

motherhood - feminisms - solidarity



picture: Adriana Lestido

MOTHERS AND GRANDMOTHERS OF PLAZA DE MAYO

46 YEARS STRUGGLING FOR MEMORY, TRUTH
AND JUSTICE

TALK WITH MARÍA ESCOBAR

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17 UHR

ASTA EBENE (GEBÄUDE ME,
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Facing and defying the Argentinian genocidal military government of the period 1976-1983, a group of women whose children and grandchildren were clandestinely kidnapped, tortured and murdered by the military started to gather in front of the national Executive branch offices in Buenos Aires to demand the appearance of their loved ones alive. These gatherings gave birth in 1977 to Mothers of Plaza de Mayo and Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo, two of the most globally renowned and significant human rights organisations of Argentina. The two groups of organised women burst into the most important public space used for social demands in Argentina (the Plaza de Mayo) at a time in which the use of public space, as well as any social or political expression, was prohibited.



pictures: Marcos Adandía

This talk will explore their personal experiences and their history as a group to analyse how these women forged bonds of solidarity to overcome ideological and political persecution and individual trauma.

We will examine how they became key figures in the international human rights area, their struggle, their achievements and their impact in the Argentinian and Latin-American societies. This presentation will address the issues of motherhood, feminisms and solidarity as expressed and understood by Mothers and Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo. Lastly, we will read a poem of María Ester Alonso Morales, written in Spanish and self-translated into English, to understand how the Mothers' and Grandmothers' powerful struggle has crossed rivers and generations.