

Arara - Art and Architecture of the Americas

Post-Mexican artists release recovered files of the tech-illa network.

Experts believe leaked document may be false.

TECH-ILLA SUNRISE*

(.txt dot con Sangrita)

By Rafael Lozano-Hemmer & Guillermo Gómez-Peña[©]
post-Mexican double agents compiling illegal knowledge.

Dear cibernautas angloparlantes,

Ever wonder what is in the root directory of your Mexican server? Wouldn't you want to peek at the files of Chilicon Valley's most powerful sysadmin? Scary, que no? What follows is a leaked document extracted from deleted files of the tech-illa network, a rare glimpse at the webback underground's real agenda. <Warning> It is unclear at this time if this information was obtained by hacking into the server or if it was distributed on purpose as a decoy. </Warning>. Sections in Spanglish are untranslatable. </Warning>.

I

Decompress "Mexi-cyborg" file

Nosotros, los otros...

We are all ethno-cyborgs, chiborgs, cyBorges, ciboricuas y demás. If you want to know the future of technology take a good look at us, check out Walter Mercado en Univision, a true transgenic social spammer, the mero Miami bastard son Morpheo of Captain Kirk and Liberachi.

Also, check out 60 year-old TV hostess & Venezuelan Extreme Beauty Queen Viviana de la Medianoche, with her designer body rebuilt from zero in Tijuana clandestine clinics; mil dolares, and this includes nose job, chin, inflatable chichis, removable ribs and voice change activator.

Don't forget to also research "Latino Frankenstein" sites, Direct TV en español, and pop cultural phenomena like el Transgenic/trans-ethnic Ricky Martin invented in Epcott, 274 year old talk show host Don Francisco; or La criminal pop star, Gloria Trevi, who also knows the secret of immortality...

Don't forget to carefully analyse our composite identities
We/our 207 face lifts & our 49 laser identity surgeries
We/the Mexican Orlan
We/the children of El Frankenstein de Los Mochis y La Novia de Chucky
We Los High-tecas de East LA y La Mision.com
We/our very sentimental feedback hearts
We/our rrrrobotic jalapeño joystick enlargement methode
We/our identity morphing mask (we code-morphed before Transmeta's crusoe processor
and IBM's daisy project).
We/our 1960's melanina pills still sold in Cuernavaca and Acapulco for "instant racial
identity change."
Celebrity clients include Colin Powell, Michael Jackson & Salma Hayeck
We/our liposuctioned nalgas de estética infomercial bien 1970's
We/our peyote graphics engine
We/our mojado scuba technology
We/carne asada eating ebola bacteria
We/cyber-mexican flies and digital cockroaches
We/burrito powered robo-raza
We/los cyber-nacos en La Neta-scape
We R slowly corrupting your default configuration
We R alien webbacks,
and we have strapped on
our new hybrid neural implants
that enhance the adaptability
of the epistemo-loco-perceptual apparatus
to non-linear telesensory inputs.
(tongues)

You think we are getting sleepy when we are just resolving a recursive loop: why else have
fuzzy logic cochlear processors, mex-plico? We're solving netaphysical dilemmas of sorts,
tex-plico? Our bigote doubles up as an antenna for our spread spectrum wireless LAN
connection (and yes, it is I-triple-E eight-o-two eleven and bluetooth compliant).

Question: what's the most powerful computer super-cluster?

Answer: a 512-processor machine in New Mexico called "Los Lobos". No coincidence the
cluster is programmed in "Object Oriented Chile ++" which is radically incompatible with all
your languages (you may utilize our machine translation program Mexicorama2 to view but
not edit the code).

You feel pretty hot with your overclocked gigahertz Pentium when all the action is in our
new yottaherz Sexium with speedy-g-spot inside (available from chip maker Advanced
Mexican Devices AMD).

What did you think really happens at the Mac/illa-doras?

We are reverse engineering your ass, mi nerdisteca! Porque?

