



TIÈCHE-CHRONOMÈTRE  
SWITZERLAND

7 SEVEN JEWELS

CHRONOMÈTRE

# { LA FRONTERA }

1

we dedicate this album in memory of those *migrantes* who have lost their lives making perilous journeys in global migration in search of work and a better life for themselves and their families. we offer our best wishes and respect to those who are making the journey and welcome you.



# C'EST MOI

2

## IT'S ME

c'est moi it's me  
qui ai dit pourquoi pas who said why not  
maintenant c'est moi now it's me  
qui dis pourquoi who says why

c'est moi it's me  
qui étais la courageuse who was the courageous one  
maintenant c'est moi now it's me  
ici la peureuse here the fearful one

de temps en temps every now and then  
et quelques fois and sometimes  
la vie nous donne life gives us something that  
des choses que l'on ne veut pas we don't want

l'amour hors de question love that is out of the question  
la mort hors saison death that is out of season  
quand on pense qu'on est prêt when you think you're ready  
on ne l'est pas then you're not

on m'a dit que deux et deux font quatre they told me that two plus two makes four  
je n'ai jamais vu aucune chose qui respire i have never seen anything that breathes  
qui fait comme ça that behaves like that

je ne sais rien de l'amour i don't know anything about love  
je ne sais rien mon amour i don't know anything my love  
je suis amoureuse de toi i am in love with you  
encore amoureuse de toi still in love with you





# POR LA FRONTERA

3

## ALONG THE BORDER

me voy me voy i am going  
por la frontera along the border  
al llegar no sé que voy a hacer when i get there i don't know what i will do

me voy me voy i am going  
por la frontera along the border  
porque el viento me dijo because the wind told me  
vaya para allá to go there

a ver a ver to see to see  
lo que no puedo creer what i cannot believe  
a ver a ver to see to see  
que una línea vale más que una vida that a line is worth more than a life  
¿como una línea vale más que una vida? how can a line be worth more than a life?

a lo largo de la carraterra along the highway  
levanto voz levanto fuego i raise my voice, i raise hell  
me voy me voy i am going  
por la frontera along the border  
porque el viento me dijo because the wind told me  
vaya para allá to go there

a ver a ver to see to see  
lo que no puedo creer what i cannot believe  
a ver a ver to see to see  
una amarga verdad a bitter truth  
a ver a ver to see to see  
que una línea vale más que una vida that a line is worth more than a life  
¿como una línea vale más que una vida? how can a line be worth more than a life?

# LA LINEA

4

## THE LINE

no puedo dormir esta noche i can't sleep tonight  
no puedo dormir i can't sleep  
caminando en esta calle walking in this street  
soy callejera i am a stray woman  
el viento soplando the wind is blowing  
soplando mas fuerte blowing stronger  
mis pensamientos my thoughts  
como las hojas like leaves  
son esparcidos are scattered

hay una linea there is a line  
no puedo cruzarla i can't cross it

no puedo entrar en tu casa i can't go inside your house  
me quedo afuera i stay outside  
no importa mi amor cuanto no matter how much  
yo lo deseo i want to  
tengo una maña de hacer desmadre i have a habit of making a mess  
soy callejera i am a stray woman  
el viento soplando oyeme the wind is blowing  
te estoy llamando listen to me i am calling you

hay una linea there is a line  
en la ventana te veo i see you in the window  
pues yo me voy then i go



# LA ROSE

5

## THE ROSE

comment une rose a-t-elle how does a rose  
tellement de courage have so much courage  
de s'ouvrir chaque fois to open every time  
que la lumière l'appelle? that the light calls it

et moi au début des rêves while i at the start of my dreams  
pétrifiée devant cette fenêtre am petrified in front of this window  
quand dehors je peux entendre and outside i can hear  
le vent qui chante the wind singing

une vie des certitudes a life of certainty  
ou une vie des remords or a life of regrets  
pendouillée sur la balance dangling in the balance  
moi je ne sais trop, moi je ne sais rien i don't know much, i don't know anything  
mais je sais qu'il n'y a pas de choix but i know there is not a choice

