



a project by Oscar Cueto

— Did you hear that? It's impossible! I knew it, it's here. It is back. What if it barges in? What if it goes crazy again? What if it wants to dance with us? It's so gross!

— We must stay invisible all night, as we always did. It won't submit us, it never could. Tell everyone that today we will move fast with soft music.

Before sunrise my tired feet felt what everyone already knew, everything was completely different, just like MUME was. From that night on nothing would be the same.

I'm still listening

Bárbara Perea (invited curator)

JuanJosé Rivas (invited artist)



27-29/05/2021

I'm still listening

Bárbara Perea L. (invited curator)

Juan José Rivas (invited artist)

I'm still listening

Bárbara Perea L.

Postcards, most often, are reminders attesting to someone's travels. At a time when borders worldwide are closed, bodies are confined and travelling is severely restricted, *Self-isolation Soundscapes* works as a substitution of bodies—the postcard travels while the body remains still. This work combines strategies of mail art and field recordings by using a pressed flexidisc containing the soundscape recorded from the artist's studio window in downtown Mexico City.

Flexidiscs, popular in the Eastern Bloc in the 1960s, allowed the juxtaposition of sound and image to create unique mementos of a particular time and place. This flexidisc documents part of an exercise of nightly field recordings the artist has made during the months of confinement. They are accompanied by mobile phone video recordings shared on Instagram to serve as an audiovisual journal. Much like the I got up postcard series initiated by On Kawara in Mexico City in 1968, *Self-isolation Soundscapes* functions as a proof of existence, both of the artist and the intended recipient.

By playing this dislocated soundscape in Vienna, the fusion of both soundscapes will result in a unique listening experience wherever it is played. The use of analog, low-fi resources imbues the recording with a certain layer of nostalgia; it also stands in contrast to our current shared reality, heavily mediated by screens.

As a document, it is intended to register this interstitial moment of both extraordinary anxiety and hope for a future as yet uncertain. It also pinpoints this particular

twilight moment when air travel will again change irrevocably. The securitization and surveillance of airports introduced in the wake of 9/11 will soon be enhanced with new biomedical protocols currently being implemented by international travel authorities. It appears that entering one cloud—airspace—will soon require surrendering even more of our biometric imprint to that other cloud, which increasingly overshadows and determines our embodied experience. The seamless incorporation of biometric data mining with newly imposed travel restrictions thus neatly dovetails with the pandemic, signaling the surreptitious advancement of surveillance capitalist agendas.