You want the naked truth?

According to a spokesman from the Michoacan Institute of Technology(MIT): "Latinos are currently interested in what (we) term 'imaginary' or 'poetical' technology. Its premise is as follows: Since most Latinos don't have access to new technologies, we imagine the access. All we have is our political imagination and our humor to interject in the conversation... It's an imaginary act of expropriation. Nuestra complejidad estético-intelectual compensa la falta de billete, mexi-comprendes?"

Have another drink compadre
Mas-turbado que nunca

II

Issue who is command <Lupita.xml>

Who do you think is your sysadmin?
It's Lupita, your service provider!

That's right, Lupita is the real motherboard, la Gran Coatlicue Digital, la Matrix Chola. Born multi-tasking and multithreading, she has protected memory and she wont grant you access privileges. Y wáitchala porque se come a sus hijos! She eats her own children. She laughs at your binary code, *&%\$^& when you try to digitize, *#@!%^ scan*!~@\$+(* and sample**&^^^%R# the world with a simple YES/NO, a one or a zero *^%#)(+^ black/white, in/out. Norte/Sur.

No wonder you are undergoing a crisis in representation/a crisis in masculinity/sociability/ethics. (Delete paragraph after reading it).

She has long ago dropped the binary code in favor of a recombinant self-organizing system of neural nets interconnected via EMR fields that allow for complex emergent phenomena, lighter and deeper shades of brown.

El ciberespacio es café, no blanco ni negro, remember,

You try to learn Spanish w/Cybervision tapes, but it's never enough.

You try to ping her but get a 401.

You try to trace her and you get a denial of service attack.

You try to open her attachments but you get a blue screen of death

You try a portscan but you get an error type 2

You send her cookies and she hits you with the "I Love You" virus.

You send her pirated MP3s (bad Polish pop tunes) and a pair of killer porn-video glasses, and she hits you with the "I need you" virus.

You are TC (technologically correct); we are TA (technologically abusados).

We are TI: temporarily incompatible.

Empty trashcan/memoria digital/la memoria está en el dedo.

We know your sysadmin and she is mad as hell

Snooping on her registry could be your last fatal crash.

III

Decompress gastronomy file on "Tecno-canibalismo"

While your fabs produced Silicon wafers with copper deposition, we Olmechs were already going submicron with carbon-based buckminsterfullerene biocompatible processors...and eating them! Ever heard of nacho chips? Well, that happens to be the code name for our nano-EPROM-chips.

Our fat beer gut (see ../barriga.jpg) is our redundant array of lipid-soluble memory nano-chips, --digo "nano-chipos" de chipotle-- that's right, tortilla co-processor wafers made in TJ/Taiwana and East Japangeles.

We eat it all, de tocho! We can assimilate "low" or "high." Nos da igual. Our diet includes everything from crappy calculators, "Target" ionizers, and wrist/phone watches (o sea, refurbished Aztechnology), to sound systems with fake fancy brands "made in Tepito" & mas y more hydraulics for our hi-preco "lowrider" carruchas. (Just check the new Made-in-Kioto "Lowrider" Mag). We specially like cables con chorizo, tamalgochis y web-os rancheros.

Why do you think the founder of Slashdot.org, the ultimate net destination for nerds, is called "CmdrTaco"? Cause that's where the action is, cross-over edible biotech computers that thrive in diverse gene-pools...

O sea, que wáchala:
Somos "techno-canibales;"
Habitamos en Chilicon Valley,
Barrio sur del DDT (Digital Divide Tardio).
See you-See me
We are heading North...
Mi querido ethernet
address 00:03:93:fb:1c:9e
Have a psycho-tropical tech-illa,
Y ponte las pilas web-on.

