

JURAKAÍN

Documentaries Collection



Directed & Produced by:
Gonzalo Mazzini & Rosa Emmanuelli Gutiérrez

BARRIO BORIKÉN: TALES FROM CHICAGO



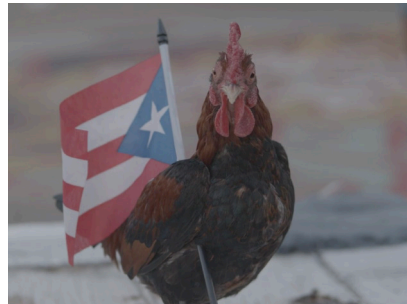
Logline:

The humble families who migrated from Puerto Rico to the cold city of Chicago have left their mark on the streets of Humboldt Park, where they now stand against displacement and the erasure of their history.



Synopsis:

The Chicago beachfront hums with life. Birds migrate into the bustling city as the sound of a trumpet pierces the air. Salsa music fills the streets, and a towering steel Puerto Rican flag proudly oversees the landscape. Below, a sea of Puerto Rican flags waves through the streets, carried by young, old, and even some unexpected participants. Why is the flag such a powerful symbol for this community?



The vibrant streets and historic buildings of Humboldt Park come alive through the voices of its Puerto Rican residents. Layer by layer, their personal stories paint a vivid picture of the neighborhood's history, struggles, and triumphs. The film introduces us to community members across generations, including former congressman Luis V. Gutiérrez, Alderperson Jessie Fuentes, patriot Oscar López Rivera, and Don Lolo, a 102-year-old pioneer who was among the first Puerto Ricans to settle in Chicago. Together, their stories weave a rich tapestry of cultural pride, resilience, and the enduring spirit of the Puerto Rican community in Humboldt Park.

Some of our interviewees:

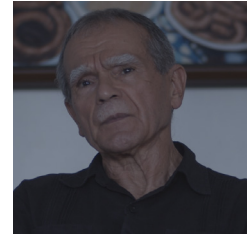
Don Lolo,

a 102-year-old who arrived in Chicago in the 1950s.



Oscar López Rivera,

a co-founder of La Escuelita Puertorriqueña.



Ida Luz Rodríguez,

a co-founder of La Escuelita Puertorriqueña.



José E. López Rivera,

Professor, community leader and Executive Director of PRCC.



Marta Rodríguez,

blind woman who graduated from La Escuelita Puertorriqueña.



Luis V. Gutiérrez,

first Puerto Rican U.S. Congressman from Illinois.



Jessie Fuentes,

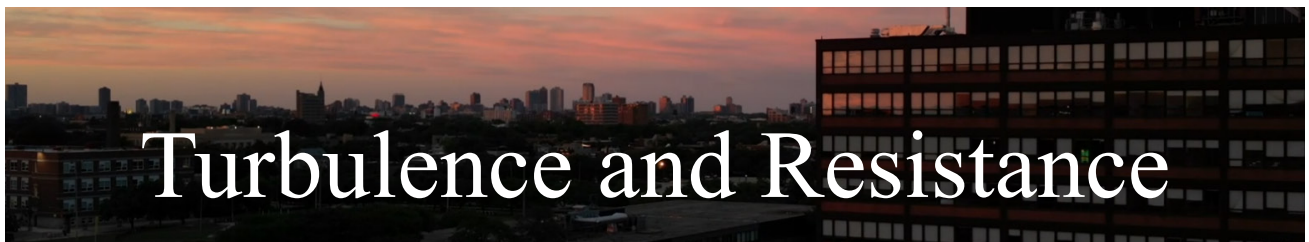
current Alderperson of the 26th Ward and graduate from PACHS.



Movie Chapters:



This chapter explores the journey of Puerto Ricans migrating to Chicago in the 1950s, highlighting the harsh realities they faced—cold winters, language barriers, and discrimination. Despite these challenges, they found strength in community, organizing around shared struggles and identity.