pour moi for me

quand le vent vient when the wind comes  
quand il m'appelle when it calls me  
quand la vie, la vie s'en va when life goes  
quand la route ouvre comme une fleur when the road opens like a flower  
c'est clair que le temps ne m'attend pas i know that time will not wait for me

les vœux abandonnés abandoned wishes  
les voies pas voyageées paths not traveled  
se ramassent autour de moi gather around me as  
comme s'ils me demandent pourquoi if to ask me why  
mais je sais qu'il n'y a pas de choix but there is never a choice

pour moi for me

quand le vent vient when the wind comes  
quand il m'appelle when it calls me  
quand la vie, la vie s'en va when life goes  
quand la route ouvre comme une rose when the road opens like a rose  
c'est clair que le temps ne m'attend pas i know that time will not wait for me



# CULPA DE LA LUNA

6

## IT'S THE MOON'S FAULT

esta mañana  
no se quien soy  
anoche vino la luna  
anoche se fue mi razón

cómo cómo cómo  
puedo verte ahora  
cómo cómo cómo  
cuando estoy perdida

la culpa de la luna  
la culpa del amor

esta mañana  
no se donde voy  
anoche vino la niebla  
cubriendo la ciudad

cómo cómo cómo  
puedo encontrarte  
cómo cómo cómo  
si no puedo verte

la culpa de la luna  
la culpa del amor

espero un día  
espero una caricia  
espero una cama

this morning  
i don't know who i am  
last night the moon came  
last night my reason left

how how how  
can i see you now  
how how how  
when i am lost

it's the moon's fault  
it's love's fault

this morning  
i don't know where i am going  
last night the fog came  
covering the city

how how how  
can i find you  
how how how  
if i can't see you

it's the moon's fault  
it's love's fault

i am waiting for a day  
i am waiting for a caress  
i am waiting for a bed

para mi triste alegría  
espero un suspiro  
espero una sorpresa  
espero un besito  
que no demande promesas

la culpa de la luna  
la culpa del amor

esta mañana  
no se quien soy  
anoche el viento fuerte  
aventó toda mi suerte

cómo cómo cómo  
puedo encontrarte  
cómo cómo cómo  
cuando estoy perdida

for my sad happiness  
i am waiting for a sigh  
i am waiting for a surprise  
i am waiting for a kiss  
that does not call for promises

it's the moon's fault  
it's love's fault

this morning  
i don't know who i am  
last night the wind came  
and blew away all my luck

how how how  
can i find you now  
how how how  
when i am lost



# L'ÉLEPHANT

7

l'éléphant est grand  
des grands pas  
quand il marche  
il fait tomber les arbres  
se déhanchant tant qu'il va

et bien quelle pagaille  
mais pour vivre  
il faut vivre comme ça

même si la vie serait plus simple  
si les arbres ne cassaient pas  
il fait son chemin comme ça

aveuglée par les branches  
moi je marche  
dans la nuit les bras  
tout devant moi  
et la lumière si douce de la lune  
ne tombe que sur les arbres  
tombés déjà

même si la vie serait plus simple  
si moi je reste contente  
depuis que j'ai connu l'éléphant

je me brise  
pour que je puisse voir  
je me brise

## THE ELEPHANT

the elephant is big  
with big steps  
when it walks  
it knocks down the trees  
swaying as it goes

and oh what a mess  
but to live  
it must live like this

i know that life would be simpler  
if trees didn't break  
but he makes his path like this

blinded by the branches  
i walk  
in the night  
my arms in front of me  
and the sweet light of the moon  
only falls where the trees  
have already fallen

i know that life would be simpler  
if i would be content  
but ever since i met the elephant

i break myself  
so that i can see  
i break myself

pour que le son puisse couler  
je me brise

ni méchant ni vilain  
de la forêt  
non, en fait il a un coeur de velours  
mais ayant cette fringale pour la vie  
il marche en cherchant ce qui le rassassie

même si la vie serait  
plus simple si ça c'était la fin  
l'histoire ne s'arrête pas ici

so that the sound can run  
i break myself

not evil nor a villain of the forest  
actually he has a heart of velvet  
but with this hunger for life  
he marches searching for what  
satiates him

i know that life would be simpler  
if this were the end  
but the story does not end here





