

FROM : 3834, x enx3n4n

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**EMBLEMS OF THE DECADE: BORDERS**

Site- specific Installation by

Amalia Mesa-Laine for the Cairo Biennial

The *Borders* Installation is based on the emblem form (see attached explanation) made three dimensional. This installation will focus on the geo-political, social, cultural, and psychological experience of migration. Using the metaphor of place, in this case a room, the installation pursues the meaning of separation, loss, displacement, rupture, and exile. The work examines the importance of memory, community and ceremony as devices to counter temporal and spatial dislocation. *Borders* is situated in a 15x 20x8 ft space including a dresser (6x4x2 ft) and a chair ( 4x3x2 ft ) and other miscellaneous materials. The wall requires a handpainted surface upon which the *Inscriptio* *Borders* is written as well as additional demographic information. The installation itself operates as a narrative, three dimensional *pictura* within the overall concept of the emblem-*place*. On the floor partially visible in the dirt is a false floor in which the *subscriptio* is inscribed. It reads as follows:

PSYCHIC DESTRUCTION  
 TRANSGRESSION  
 DETERRITORIALIZATION  
 FLUX  
 ZONE  
 (RE)(UN)(DIS)COVERY

GENOCIDE  
 MEMORY  
 RELOCATION  
 EXILE  
 DEPORTATION  
 DISLOCATION

The *coyote* put me in a sack in the back of a truck with potatoes and told me to be totally quiet until he came. I was so hot and couldn't breathe. I cried with no sounds. After hours he came to get me. We had gotten across but where was my mother? She had given me an address but I didn't know how to get there and was afraid to ask for help.

The dresser has a outaway on the side for purposes of viewing and will include layers of objects and will also include a video monitor so that the BORDERS video can be played during the exhibition. I will have to determine the technical requirements related to the video monitor(requires a loop playing machine) and a videotape(Beta?) The tape is an impression of the border, my family, and images from popular media and Chicano cinema.

The installation also includes a metal suitcase which includes letters from various artists whose personal experiences relate to the theme of the piece. I will attempt to make this piece site specific by introducing materials and data which refers to the situation in the Middle East particularly the issues of land, territory, and religion.

The materials to be shipped will include the furnishings, objects and raw materials with the exception of the sod which might be replaced by sand from the region. The materials will be accompanied by an instructional booklet and video for installation should I be unable to install the piece due to health issues.

The materials in this packet include a diagram of the installation, slides, color xerox, and press related to the piece. If anything else is necessary please let me know. My diagram will also include the design for a fixed wall.

I am including a proposed budget I used for this piece previously so perhaps you can use it to determine some of the costs for this presentation.

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Materials include wall text, false floor, wall paints, fabric, dried flowers, glitter, spray paints, miscell...

to be purchased in the U.S. and Egypt, candles, color xerox costs, video reproduction costs, video rental costs during exhibit.....1500.00

Artists fee.....1000.00

Crating and Shipping.....

The installation of the piece requires an assistant for the artist for a minimum of 5 days

The artist requires all travel expenses, accommodations, and per diem for food and miscellaneous to be provided by the supporting institution.

Materials to be considered for crating/shipping:

Dresser.....6x4x2

Chair.....4x3x2

False Floor.....2x3x4

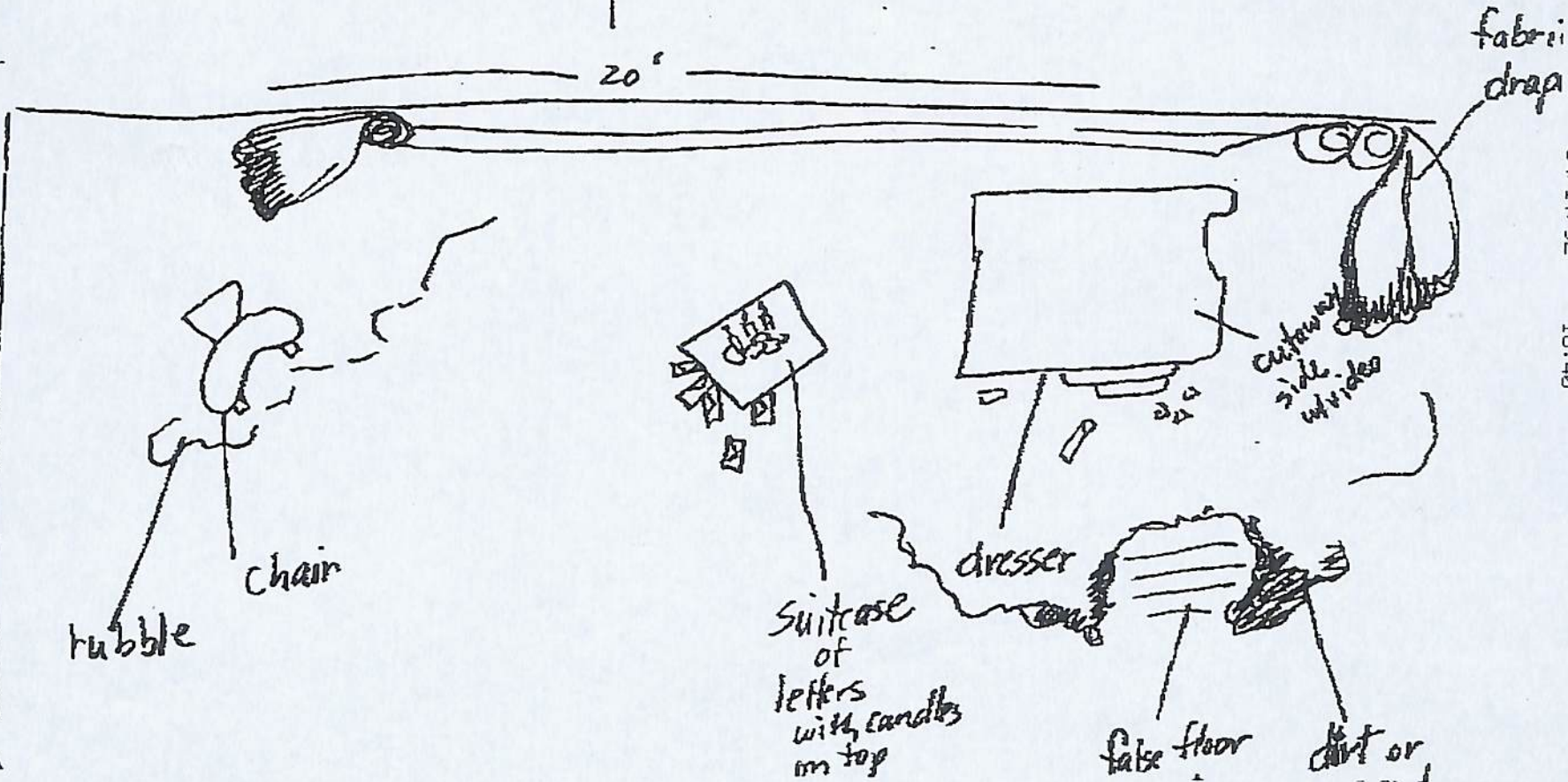
Boxes(3).....3x2x3

fixed wall / or constructed  
approx 10' from pvt 14  
wall

8'

15'

20'