IV

Decompress history file on "Mexican science"

Back in the late 1930s, the theory of cybernetics was first postulated at the Instituto Nacional de Cardiología, when Mexican researcher Arturo Rosenbleuth investigated the heart's autonomy from the brain. Until then, no explanation was available as to why the heart kept beating in brain-dead "Pacheco" (mariguano) bodies. O sea, how could the corazón keep pumping without receiving instructions from the brain?

Also in Mexico City, Dr. Rosenbleuth's gringo colleague Norbert Wiener, interdisciplinary thinker extraordinaire, developed "the theory of messages and feedback" to explain self-regulation and in so doing laid the foundation for most current thought on control and

communications.

Carnales, and you thought cybernetics was about hard-and soft-ware? When it was about wet-ware all along?; about corazones sangrantes, errantes, punzantes, mecánicos, hidráulicos: about pulsating hearts que jamás siguen instrucciones de arriba; puro heart-drive ese

2 PAGES OF UNTRANSLATABLE SHAMANIC LEXICO-LOGICAL POETRY

And then Mexicans brought you color TV, thanks to Guillermo González Camarena's first patent in 1940. And followed through with the first stereo and telepresence recordings, gracias al maestro Juan Garcia Esquivel in the 50s.

Also in the 50s, Mexican wrestler hero and alternative scientist El Santo made several movies in which he clearly anticipated the Internet, lap-top computers, web cameras, see-you see-me systems and Chicano performance art.

Then in the 60's, Chicano scientists from the Michoacán Institute of Technology (MIT) working in clandestine garages throughout the US Southwest developed amazing hydraulic robotics for lowrider cars, which in retrospect make American robotics, from Moravec to SRL, frankly, frankly look naïve.

More recent accomplishments you may know about are the laboratory synthesis of pheromones (abusado con los Latin lovers) and Miguel de Icaza's Gnome project, the most admired and adopted "open source software" ever developed. However most of these breakthroughs have been ignored by the Logos Digitalis, and as of now remain unpublished by Mecánica Nacional.

TO BE CONTINUED...

V

Quetzalcoatl*1 (from "Memory bank #36582):

In 1999, Americans were arming themselves in record numbers, preparing for the Y2K blackout to be protected from looters, riots, anarchy, you know, brown people. At the same time, Subcomandante Marcos was named by Wired magazine one of the top 10 techno visionaries of our era. If you can't escape from Latinos in the privileged final frontier of cyberspace, where can you hide?

The following warning has been circulating throughout the net by cyber-terrorism watchdog groups:

"Virus Alert!! Warning!! Do not open any email sent to you if the "subject" is in any language you do not understand" Spanish, French, Spanglish, Frangle, Ingleñol...Opening these messages may corrupt your fragile sense of personal and national identity... If you have recently pointed your browser at any web site with Latino content: Zap Net, Virtual Barrio, Inter-Neta.com, Lati-Net, Salsaparagringsos.net, Chihuahuas.com --a subsidiary of

[RLH]

Taco Bell Incorporated, Ricky Martin's Menudo unplugged Page, Pocho Magazine, Pochanostra.com, or any other "Latino" web site...you may be already infected. NSA virus researchers at the Pentagon are calling this new Silicon infection Quetzalcoat-82L or simply 'The Mexican Bug.'

The dreaded Michelangelo virus '96 and the RTM virus are harmless compared to the Mexican Bug. Like a cucaracha gang of microbites this "programa" loiters at seemingly non-threatening Latino webs: Rock en español music sites, high ethnic crafts, el Carne Asada without Meat Club, vegan burrito recipes, and sexual tourism information pages, detecting and targeting gringos with an innocent fascination for ethno-exotica.