# SOLEDAD

8

## SOLITUDE

en la mar yo me encontraba i was by the seaside  
en una tarde serena on a peaceful afternoon  
mientras la brisa cantaba while the breeze sang  
allí calmaba mi pena there my suffering was soothed

en la mar en la mar in the sea in the sea  
mi pena pude calmar i could sooth my suffering

luego me acerqué a la playa then i went close to the beach  
le cantaba soledad i sang to it solitude  
de alegría me desmayaba i fainted with happiness  
aquella tarde en la mar that afternoon by the seaside

en la mar en la mar in the sea in the sea  
mi pena pude calmar i could sooth my suffering

tu ausencia your absence  
yo la pongo en el mar i put it in the sea  
la historia the story  
yo la pongo en el mar i put it in the sea  
mis recuerdos these memories  
yo los pongo en el mar i put them in the sea  
estos sueños these dreams  
yo los pongo en el mar i put them in the sea  
esta casa this house  
yo la pongo en el mar i put it in the sea  
mis pisadas my footsteps  
yo las pongo en el mar i put them in the sea  
mi pasado my past  
yo le pongo en el mar i put it in the sea  
mi soledad my solitude

my wrists on your anklets  
mist-covered banquets  
floating in the sea  
lost in your blankets  
fallen in language  
calling the nameless  
it's all in the languish  
stalling the anguish  
energies vanquished  
memories painted  
me as the sinner  
you as the sainted  
you as the plaintiff  
the pool as been tainted  
moments have happened  
your filter has changed it  
i was in love with your haunting holler  
you sang of hearts  
while i sang of squalor  
it was a terrible show till i met you after  
with bourbon, fake waterfalls and laughter  
you taught me some things about songs and murder  
what i learned that this shouldn't go no further  
unknown quantities of space and time  
say i won't make you happy  
or make you mine



# (EL CAMINO DEL DIABLO)

9

THE DEVIL'S HIGHWAY

between 1995-2005, the number of deaths of migrants crossing the US-Mexico border doubled claiming over 1,000 lives, with most of these occurring in arizona's sonoran desert, along the devil's highway—a stretch of treacherous land with ancient trails that run through the borderlands. most of these deaths are due to dehydration and exposure. as the US has increasingly militarized its border, migrants are making a more dangerous journey to find work and provide labor in the US.

# ESTE MUNDO

10

## THIS WORLD

mira la vida	look at life	
la vida se va	life goes	
como se va la vida	how life goes	
mira el río	look at the river	
el río corre	the river runs	
como corre el río	how the river runs	
mira la rosa	look at the rose	
la rosa se abre	the rose opens	
como se abre la rosa	how the rose opens	
mira el cielo	look at the sky	
el cielo se cayó	the sky has fallen	
como se cayó el cielo	how the sky has fallen	
estoy trabajando	i am working	
lejos de tí	far from you	
estoy pagando	i am paying	
con mi tiempo y mi paz	with my time and my peace	
me estas escuchando	you are listening to me	
desde la orilla del silencio	from the shores of silence	
me estas esperando	you are waiting for me	
tú y tu paciencia	you and your patience	
en este mundo	in this world	
tanto dolor	so much pain	
este mundo	in this world	
te busco mi amor	i am searching for you my love	
mira la noche	look at the night	
la noche se calló	the night has fallen quiet	
como se calló la noche	how the night has fallen quiet	
mira la luna	look at the moon	
la luna canta	the moon sings	
como canta la luna	how the moon sings	
mira la rosa		look at the rose
la rosa se abre		the rose opens
como se abre la rosa		how the rose opens
mira el cielo		look at the sky
el cielo se cayó		the sky has fallen
como se cayó el cielo		how the sky has fallen



