

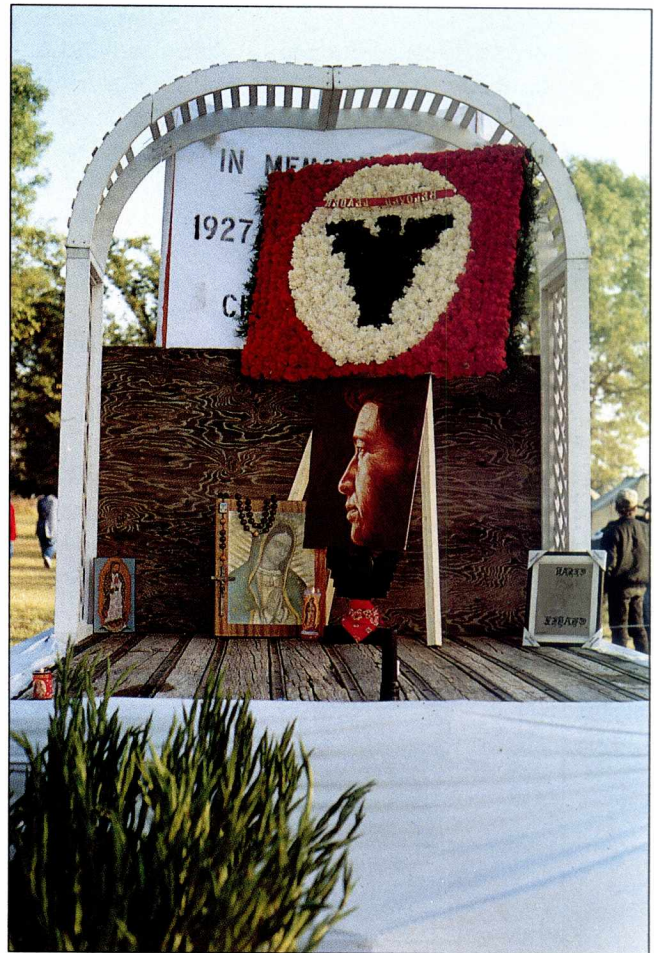
The Chicano experience

Votive installation after the death of migrant farmworkers' leader Cesar Chavez. The *altar de muertos* is a recurrent motif in both Mexican and Chicano folklore. Here objects and images believed to be needed by the soul in the afterlife are arranged ceremonially together with flower offerings and pictures of the deceased.

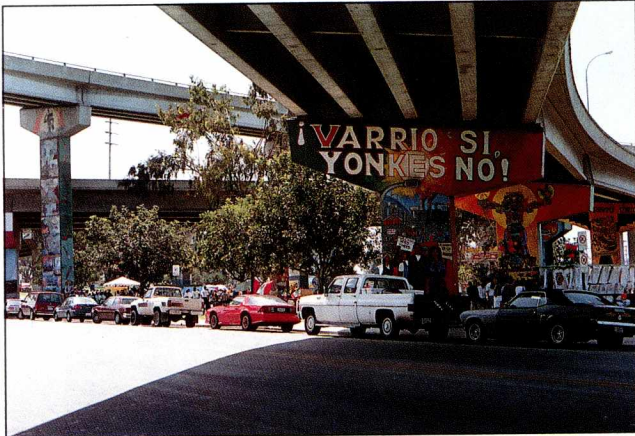
Chicano filmmaking is strongly represented by Teatro Campesino director Luis Valdez, known for his movies *Zoot Suit* and *La Bamba* and shown here wearing a red windbreaker while overseeing the filming of Cesar Chavez's funeral march.

Migrant workers from Mexico find support and representation under the banners of the United Farm Workers union. In a bitter struggle that continues to this day, agricultural workers demand better pay and safe working conditions.

The ceremonies of pre-Columbian America are reenacted, in an effort to strengthen an identity felt to be weakened after migration to the U.S. Here a *conchero* in full regalia blows his conch shell in morning worship of the rising sun.



A Chicano park



Barrio Logan is an ethnic stronghold in San Diego, one of California's most beautiful cities. Its Mexican community reclaimed unused land under the ultra-modern Coronado Bridge, in order to build a monument to an ancient culture. The project was endangered for a time by the city's plans to build a police station on the site, in an attempt to curb violence and gang wars. Mexican Americans fought the plan, winning a haven where, under the shade of trees and ornamented concrete structures, one can admire artists' skill while enjoying a peaceful Sunday at the Chicano Park ✕

Blanca Muñoz.

Photographs were taken in conjunction with Antonio Juárez.

