13 MARCH 2026 **VOLUME 52**

NEWSLETTER

A VISION OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER COVERING LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ISSUES A PROJECT BETWEEN GREEN ZONE FOUNDATION AND TELESUR



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Siberian Film Festival Showcases Hispanic Filmmakers Siberian

The 'Children in Film' theme is aligned with the campaign to address the Russian demographic crisis.



Casabe Is Cultural Heritage of Latin America

Haiti, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, and Cuba prepared a multinational dossier for UNESCO.

In 2024, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared casabe, a crispy flatbread made from cassava, an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity..



Ch.ACO Contemporary Art Fair to Receive Exhibitors from Ten Countries

Haiti, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, and Cuba prepared a multinational dossier for UNESCO.

The 2026 edition of Chile's Contemporary Art Fair (Ch.ACO) reinforces its international focus with exhibitors from ten countries and an expanded cultural program throughout..



No Hollywood Ending for A Mining Town Story: Letelier's "The Film Teller"

Chosen by her chair-ridden father, her task is simple—watch a film and retell it perfectly to her family. But her gift soon becomes a burden, transforming her private act into a public spectacle that blurs the line between the stories she tells and the life she must...



Mexico to Sign Agreement with Google, Meta, TikTok to Prevent Digital Violence

18 million people in this Latin American country have suffered cyberbullying.

On Wednesday, the Mexican government announced an agreement with Google, Meta, and TikTok to prevent and address digital violence, a phenomenon affecting millions of..

GZ Language
Green Zone Foundation
emayma@gzfoundation
gzflanguage

www.gz.foundation/language

GREEN ZONE FOUNDATION

Casabe Is Cultural Heritage of Latin America

Haiti, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, and Cuba prepared a multinational dossier for UNESCO.

In 2024, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared casabe, a crispy flatbread made from cassava, an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, recognizing ancestral knowledge and community practices transmitted through generations.

A Sensory Journey through Essential Caribbean Ingredients

Casabe is an ancestral food of the indigenous peoples of the Americas, widespread in Cuba and Latin America. There's a Cuban proverb, "when there's no bread, casabe," that means both resignation in the face of scarcity and creativity in finding solutions.

Haiti, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, and Cuba prepared the multinational dossier for UNESCO, highlighting cultural cooperation and diversity in production methods, from primitive techniques to modern processes. Archaeology places casabe's origins in Venezuela, near the Orinoco River, where native communities made it by scraping cassava on boards notched with stones, bones, and thorns, transforming it into a compact and durable dough.

During the Spanish colonization, initially despised, casabe became an essential food due to wheat scarcity, as it could be preserved for months when dry; later, African slaves learned its preparation and spread it throughout the Caribbean.

The text reads, "It was a pleasure to attend the presentation of the 2024 Entrepreneur of the Year Award, sponsored by OnCuba and the Embassy of Ukraine in Cuba. Yucasabi, a cassava bread producer, was awarded for innovation, social contribution, and efficient business model."

The agreement includes nine prevention measures and eight support measures, including educational campaigns, raising awareness of reporting tools, cooperation with authorities, and the creation of guides for reporting violent content.