# SOY PAYASO

11

étranger tes mots entrent par une blessure  
assieds-toi, je te raconte une histoire  
qui va expliquer pourquoi je dois chanter sous le ciel  
je ne peux pas entrer chez toi

dans une petite ville au bord de mer loin d'ici  
y avait un homme qui a entendu ma chanson  
il m'a invité dans sa maison de magie  
il avait besoin d'un clown qui chante

soy payaso soy payaso  
pero el me pintó la cara

et toutes les choses dans cette maison de magie  
avaient l'air d'avoir des histoires  
j'étais presque perdue dans sa mystique  
quand j'ai vu une petite souris noire

l'homme attendait là, attendait ma voix  
mais ma bouche était pleine d'un grand silence  
et quand mon oeil est passé devant un miroir  
j'ai pas reconnu le visage

soy payaso soy payaso  
soy yo quien pinta mi cara

et tout d'un coup j'ai vu que ma chanson  
ne peut pas venir dans un espace si petit  
et quand je suis sortie un grand souffle de vent  
m'a amené loin très vite

et c'est pour ça mon ami que je me trouve ici  
où les rues se croisent sous les étoiles  
même si j'ai voulu te suivre  
je n'appartiens qu'au ciel

# I AM A CLOWN

stranger your words enter through a wound  
sit down and i'll tell you a story  
that will explain why i must sing under the sky  
i cannot go into your home

in a little city by the sea far from here  
there was a man who heard my song  
he invited me into his house of magic  
he needed a clown who could sing

i am a clown i am a clown  
but then he painted my face

all the things in this house of magic  
appeared to have a story  
and i was almost lost in its mystique  
when i saw a little black mouse

the man waited there, waited for my voice  
but my mouth was filled with a great big silence  
and when my eye passed in front of a mirror  
i did not recognize my face

i am a clown i am a clown  
i am the one who paints my face

all of a sudden i saw that my song  
could not come into a space so small  
and when i stepped outside a giant gust of wind  
carried me far away very fast

and it is for this reason my friend that i am here  
where the streets cross under the stars  
and even if i wanted to follow you  
i only belong to the sky

# NERUDA

12

gracias violines  
por este día  
de cuatro cuerdas  
puro es el sonido  
del cielo  
la voz azul  
del aire

gracias mi amor  
por esta vida  
de cientos de deseos  
pura es la ola  
de tu esperanza  
el mar azul  
de tu corazón

thank you violins  
for this day  
of four chords  
pure is the sound  
of the sky  
the blue voice  
of the air

thank you my love  
for this life  
of hundreds of desires  
pure is the wave  
of your hope  
the blue sea  
of your heart

# TROUBLE

13

i've had a fine fine time  
but now the moon and its strange light  
have put a question on the table

i know you know what i mean  
i can see it in your eyes as they catch upon  
something in me

that thing is trouble

trouble beautiful trouble  
why don't you stay  
i think that you should go

now don't you think that i don't find  
everything about you so divine  
but one more moment here and  
i'll be through

it's not your fault  
it's not mine  
it's the moon and the sweet light  
she brings tonight

