Setting the stage: Facts about El Salvador

1.) It is the smallest and the most densely populated country in Central America.

2.) El Salvador has had many flags throughout its history. The blue stripes symbolize the ocean and the sky. The white represents peace. The gold represents beams of sunshine.

3.) The country’s name comes from Spanish colonizer conquistador Pedro de Alvarado who named the province for Jesus Christ – El Salvador (“The Savior”).

Can you locate El Salvador on a Map?

One of the artists featured in Displaced is Guadalupe Maravilla. Guadalupe Maravilla is an artist born and raised in El Salvador. When he was a child he was brought into America by a coyote. He is a multi-disciplinary artist who often makes fantastical sculptural headdresses that mimic and disfigure pre-Columbian attires, which serve as costumes in his performances and rituals.

A “coyote” is a colloquial term for someone who smuggles migrants across the border from Mexico into the US. “Coyote” is also a term used in the complex racial caste hierarchy of Spanish colonies in the Americas, and refers to someone born of an Indigenous person and a Mestizo/Mestiza (someone who is half Indigenous, half Spanish). In North American mythology, the coyote is known as a trickster animal. The "trickster" character is found in mythologies worldwide and represents a kind of "holy fool".

Vocabulary Definitions

Caste: A system of dividing society based on family history.
Colonizer: A country that sends settlers to a place and establishes political control over it.
Conquistador: A conqueror, especially one of the Spanish conquerors of Mexico and Peru in the 16th century.
Headdress: An ornamental covering or band for the head, especially one worn on ceremonial occasions
Multi-disciplinary: Combining or involving several academic disciplines or specializations in an approach to a topic or problem.
Ritual: A religious or solemn ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order.
Symbolize: To represent something with a shape, sign, mark, or character

Design your own headdress or head gear:

[Design your own headdress or head gear]

DIY Time: Write about an experience you had, while traveling between two places, that did not go as expected.

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Guadalupe Maravilla
El Fantastico.
2010

Guadalupe Maravilla
Crossing Performance
US/Mexico Border, Roma, Texas
2011
Learn to play Tripa Chuca

Tripa Chuca is played with two people. Players will need a piece of paper and a pen or pencil.

Rules: Take your sheet of paper and write two sets of numbers (1-20) all over the piece of paper in random order, like this:

Flip a coin to determine who will go first.
Player 1 will draw a line from number 1 to the other number 1 without touching any other numbers or lines.
Player 2 will then draw a line from number 2 to the other number 2 without touching any other numbers or lines.
The game continues with each player taking a turn to connect the numbers.

It may sound easy at first, but once you get to numbers 4 and 5, lines are everywhere. Hence the name, Tripa Chuca (Dirty Guts)!