This chapter begins with the emergence of Los Caballeros de San Juan, a community organization that arose to tackle the pressing issues faced by Puerto Ricans in Chicago. It recounts the tragic incident after the first Puerto Rican Day Parade, where a police officer shot a community member, increasing racial tensions and igniting the riots. The community's mobilization in response marks a critical chapter in their fight for justice and recognition.



This chapter examines the 72% dropout rate among Puerto Rican children, driven by language barriers and lack of support. In response, the community established La Escuelita, a culturally grounded school providing vital resources. Marta, a blind student, exemplifies the transformative power of this effort, which led to the creation of Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School.

Movie Chapters:



This chapter confronts the pressing issue of gentrification threatening Humboldt Park, where soaring housing costs and property taxes displace families and jeopardize cultural heritage. It draws parallels between the colonial histories of Chicago and Puerto Rico, framing the struggle as a fight for cultural preservation in the face of shifting demographics and displacement.



In this concluding chapter, the film celebrates the vibrant culture of a united and organized community actively engaged in the ongoing struggle for identity and a permanent home. It discusses the vision for the Culturally Designated District Barrio Borikén, aimed at supporting the return of displaced Puerto Ricans and supporting local businesses. Through lively gatherings and community initiatives, it paints a hopeful picture of the future, showcasing the strength and solidarity of the Puerto Rican community in Humboldt Park.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS



Rosa Emmanuelli Gutiérrez (Puerto Rico) & **Gonzalo Mazzini** (Mexico) are an independent filmmaker duo committed to exploring social issues through documentary storytelling. Their work delves into themes of colonialism, identity, activism, and community resistance, capturing powerful narratives that inspire dialogue and action. Together, they have directed and produced several impactful films:

- ***Jurakán: Nation in Resistance*** (2017) – Rosa: Producer / Gonzalo: Director
- ***Jurakán: The Power of Our People*** (Premieres in 2025) – Co-directed
- ***Barrio Borikén: Tales from Chicago*** (In post-production) – Co-directed

**These movies are part of the Jurakán Documentaries Collection,
where the history of Puerto Rico comes alive.**

Rosa and Gonzalo are committed to our peoples' narratives, showcasing how identity and culture empower collective resistance, and amplifying community-driven solutions that inspire real change.

JURAKÁN

DOCUMENTARIES COLLECTION



“Nation in Resistance”

Narrates the history of Puerto Rico from 1898 to 2016.



After premiering in San Juan, the creative team organized a screening tour with Q&As across P.R. and the US.



100 events



15,000+ spectators



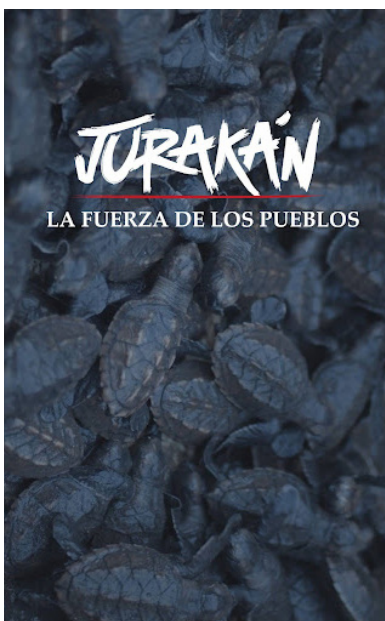
49 cities and towns



40 schools

The most frequent question at the screenings became the premise of our next documentary.

What are the people of Puerto Rico doing in the face of colonialism?



“The Power of Our People”

Boricuas are facing the threat of disappearing from their islands. Hurricanes, earthquakes, and economic crises have trapped them in an unending cycle of storms. In the face of adversity, they have come to understand that no one is coming to save them; their only hope for survival lies within themselves.

This movie is in post-production and will premiere in 2025.



Barrio Borikén: Tales from Chicago

This movie finished production in December 2024, the producers want to start post-production as early as possible. The objective is to premiere the movie on 2026.

