SEEKING LIFE ON THE ROADS OF DEATH:

THE MADRES MOVEMENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Presented by:

Diana Taylor

DIRECTOR, HEMISPHERIC INSTITUTE OF PERFORMANCE & POLITICS, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

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The Madres of disappeared Central American migrants wear the photos of their missing sons and daughters and chant: "¡vivos se fueron, vivos los queremos!" The grieving women, the photos and the chants are a cluster of traumatic memes that convey the ongoing nature of disappearance as political practice. Like the Madres of Plaza de Mayo almost 50 years before them, the Madres' mobilization of traumatic memes underlines the durational and globalized nature of protest as a response to continuous and globalized criminal practices. This talk maps a history of loss, criminality and resistance and argues that traumatic memes alter the space of disappearance into a space of forceful political re-appearance. Presented in connection with *In Transit/En tránsito: Arts*, Migration, Resistance, Sept. 16 to March 11 at the UA Museum of Art. For more information visit intransitart.org.







