

CHILE SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
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FESTIVAL OF CHILEAN POPULAR ART

A two-week series of events starts in London this week-end to celebrate the movement of Chilean Popular Culture which flourished under the Allende Government, to draw attention to the present brutal repression by the military junta and to give support to Chilean and other groups resisting the repression.

The Festival is launched on Friday 1st March by ten British and S. American artists who, following the method and spirit of Chilean street artists who covered the walls of Santiago with murals and popular symbols, will form a wall painting brigade to paint two huge walls in Regents Park Road, N.W.1. and King Henry's Road, N.W.3.

The theme of the paintings, which are supported by the Camden Borough Council, will be opposition to repression wherever it occurs.

On Sunday 3rd March one of Chile's most famous folk groups, Quilapayun, will give a concert at the Assembly Rooms, Camden Town Hall, N.W.1., with Adrian Mitchell, Alex Glasgow and Ronan O'Casey. Since the coup, Quilapayun have been resident in Paris, and have devoted their time to giving large and successful concerts on the continent, making clear their opposition to the present Chilean regime.

Between the seven of them they play every kind of Andean instrument, both wind and string, and their ballads and protest songs have been recorded on a number of different record labels in Latin America and now in Europe.

In Chile, Quilapayun played to audiences of up to 100,000 in public meetings and the streets of Santiago and other provincial capitals. This is their first visit to Britain.

Quilapayun were closely associated with Victor Jara, the Chilean folk singer murdered by the junta shortly after the coup, whose widow and children are now in England, and at the Concert Quilapayun will be singing some of his songs written in support of the Popular Unity Government of President Allende and socialism.

The TUC Congress Hall in Great Russell Street will be occupied by a mixed-media Exhibition of Chilean Popular Culture called "Art for the People" from 9 - 13 March. The Exhibition will include photographs, posters and documents of the three years of Popular Government and continuous film and slide projections with live events each lunch-hour.

The theme of the Exhibition is based on the dynamic process of popular cultural development which took place during the time of the Allende government in Chile. The vast literacy programme in the South of Chile, the programme of voluntary work by thousands of students, the state publishing house which became the largest in South America in the two years of its existence, the wall painting brigades which transformed the wall into daily means of communication between the parties, popular government and the masses, the "new song", which educated, agitated and explained the programme of the U.P. to factories, farm co-operatives and mass meetings, the state film industry which for the first time attempted to show films to peasants who had never seen film before and made the film into an arm of the struggle against underdevelopment, the great advances made in bringing theatre to factories and the countryside and in which workers and peasants wrote and directed their own drama.

Since September, 1973, this expansion and qualitative change in the culture of Chile has been crushed and persecuted by the military junta. Thousands of artists, writers, intellectuals and musicians have been murdered, imprisoned or exiled. Books have been burned in the streets, records banned on radio and television, even instruments used and associated with the "new song" have been proscribed. The junta has given clear confirmation that fascism is antagonistic to all kinds of culture and art except that which directly serves its own ends.

The exhibition not only acquaints the British people with the Chilean case but to warn of the dangers of fascism and the effects of fascism on culture.

The details of the live events at the exhibition are outlined below.

A festival of Chilean films will take place at the Electric Cinema in Portobello Road from March 7-10 and will include influential films from before the election of Allende, films showing the progress of the popular government, documentaries showing the brutal repression since the coup and the recently terminated feature film by Miguel Littin, 'The Promised Land'. (Details below)

March 1st (continuing for two weeks) Wall painting at the Howff Club,
109a Regent's Park Road, N.W.1.

and

King Henry's Road, N.W.3.

March 3rd. Quilapayun in concert with Adrian Mitchell, Alex Glasgow and
Ronan O'Casey.

March 9-13. "Art for the People" - mixed media exhibition of Chilean
Popular Culture. TUC's Congress House, Great Russell St., W.C.1.

LUNCHEXTIME EVENTS :-

March 9th	3pm. 5p.m.	Quilapayun on the floor of the Exhibition. Neruda recital with Alistair Reid, Michael Hamburger and Paul Ableman.
March 10th.	3-5pm.	Show of wall-painting techniques of the Chilean Brigada Ramona Parra.
March 11th.	1pm.-2pm.	Chilean folk group (To be confirmed)
March 12th.	1pm.-2pm.	Talk on Mapuche Indians with slides.
March 13th.	1pm. -2pm.	Poetry recital 'Solidarity with Chile' with Brian Patten, John Pudney and Andrew Salkey.

March 7-10 Festival of Chilean films, Electric Cinema, Portobello Road, W.11.

March 7th.	7pm.	'When the People Awake' and 'The Reckoning'.
March 9th.	9pm.	'THE PROMISED LAND' premier - Miguel Littin.
March 10th.	8.30pm.	
March 8th.	7pm.	'The Jacal of Nahueltoro' and 'Campamento'.
March 9th.	7pm.	
March 9th.	2pm.	'America soy Hijo'
March 9th.	5pm.	'Introduction to Chile' and 'How, why and for what a General is Assasinated'.
March 10th.	6pm.	'Valparaiso mi Amor' and 'Chilean September'.