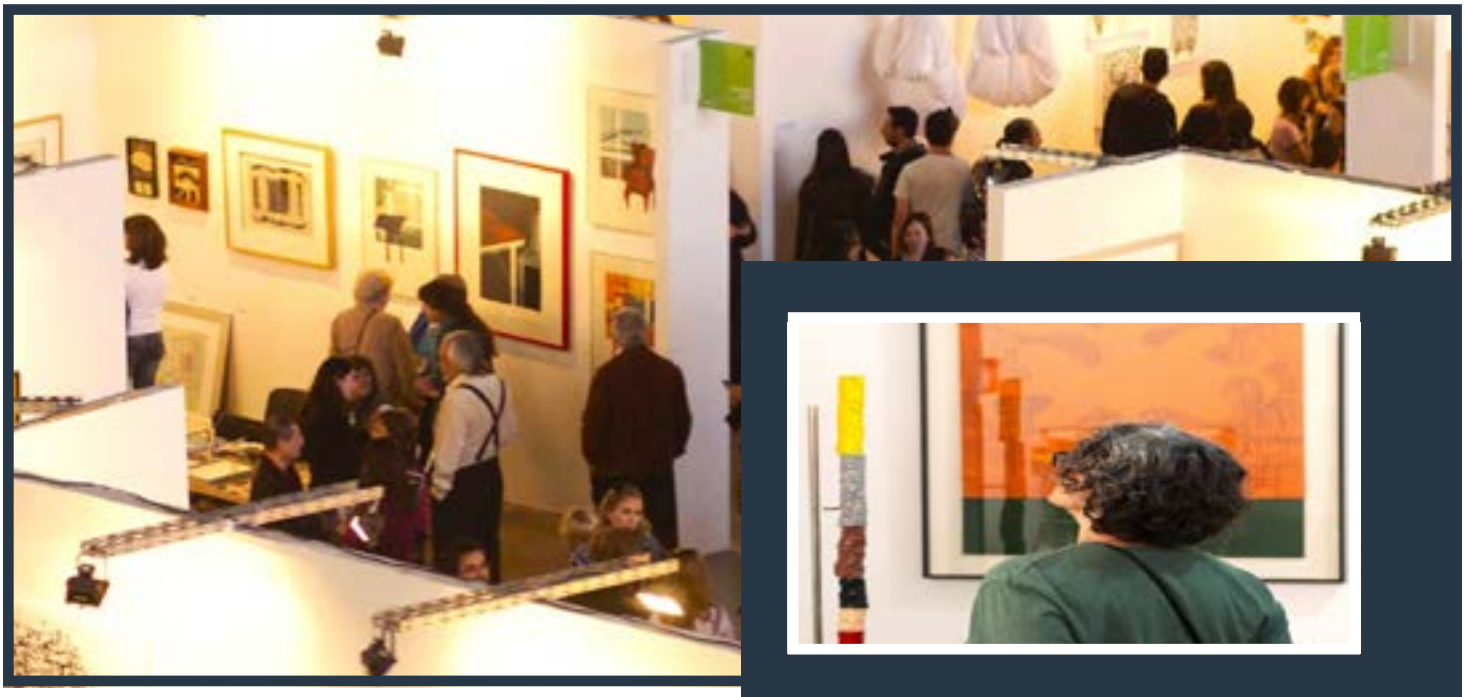
Mexico had already made progress with the Olimpia Law, which criminalized the dissemination of intimate content without consent and established a pioneering legal framework in the region.

President Claudia Sheinbaum stated that the agreement is part of a broader strategy against violence against women, emphasizing the need for a cultural shift to prevent the normalization of online harassment.

She criticized the absence of the social media platform X (Twitter) from the meetings, noting that it is one of the platforms where hate and violence are most prevalent, although she clarified that censorship is not the goal of the agreement.



Ch.ACO Contemporary Art Fair to Receive Exhibitors from Ten Countries



The exhibition includes award and acquisition programs, integrating works into public and private collections.

The 2026 edition of Chile's Contemporary Art Fair (Ch.ACO) reinforces its international focus with exhibitors from ten countries and an expanded cultural program throughout Santiago, including guided tours, visits, and activities that celebrate creativity.

Ch.ACO is an annual event that connects artists, galleries, collectors, and cultural institutions. International contemporary art fairs function as spaces for circulation and dialogue, strengthening ties between global circuits and Latin American scenes.

The fair seeks to strengthen the Chilean art market and offer visibility to emerging and established artists, creating opportunities for collaboration and circulation both within and outside the country.

Its endemic focus highlights the cultural and geographical contexts of Chile, exhibiting works that reflect desert landscapes, urban environments, and southern territories, making contemporary identities and issues visible.

The text reads, "Latin American artists were prominent at the 45th edition of ARCOmadrid, one of Europe's most important contemporary art fairs. In addition to 11 galleries from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico."

