

**\* Abstract of Valeria Wagner, "Transmettre l'avenir: autour du vidéo-essai d'Ingrid Wildi, ¿Aquí vive la Señora Eliana M...?" (in *Intermedialités*, N° 5, Printemps 2005).**

*¿Aquí vive la Señora Eliana M... ?*  
Video-essay, 68 minutes, 2003.

Constituted by fragments of interviews loosely arranged in chronological order, *Does Mrs. Eliana M...live here?* records moments of the artist's search, camera in hand, for Eliana Merino, her missing mother. As is made clear from the outset, the artist finds her mother, a well-known soothsayer, whom we see and hear in *avant première* of the video-essay discussing her gift of clairvoyance. Contrasting with the mother's foresight, the artist's video-insight works throughout the film to disclose the narratives of the past of the family and of Chile that subtend the daily reality of the interviewed speakers. Thus, led by Wildi's adroit questioning, her grandmother discusses the family's history of immigration, an art critic analyses the country's tendency to deny its origins, a cousin's comments on his profession as an anesthetist become a metaphor for Chileans' desire to forget their past, and an aunt concludes from her experiences in parapsychology that there is a level of reality which is there, unseen but at work, « like electricity ». It is precisely the workings of this invisible reality that spectators witness as the camera takes them from Santiago to Arica , through the eclectic comments and observations of bus and taxi drivers, street vendors, barmen, and acquaintances of Eliana Merino. The video ends at the threshold of a last door at which the artist knocks, raising the question of *where*, at what level of the map of stories told and untold, Eliana Merino can be ultimately located, and of *what* is located once the stories are told.