Soon after visiting these sites you receive a 'friendly' looking e-mail, announcing a nice Mariachi Festival or advertizing a Salsa theme cruise to Baja. When you open it, a cute talking Chihuahua in a poncho and a pink sombrero appears on the screen and delivers the following message with a thick sabroso Spanish accent:

'Querido turista, curador, crítico, empresario:

There is no moral, physical or social repercussions to your actions in cyberspace. Digital technology has finally allowed us to create an inoffensive millennial mythology of the Latino, the Indigenous and the Immigrant Other. We are part of this new mythology. We are meant to cater to your most intimate fears and desires. "

*1.-Excerpt from an unsolicited e-mail by "Cyber-Vato #127" Bob Sifuentes heavily edited by the authors of this manifesto

VI.-Excerpts from the cyber-testament:

"In the beginning there was nothing,
only cyberspace,
a vast untamed, unseen cyber desert
with no water, ice, fire, or wind.
There were no animals or plants,
not even microscopic creatures.
and then we came,
El Gran Homo Digitalis.

In the absence of cardinal points,
we moved in all directions,
conquering every inch of virginal space,
naming it as we saw it,
mapping the uncharted terrain of our future.
We were young, ambitious and white,
& there was no one else around to bother us.
It was the Cambrian era of cyberspace.

Our dictum was unquestionable:
borderless "communication," that is in English,
free trade across continents & minds,
mindless interactivity,

a Theology of Interface,
unlimited belonging to a " total world,"
Our World.

Then came the Others,
brown people, tar people, e-mongrels of sorts,
speaking bizarre linguas polutas.
The cybarbarians came from the South of nothingness,
& rapidly moved North into "the zone,"
Our Zone.

In order to keep the webbacks "out,"
we constantly upgraded our systems & software
& made them increasingly expensive & complex,
but they began to pirate our programs.
We then created border fences,
intricate security codes, digital checkpoints,
but they figured all of them out.

Soon we were left with no other option
but to privatize the New World.
The "land grab era" was coming to an end
North, South, East, delete

We were then forced to utilize more severe
3765*&7563#@^+~@893201!@^@&1234
in orther to\$#@\$#%
& those living South of the digital divide
were#%\$%\$until the()65#@+8*&ll..."

-Año de 2002
DT (despues de Technopalzin)
Go-Mex East Erra-fael
The year of the Stalking Fox
According to Mayan Astrology (Channel 55)

** This text, written in 2002, was originally published in the official website of Gomez-Peña's La Pocha Nostra, and is reproduced in the special issue of ARARA No. 12 courtesy of Guillermo Gómez-Peña. ©*

Rafael Lozano-Hemmer (b. 1967, Mexico City) is a Mexican-Canadian electronic artist who develops interactive installations at the intersection between architecture, technological theatre and performance art. Perverting robotics, computerised surveillance or telematics networks he creates platforms for public interaction in public spaces across Europe, Asia and America which seek to interrupt the increasingly homogenized urban condition. Inspired by phantasmagoria, carnival and animatronics, his light and shadow works are what he calls 'antimonuments for alien agency'. He uses robotics, real-time computer graphics, film projections, positional sound, internet links, cell phone interfaces, video and ultrasonic sensors, LED screens among other devices. His smaller-scaled sculptural and video installations explore themes of perception, deception and surveillance.

Guillermo Gómez-Peña (b. 1955, Mexico City) is a performance artist/writer and artistic director of La Pocha Nostra. Born and raised in Mexico City he arrives to the US in 1978. His pioneering work in performance, video, installation, poetry, journalism, photography, cultural theory and radical pedagogy explores cross-cultural issues, immigration, the politics of language, the politics of the body, 'extreme culture' and new technologies. Continually developing multi-centric narratives from a border perspective, Gómez-Peña creates work in which cultural borders have been moved to the centre while the 'mainstream' is pushed to the margins and treated as minority, exotic and unfamiliar through a process of what has been coined as 'reverse anthropology'. For over thirty years his work has mixed experimental aesthetics with activist politics and has been presented across the Americas, Europe, and Asia. His performance troupe La Pocha Nostra has focused intensely on the notion of collaboration across national borders, generations, genders and races as an act of citizen diplomacy and as a means of creating ephemeral communities of rebel artists through the notion of what lxs Pochxs call 'radical tenderness'.