The exhibition includes award and acquisition programs, integrating works into public and private collections, which broadens its international reach and strengthens relationships with museums and collections.

Under the curatorial concept 'Improbable Encounters,' Ch.ACO 2026 will bring together more than 50 exhibitors under a broad acquisition award program, which will recognize meaningful art pieces.

The fair will take place from March 25 to 29, 2026, at Metropolitan Santiago, Vitacura, with 5,500 square meters of exhibition space, hours from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and closing on Sunday at 8:00 p.m.

No Hollywood Ending for A Mining Town Story: Letelier's "The Film Teller"



Chosen by her chair-ridden father, her task is simple—watch a film and retell it perfectly to her family. But her gift soon becomes a burden, transforming her private act into a public spectacle that blurs the line between the stories she tells and the life she must endure.

Her name is Maria Margarita, and she's the main character in Hernan Rivera Letelier's "The Film Teller".

In this novella, the Chilean National Literature Prize winner explores the stark reality of a saltpeter mining town, using cinema as a lens to examine poverty, family, and social change.

Quite soon, Maria Margrita's fame grows until she becomes a local celebrity whom people seek out to hear her vivid narrations, sometimes even preferring her version to the film itself.

The book's narrative is built on the stark juxtaposition between the impoverished reality of the mining town and the escapist fantasy of Hollywood cinema, probing the dual nature of fantasy as both a necessary refuge and a destabilizing force.

Letelier masterfully delves into larger themes of cultural erosion and change. As technological progress slowly reaches the isolated place, Maria Margarita's singular gift faces an existential threat, mirroring the displacement of traditional communal bonds by impersonal modernity. Her personal journey becomes a poignant metaphor for a world in transition.



Mexico to Sign Agreement with Google, Meta, TikTok to Prevent Digital Violence

18 million people in this Latin American country have suffered cyberbullying.

On Wednesday, the Mexican government announced an agreement with Google, Meta, and TikTok to prevent and address digital violence, a phenomenon affecting millions of people in the country, especially young women.

Secretary of Women's Affairs Citlalli Hernandez explained that the goal is to strengthen prevention, victim support, and cooperation with technology companies in cases of harassment, dissemination of intimate content, and online attacks.
According to the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), 83.7% of Mexicans use Internet. They represent 90 million people, 18 million of whom have suffered cyberbullying, with a greater impact on women.
Hernandez pointed out that women face sexual advances, identity theft, and the dissemination of intimate images, which generate severe emotional effects such as fear, insecurity, stress, and frustration.