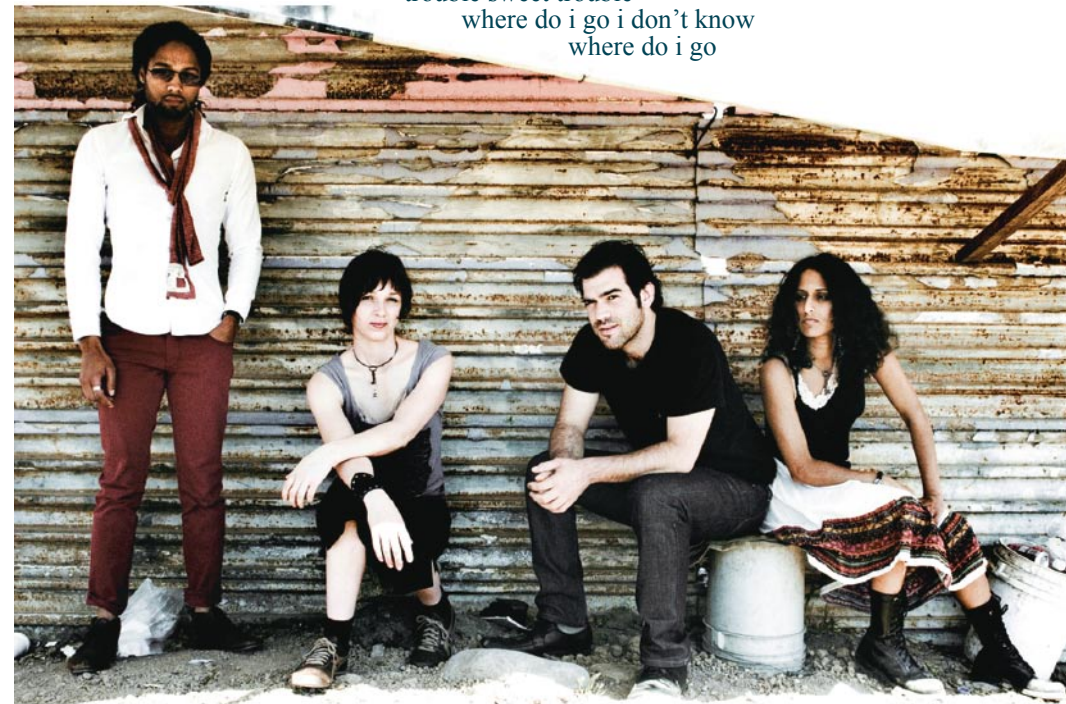
she brings trouble

trouble beautiful trouble  
the more i try to explain  
the less i know

it takes 1 to know one  
it takes 2 to tango  
it takes a count to 3 to fall

out of time out of time out of time  
the ground starts to dissolve  
oh my love i'm in trouble

trouble sweet trouble  
where do i go i don't know  
where do i go



# LA ESTRELLA CAIDA

14

## THE FALLEN STAR

solita cada día te fuiste alone every day you left  
solita cada noche en mi cama alone every night in my bed  
ahora duermo como una estrella now i sleep like a star  
me caí del cielo a la tierra i fell from the sky to the ground

cada día me levanto every day i wake up  
no se como puedo sin tí i don't know how without you  
en esta cama este mundo in this bed this world  
demasiado grande pa' mí too big for me

mi casa ha llegado a ser my home has become  
desconocida unrecognizable  
desde que abrí la ventana ever since i opened the window  
y el viento sopla and the wind blew

solita cada día te fuiste alone every day you left  
solita cada noche en mi cama alone every night in my bed  
ahora duermo como una estrella now i sleep like a star  
me caí del cielo a la tierra i fell from the sky to the ground

cada noche no se si vengo no se si voy every night i don't know if i'm coming or going  
cuando camino when i walk  
en esta calle esta vida in this street in this world in this life  
este mundo desconocido all unrecognizable

mi casa se ha infestado my home has become infested  
con los acertijos with riddles  
el espejo no me dice and the mirror doesn't tell me  
cualquier cosa que busco anything i'm looking for

alone every night in my bed  
alone in this profound silence  
now i sleep like a star  
with arms open to the world

my home has turned into  
a mystery  
i opened the window  
and the wind carried you far away

solita cada noche en mi cama  
solita en el silencio profundo  
ahora duermo como una estrella  
con los brazos abiertos al mundo

mi casa se ha convertido  
en un misterio  
abrí la ventana y el viento  
te llevó lejos



# ESPERO LA LUNA

15

## WAITING FOR THE MOON

espero la luna i am waiting for the moon  
desierto sin fin in this desert with no end  
encuentro el sol i find the sun  
me pega sin parar it beats me incessantly

espero la lluvia i am waiting for the rain  
sacia mi sed to quench my thirst  
encuentro el agua i find water  
en mis lagrimas in my tears

¡que venga la luna! let the moon come!

