

a l e j a n d r o l o p e z



## Breadless codfish sandwich



s t a g e p e r f o r m a n c e

“**Bacalao sin Pan**” (breadless codfish sandwich) was the first stage performance made for this project of “Havana in Hi & Low FIDELity”. The performance was presented at “17 Frost Art Space” in Brooklyn, New York, on October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009, as part of the opening ceremony of “[100% Hand Made](#)” exhibition.

The performance features drummer Alex Garcia and guitarist Javier Hernandez-Millares. The making of this performance was made possible thanks to their collaboration. I would also like to thank Steven Pacia, Fran Rodriguez, Carlos Cobas and David Scarborough for their technical support.

The edited video of the performance is a shorten version of the actual performance. The performance was recorded with two video cameras. The sound was recorded with a room microphone that captured the ambience sound. Since he voice gets a little lost due to this fact, a subtitle was added to the edited video to make the narration hundred percent understandable, keeping the bilingual quality of the performance.

## Performance words

(I)

Sandunga! Sandunguera!

Que bola El Paco? Que bola asere? Oye: de pinga esta esto! Tumbalo blanco, tumbalo! Dame cable ahi! Dame cable!

Well, you know! Is like any other day today!

(II)

(...) But, here's the point also... The Americans: they won't deliver democracy. Or they do only if you have oil. We, we don't have oil here. And, just in case, when I'm drinking my cup of coffee, I'm always like: "Hey! It is just coffee! It's nothing else! Coffee! Black coffee!

The reason why I do this is because they have all these spying aircraft just searching for black spots. And I'm like: "This is coffee, is not oil motherfucker! Don't come, Americans! Don't come!"

Ok: lets say the Americans want to come. The question is: how the hell are we going to fight? How we're going to defend ourselves? We have been here for fifty years training with old guns. And these people are so sophisticated! We have no way of facing these people!

So, you know, I don't thing I'm going to fight, myself. Unless the Americans decide to send ah... something like an all female battalion. An all female regiment to invade Cuba. Something like al these blonds, really hot , like the ones you see on the American movies. Then I will be like: "wow!" Yes, something called like... I can picture this: "The South Dakota All Blond Regiment!" All hot women! Oh men! That would be great if the come like that!

On the other hand, I always think of this: how about if the Americans come to Cuba and, instead of dropping bombs they drop hamburgers? Hamburgers instead of bombs!

A lot of people are going to go out! I'm going to o out and grab a hamburger! And I will surrender for a hamburger, I promise!

And if they offer me a deal... If they say: "Well, we'll give you a combo. I'll give you the burger with the coke and the fries. Men! Burger with Coke and French Fries! We'll give them the whole country! "Take Americans; this is yours! I have proud, but I'm hungry. So take my country!"

(III)

Lazarito! El trombon de Guanabacoa! Pueblo embrujado!

(IV)

You know! This friend, he came back to Cuba after like twenty something years living in the U.S. Basically living in Miami. The guy, he came back, and he... You know, the first thing he asked was:

"Wow men! When this happened?"

And I'm like: "What? What happened?"

He said: "The destruction. The earthquake".

I'm like: "No earthquake. I mean: did you read anything about and earthquake in Cuba, in Havana?"

He is like: "No, but I can see it"

Oh, no, no, no, no! That wasn't an earthquake! What happened is... How can I explain this...?

Listen: you are building something, and in order to build you need to destroy. That's the dynamic! You know, the way it works. To build and destroy!

And the guy was like: "Dam it! That sounds logical! But I don't get it!"

And I'm like: "Ok, lets put it this way: we are building a system. Our system is called 'socialism'. And our socialism is one's person socialism. And that would be Castro's socialism".

Then the guy was like: "Oh, I got it now! I've got the idea!"

I said: "Oh yes?"

He said: "Yes, I've got it"

"Oh, can you tell me?"

"You are building Castro's socialism, and that is like to said: 'Castrated Socialism'! Is that what it is? Is that what it is?"

(V)

Chao pescao! See you later!