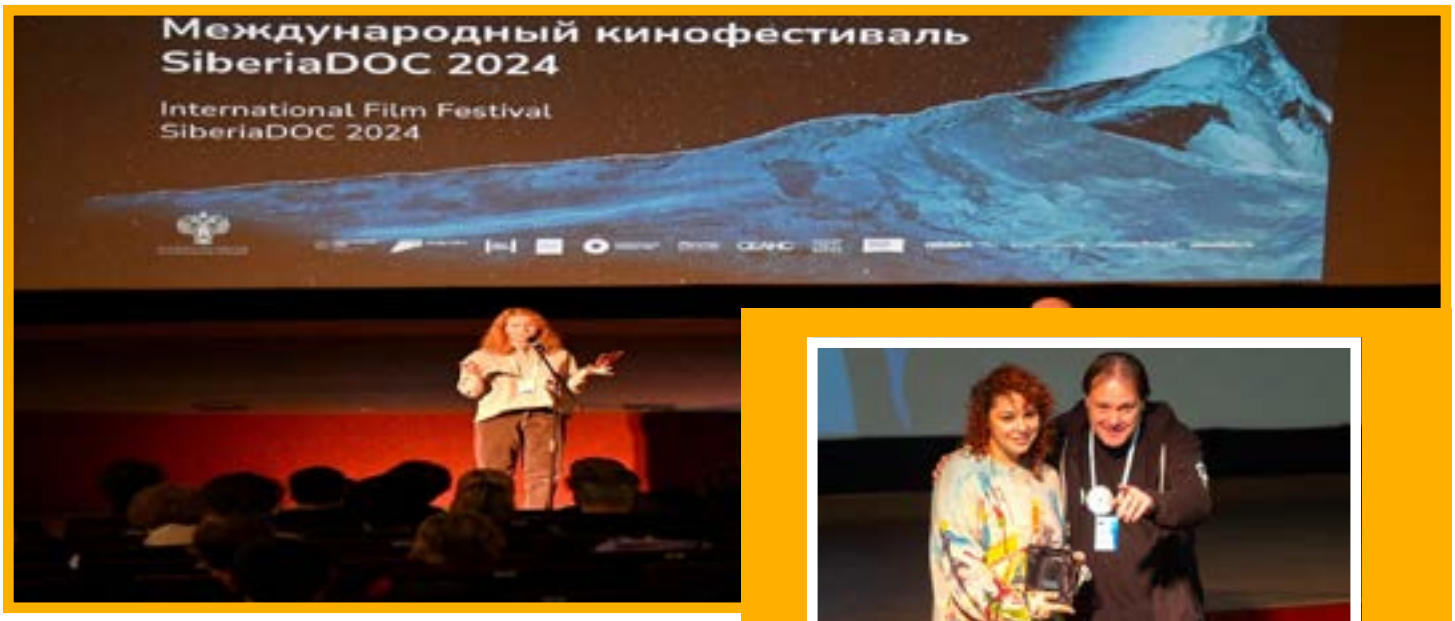
The text reads, *"Online harassment is evolving with the use of AI and primarily affects women. Deepfakes, voice cloning, stalking, and doxxing are new forms of violence that seek to intimidate and violate privacy. In Mexico, more than 22% of women online have experienced cyber harassment."*

The agreement includes nine prevention measures and eight support measures, including educational campaigns, raising awareness of reporting tools, cooperation with authorities, and the creation of guides for reporting violent content.
Mexico had already made progress with the Olimpia Law, which criminalized the dissemination of intimate content without consent and established a pioneering legal framework in the region.

President Claudia Sheinbaum stated that the agreement is part of a broader strategy against violence against women, emphasizing the need for a cultural shift to prevent the normalization of online harassment.

She criticized the absence of the social media platform X (Twitter) from the meetings, noting that it is one of the platforms where hate and violence are most prevalent, although she clarified that censorship is not the goal of the agreement.

Siberian Film Festival Showcases Hispanic Filmmakers



The ‘Children in Film’ theme is aligned with the campaign to address the Russian demographic crisis.

On Friday, the ‘Spirit of Fire’ Film Festival for Newcomers began in Khanty-Mansiysk, Siberia, with thet participation of filmmakers from Spain, Argentina, Colombia, and Cuba.

The festival was founded in 2002 by Russian filmmaker Sergei Solovyov, famous for the ‘Assa’ trilogy, and is currently directed by Serbian filmmaker Emir Kusturica. The competition includes works from Italy, Portugal, Serbia, China, Iran, India, and Russia.

The main competition features Spanish filmmakers Eva Libertad Garcia and Nuria Muñoz with ‘Sorda’, and Argentinian filmmakers Ezequiel Salinas and Ramiro Soncini.