en este desierto in this desert  
que venga la luna let the moon come  
ay mi amor oh my love  
estoy caminando i am walking  
solita alone  
en este desierto in this desert  
cuantos muertos how many dead

levantan los muros they raise walls  
levantan las vallas they raise fences  
y bajo el sol and under this sun  
no puedo pasar i cannot cross

espero la luna i am waiting for the moon  
en este desierto in this desert  
la luna revela the moon will show  
el otro camino another path

estoy caminando i am walking  
el camino del diablo the devil's highway  
ay mi amor oh my love  
cuantos muertos how many dead  
cuantos mas how many more  
en este desierto in this desert

por esta frontera because of this border



# ESTE MUNDO (CAST AND CREW)

**DRUMS, PERCUSSION, FISH** ..... *aaron kierbel*  
**ACCORDION AND BANDONEON** ..... *isabel douglass*  
**UPRIGHT BASS AND ELECTRIC BASS** ..... *safa shokrai*  
**CELLO** ..... *ed baskerville*  
**TRUMPET** ..... *marcus cohen*  
**GLOCKENSPIEL, GUITAR, VOICE, WINEGLASS** ..... *rupa*

## THE FISHES WOULD LIKE TO THANK THESE SPECIAL GUESTS:

**PUMP ORGAN** “c’est moi”, **TRUMPET** “por la frontera”, “espero la luna”,  
“culpa de la luna” **TRUMPET SOLO** “l’éléphant” & “este mundo”,  
**SOUSAPHONE AND WINEGLASS** “por la frontera”: *ara anderson*  
**TROMBONE** *andy strain* **CELLO** “la rose”: *pawel walerowski*  
**UPRIGHT BASS** “culpa de la luna,” “por la frontera,” “l’éléphant,” “espero  
la luna” and “la linea”: *djordje stijepovic*  
**TABLA** “soy payaso”: *robin sukhadia*  
**SOPRANO & BARITONE SAXOPHONE** “la rose”: *ralph carney*  
**CLARINET** “la rose”: *peter jaques*  
**BANSURI FLUTE** “soy payaso”: *elijahu sills*  
**VOICES** “la linea” & “la estrella caída”: *raul vargas*  
& *maría fernanda valecillos-felice*  
**BERIMBAO & CHANTING** “por la frontera”: *jorge molina*  
**RAP** “soledad”: *boots riley*

**ALL MUSIC AND LYRICS** written by *rupa marya* (ascap), except “soledad”  
written by *enrique bonfante castilla* with additional lyrics by *boots riley* and  
*rupa marya*, “neruda” written by *pablo neruda* with additional lyrics by *rupa*  
*marya* arrangements by *rupa* & *the april fishes*, all songs administered by *tuanis*  
*maje music publishing* (ascap)

**FIELD RECORDINGS:** *laughing sal* and *old moving picture machine* recorded by *rupa*  
*marya* thanks to *dan zelinsky* at *san francisco’s musée mécanique* • *the wind* by *sage*  
*tyrtle* and *grandfather clock* by *dave miller* from *the free sound project* • *rain* and  
*thunder* by *oz fritz* • *ice cream seller* and *foghorn* by *rupa marya*

**ENGINEERED AND MIXED BY** *oz fritz* at *prairie sun recording studios*  
**ASSISTANT ENGINEER** *adam weiss*  
**MASTERED BY** *paul stubblebine*  
**PRODUCED BY** *rupa marya*

**COVER ART & DESIGN** *tim o’malley*  
**MACHINE PHOTOGRAPHS** *spencer hansen*  
**BAND PHOTOGRAPHS** *judith barrows, sigmundo*  
**CALLIGRAPHY** *daniel diaz-tai*  
**ART DIRECTION** *rupa marya*

*aaron kierbel* would like everyone to know that he uses paiste cymbals

**THE BAND THANKS** their friends and families for their love and support, *padre luis*  
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*adrian arias*, *raül vargas*, *ella noe*, *michèle grundmann*, *mona caron*, and *lars howlett*.



For more information visit [www.cumbancha.com](http://www.cumbancha.com) / [www.aprilfishes.com](http://www.aprilfishes.com)



1. (La frontera) 1:46
2. C'est Moi 4:10
3. Por La frontera 2:44
4. La linea 2:17
5. La Rose 3:01
6. culpa de la Luna 3:07
7. CÉLÉPHANT 4:42
8. Soledad 3:18
9. (el camino del diablo) 1:57
10. ESTE MUNDO 3:21
11. Soy Payaso 5:44
12. NERUDA 3:14
13. TROUBLE 4:15
14. La ESTRELLA Caída 2:48
15. espero la Luna 2:35