Bárbara Perea L.
curator



Vienna Austria

MUME

Lassallestraße 20, 1020 Vienna

Feistmantelstraße 2, 1180 Vienna

Schleifmühlgasse 12-14, 1040 Vienna



Self-Isolation Soundscapes

schedule

● Listening sessions Flexi-Postcard & Video projections

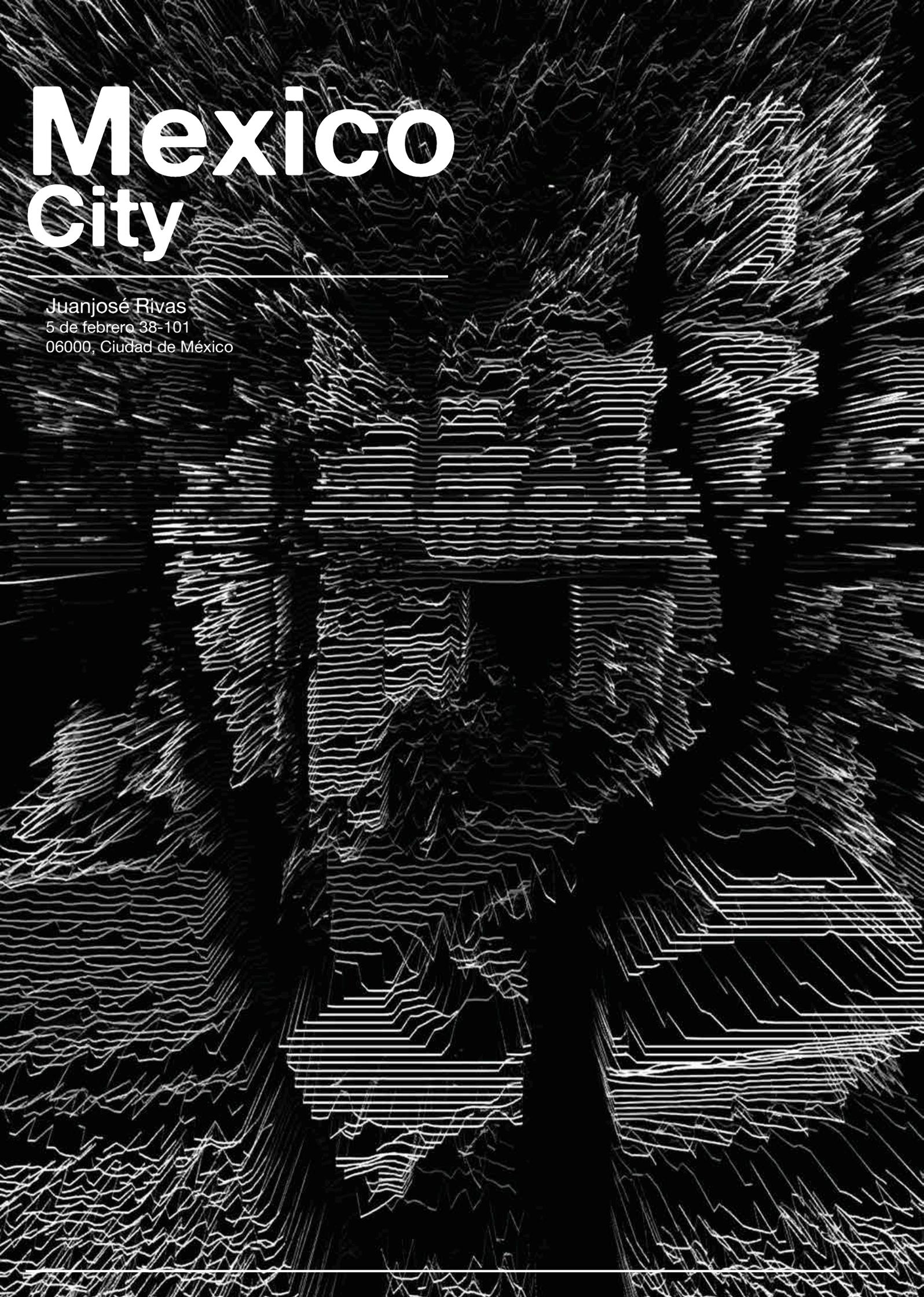
June 27, 2021, Lassallestraße 20, 1020 Vienna, 7:00 pm

June 28, 2021, Aussichtsturm Paulinenwarte im Türkenschanzpark, Feistmantelstraße 2, 1180 Vienna, 7:00 pm

June 29, 2021, Schleifmühlgasse 12-14, 1040 Vienna, 7:00 pm

Mexico City

Juan José Rivas
5 de febrero 38-101
06000, Ciudad de México





Self-isolation soundscapes Juan José Rivas

Field recordings and electronic processes.
Recorded during the Covid19 quarantine period.
CDMX // JULY 2020

I'M STILL LISTENING.

Is an exhibition presented by MUME in collaboration with curator Bárbara Perea which includes a series of listening sessions and projections in public spaces of the sound piece Self-Isolation Soundscape by Mexican artist Juan José Rivas. A pressed flexidisc, commissioned for the project, will be distributed during the presentations and by postal service to fifty postal addresses in Austria.

MUME is a nomadic museum by artist Oscar Cueto that seeks to create alternate narratives in the post-colonial and global migration context. This Museo Mexicano presents cooperative projects between international curators and artists in Austria.

www.oscarcueto.com/MUME.html