential art and design. Their work has been commissioned by several important art and educational institutions in Chile, such as Mirador Interactive Museum (MIM), Museo Chileno de Arte Precolombino, Centro Cultural Palacio de La Moneda (CCPLM), Centro Gabriela Mistral (GAM) and Carmen Museum of Maipú.

www.brillocolectivo.com

Examples of previous work:

"La barca digital VR", interactive VR installation www.brillocolectivo.com/portfolio/la-barca-digital-vr

"Mustakis AR", augmented reality app and installation www.brillocolectivo.com/portfolio/mustakis-ar/

"Constelaciones", interactive installation www.brillocolectivo.com/portfolio/constelaciones/