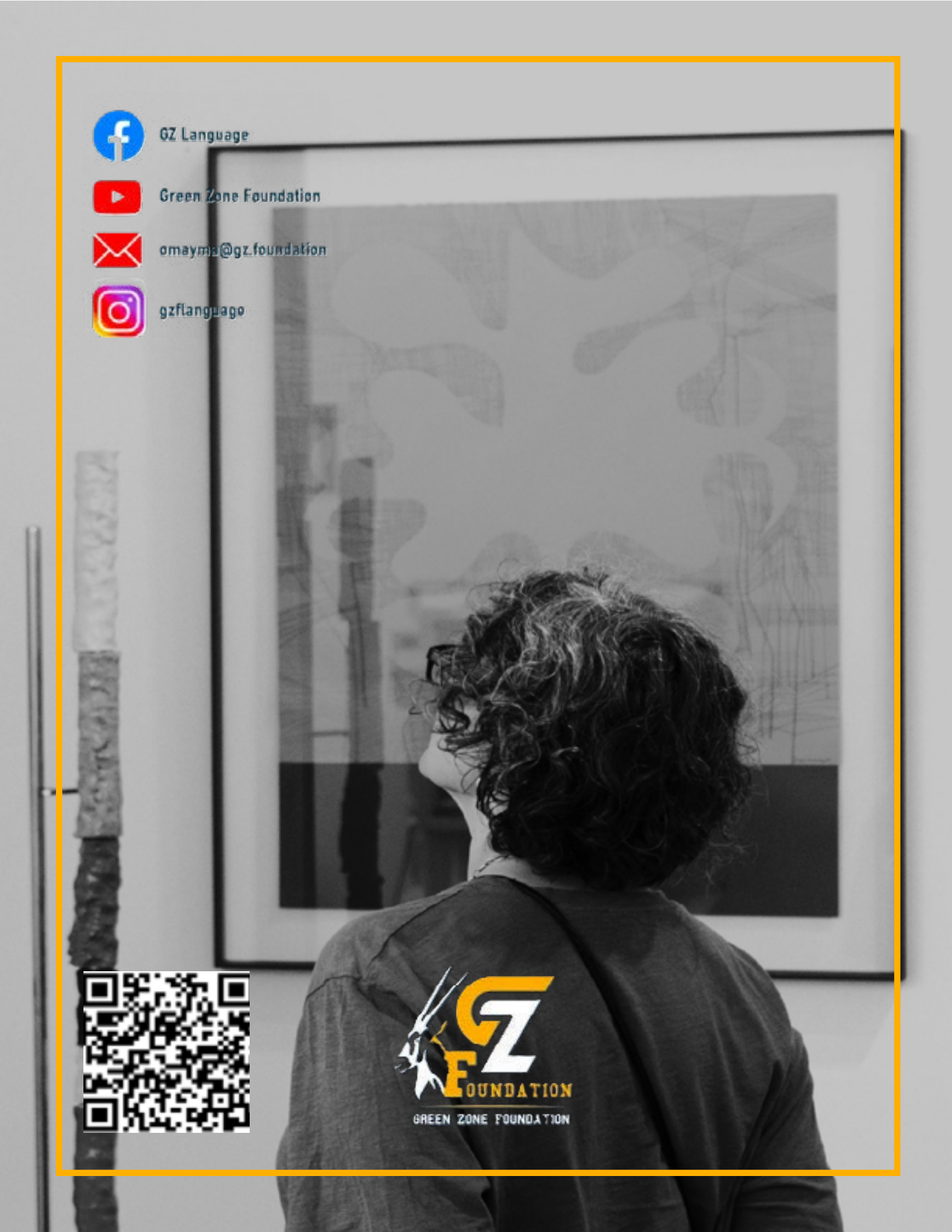
Filmmaker Eliana Niño presents the Colombian-Spanish co-production ‘Seeds’ in the children’s section, alongside Cuban animations by Ivette Avila Martin, Henry de Armas, and Ingrid Castellanos.

The festival’s theme is ‘Children in Film,’ aligned with the Russian campaign to address the demographic crisis in the periphery through “family-friendly films.”

The Taiga Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards, worth US$20,000, are complemented by prizes from Russian natural gas company Gazprom and the Roscongress Foundation.

There will be also debates, workshops, concerts, and the opening film, the comedy ‘The Man Who Saw the Bear Who Saw the Man,’ starring French actor Pierre Richard.

The jury includes Spanish writer and critic Jaime Cristian Noguera, former director of the Benalmadena International Short Film and Alternative Cinema Festival, who also created the Marbella Russian Film Festival and wrote screenplays such as ‘Miro Miro.’


GZ Language
Green Zone Foundation
omayma@gz.foundation
gzflanguage
GZ
FOUNDATION
GREEN ZONE FOUNDATION