



The River Pierce Foundation
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Omar Zubair
Life is History (2017)

Sound installation
Commissioned by The River Pierce Foundation
International Artists-In-Residence Program

*When is the time of a historic site? Is it in the present? Is it at the time of its origin?
The sound installation at Treviño Fort builds a bridge across times.
Each space within the fort becomes sonically awakened with a moment of life --
spanning hundreds of years: from the oldest room emitting the sounds of its own
restoration to the courtyard sounding a recent parade of the village's abuelas
commemorating the 100 year anniversary of the miracle of the jumping sun.
There are the sounds of meals being cooked in the kitchens and, in a bed chamber, the
quiet intimacy of a mother lulling her daughter to sleep.
There's even a contemporary anthropologist who invites you to explore hidden details of
a room with him.
And if one listens carefully, one might even here me; playing the harmonica, waxing
romantic in the last rays of a twilight seen from within the protective - and thus
contemplative - embrace of the fort.*

—Omar Zubair

Omar Zubair - utilizing the skills developed and continually honed through art practice, scientific experimentation, and trans-ethnographic participation - has been focusing on expanding the scope of reality by creating a process of bringing back artifacts from the dream place, catalysing the growth of new sensory organs via confocal synaesthetics, and building placetimes & languages from which multi-species groups can come together into temporary superorganisms. He has created sound for the Wooster Group, Lady Gaga, French perfume commercials, movie trailers, spiritual gatherings, and has been travelling the country for a number of years developing a new national anthem.