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16:40

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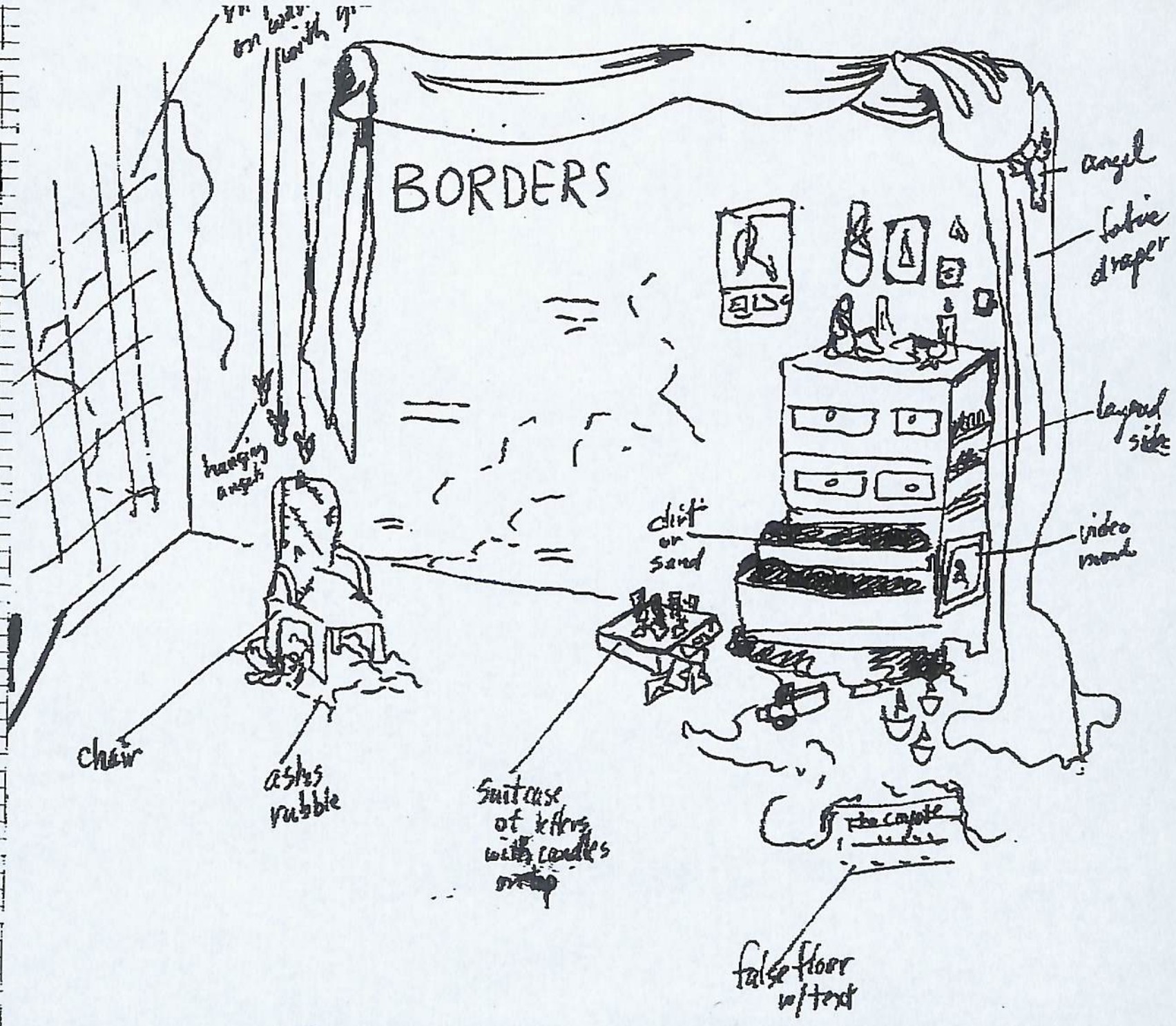
SAFETY PIN'S TO  
HANG SCHEMATIC  
ON THE WALL  
STITCHED TOGETHER

RICHARD LON / ROBERT SANCHEZ  
ENTRANCE IS NO ACCEPTANCE  
CALICO BIRDMAN  
APPROXIMATE WALL A PLAN  
APRIL 13

SCALE

4" SQ. = 1' SQ.

WALL A



BORDERS

angel  
false  
draper

labeled  
side

video  
mont

dirt  
or  
sand

Suitcase  
of  
knives  
with  
needles  
on top

The  
complete

false  
floor  
w/text

chair

ashes  
rubble

hanging  
angel

4" SQ. = 1' SQ.  
on  
wall  
width