



A moving work, and a great testimony to keep breaking the silence about the genocide in Guatemala.

— RIGOBERTA MENCHÚ TUM, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Two paths cross on a tortuous descent into Guatemala's tragic past: that of Mateo Pablo, Maya survivor of one of many massacres that took place during the country's recent civil war, and Daniel Hernández-Salazar, Guatemalan artist and photographer whose work grapples with local human rights violations. Together they travel to a remote site in the highlands where the community of Petanac once stood. Mateo grew up and lived there until 1982, when his family and neighbours were tortured and murdered by the Guatemalan army, whose soldiers later burned Petanac to the ground. But memory lingers. At Petanac and other Maya communities across Guatemala survivors gather to bear witness as forensic experts unearth the mass graves of their loved ones. The bones found in clandestine cemeteries tell their own mute story of agony and terror, once the dirt and dust have been patiently removed by teams of archaeologists. For those still alive, the time has come to break the silence and risk seeking justice. The situation of Mateo, and thousands like him, warrants our attention, for the international community stood by idly during years of slaughter among the bloodiest Latin America has ever known.

The Department of Linguistics,
the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures,
and the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Interdisciplinary Program
proudly present

HAUNTED LAND

A DOCUMENTARY BY
MARY ELLEN DAVIS

Followed by a discussion with

MARY ELLEN DAVIS AND MATEO PABLO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12 - ARTS BUILDING -
ROOM W-215 - 6:00 PM