

Miguel Calderón

*Nahual*

November 9 - December 18, 2023



Un Nahual Veracruz, 1992

16 mm transferred to digital video

10'56''

Courtesy of the artist and kurimanzutto, Mexico City / New York

Un Nahual Veracruz (1992) is a short film by Miguel Calderón shot in 16 mm format. In the film, viewers witness the metamorphosis of a young man subjected to a shamanic ritual who wakes up as a dog. The camera, now positioned from the animal's perspective, takes viewers on a tour of Mexico City, exploring its avenues, corners, markets, and cemeteries. The dog walks, avoiding the legs and feet of people, exchanging glances with and sniffing other dogs, and wandering without a fixed direction. Through the dog's eyes and movements, viewers experience the character's confusion while entrapped in his new body.

The title Un Nahual Veracruz pays homage to the film Un Chien Andalou (An Andalusian Dog), directed in 1929 by the renowned Spanish filmmaker Luis Buñuel in collaboration with the artist Salvador Dalí. Calderón presented the work as his BFA thesis project at the San Francisco Art Institute (SFAI).