

Mexico: Cross-border beams of light connect El Paso and Ciudad Juarez

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The neighbouring cities of Ciudad Juarez in Mexico and El Paso, Texas, launched a project known as ‘Border Tuner’ to exchange messages between both sides of the border on Wednesday night.

The initiative, led by artist Rafael Lozano-Hemmer, consists of a series of reflectors installed in the two cities that create beams of light in the sky.

Once two of these light beams make contact, two-way sound channels are opened that allow communication between both sides of the border.

Carolina Morales, a collaborator on the project, said that the ties between Ciudad Juarez and El Paso "are not necessarily seen by the media on a large scale in the world, and we want to emphasise that there is no animosity between them, on the contrary, one community needs the other to survive."

According to organisers, the ‘Border Tuner’ project seeks to value the social and cultural links that exist between communities on the border.