Work Calendar

- February: Fundraisers
- March: Archival footage and pictures compilation
- May: Picture-lock
- June: Start Post-Production; Music, Sound Design and Color Correction
- July: Start Transcription and translation
- August: English and Spanish Subtitles
- September: Poster and artwork design
- December: Final touches; Music and Sound Design Concludes

Distribution set to start on 2026 (includes: Film Festivals, Theatrical release in Puerto Rico and Impact campaign across the United States and Puerto Rico.)

CALL TO ACTION

Barrio Borikén: Tales from Chicago is a living testament to the Puerto Rican experience in Humboldt Park, empowering a deeper understanding of community, identity, and cultural preservation. This documentary is a love letter to the people of this vibrant barrio, celebrating their legacy and resistance.

We invite your support to complete this project, which requires the expertise of sound designers, music composers, and other specialists, in order for this movie to have a greater impact. By sharing these stories, we aim to inspire solidarity and action in preserving the cultural identities of immigrant communities everywhere, ultimately strengthening the connection between Puerto Ricans in the archipelago and those in the diaspora.

BUDGET

Post-Production	
Movie editing	\$20,000
Directors-Producers	\$10,000
Sound Edit, Design, Mix and Music Composition	\$40,000
Color Correction	\$4,000
Translations & Subtitles	\$5,000
Graphic Design & Poster Design	\$3,000
Archive Footage	\$14,000
Promotion & Distribution	\$4,000
TOTAL	\$100,000

PERKS

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS



PITIRRE
\$1,000 USD

- ★ Appear in movie credits as a Contributing Producer.
- ★ Personalized Card.
- ★ 3 Special Edition DVDs w/ Digital Code.
- ★ 2 T-shirts.
- ★ 3 surprise items.



CAREY
\$2,500 USD

- ★ Appear in movie credits as Executive Producer.
- ★ Personalized Card.
- ★ 6 Special Edition DVDs w/ Digital Code.
- ★ 3 T-shirts.
- ★ Gift Box: 5 surprise items.



CEIBA
\$5,000 USD +

- ★ Appear in movie credits as Executive Producer.
- ★ Company logos included in credits, promotional posters and mentioned in events.
- ★ Personalized Card.
- ★ 10 Special Edition DVDs w/ Digital Code.
- ★ 5 T-shirts.
- ★ Gift Box: 10 surprise items.

DONATION



Donation Link & QR Code

To pay with Debit/Credit Card and Paypal:



https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=XRGVQZ6AC7B7G



Check made payable to: AlterVista, LLC

Memo: *Donation*

Mailing Address:

*Rosa Emmanuelli Gutiérrez
Las Flores de Montehiedra,
Calle Miramelinda 672,
San Juan, P.R. 00926*

FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear Friends and Supporters,

From the very start, our mission as filmmakers has been to document stories that matter—stories of identity, struggle, and resistance. Barrio Borikén: Tales from Chicago is a reflection of that commitment, capturing the strength and cultural pride of Humboldt Park’s Puerto Rican community.

What began as a journey with our first documentary, Jurakán: Nation in Resistance, led us to Chicago, where we found a rich legacy of activism and community-driven change. With the guidance of José E. López and the generosity of so many, we’ve spent years documenting multigenerational voices that celebrate triumphs while confronting ongoing challenges.

This film is more than just a historical record—it’s a call to recognize and preserve the stories that shape our communities. Your contribution will help amplify these voices, fostering solidarity and action to preserve the cultural identities of immigrant communities everywhere while strengthening the bond between Puerto Ricans on the island and in the diaspora.

Thank you for believing in this film and in the power of storytelling to inspire change. We are deeply grateful for your support.

Con gratitud,



Rosa Emmanuelli Gutiérrez



Gonzalo Mazzini

Directors, Barrio Borikén: Tales from Chicago

CONTACT US

For more information, about *Barrio Borikén: Tales from Chicago*
and the *Jurakán Documentaries Collection*:

Email:

jurakandocupr@gmail.com

WhatsApp:

+52-55-4484-7248

Website:

<https://www.jurakanpr.com/en/>

