

The Archives

“The Poetics of Development” contains 693 excerpts of archival footage from 25 archives in 8 countries. Each is a precious fragment of time that, in concert, tells of the extraordinary development of our southern neighbors. These fragments are precious indeed, as it is an arduous – and expensive - task, keeping our history alive. Film is a beautiful medium and well suited for long term preservation. However, it must be kept in cold storage, carefully cleaned and transferred over and over as successive generations of new media evolve and disappear. The survival of these films depends on the determination and passion of a community of archivists – some funded by governments and many more, a labor of love that begins with the curiosity of a determined explorer. In an era when many expect content to be free, there is someone, somewhere, paying with their time, resources, and a passionate commitment to preserve our cultural legacy. These precious records, often poetic and beautifully human, invite us into a vibrant view of our history, offering both the sweep of seismic events and surprisingly intimate details. For one who loves architecture, these archival films pick up where the architect’s drawings and models leave off, allowing a view of their work in the human context of how a building is birthed, how it lives and how it may even fade to dust.

There are several archives we would like to single out for their particularly generous contribution. The first is The Travel Film Archive at Global Imageworks, offering an impeccably curated journey through time and geography. The Filmoteca at UNAM in Mexico City was most generous in sharing Mexico's extraordinarily rich architectural patrimony with us. Finally, we thank the staff at The National Archives who make great efforts each day to keep access to our collective treasure chest available to all. In the end, 43 archives and individuals in 12 countries contributed to the 25 films within the exhibition. We are grateful to them all. They are listed on a panel..... (or add them here).

Film Team:

Joey Forsyte, Filmmaker and Researcher
Johnny Woods, Editor
Alex Tyson, Editor
Luisa Martinez, Associate Producer, Editor, Subtitles
Zena Grey, Editor, Graphic Design

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Susana Estavillo , Montevideo
Cristina Uribe Lopez, Mexico City
Susan Hormuth, Washington, DC
Guillermo Barrosos , Caracas

Produced by Velocity Filmworks

In the all, 43 archives and individuals in 10 countries contributed to the 25 films within the exhibition. We are grateful to them all.

Archives and Contributors:

1. Pedro Ignacio Alonso and Hugo Palmarola
2. APROCINAIN
3. Archive.org
4. Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintós". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Católica del Uruguay.
5. Archivo Cipriano Dominguez
6. Archivo DiFilm, Buenos Aires - Argentina
7. Archivo General de la Nación, Argentina (AGN)
8. Archivo Pedro Ramírez Vázquez
9. "Arquivo Público do Distrito Federal - ArPDF,
10. Secretaria de Estado da Casa Civil,
11. Governo do Distrito Federal, Brasil"
12. Centro Técnico Audiovisual - CTAv / SAV - MinC
13. CEPAL, Naciones Unidas / ECLAC, United Nations
14. Elena Cialdoni
15. Cine Archivo B. F.
16. Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC
17. Cinemateca Uruguay
18. Estate of Horacio Coppola
19. FILM Archives, Inc.
20. Filmoteca - National Autonomus Univesity of México
21. Frances Loeb Library. Harvard University Graduate School of Design
22. Fundación Villanueva
23. Galería Jorge Mara - La Ruche, Buenos Aires
24. Vittorio Garatti
25. Getty Images
26. Eric Goldemberg
27. Instituto Cubano del Arte e Industrias Cinematográficos (ICAIC)
28. Jorge Ferrari Hardoy Archive
29. L'Institut national de l'audiovisuel (INA)
30. Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives
31. Ministério da Justiça / Arquivo Nacional, Brasil
32. Ben Murray
33. Museo del Cine Pablo Ducrós Hicken, Argentina
34. MyFootage.com
35. National Archives and Records Administration
36. Alysa Nahmias
37. Prelinger Archive
38. Rockefeller Archive Center
39. The John F. Kennedy Library

40. The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks
41. Universidade de Brasília
42. Warchavchik Family
43. Woodbury University School of Architecture

Special Thanks:

Tim Bono, Bono Labs

Jessica Berman-Bogdan and Morgan Strong, The Travel Film Archive at Global Imageworks

Patrick Montgomery, The Travel Films Archive

Lic. María Guadalupe Ferrer Andrade and Nahun Carriles, Fimoteca UNAM

Julieta Keldjian, UCUDAL

Joana Lima, Moema Müller, Paulo Roberto da Rocha, and Liana Correa, CATv

Ines Zalduendo, Frances Loeb Library. Harvard University Graduate School of Design

Rene Peralta, Woodbury University School of Architecture

Kátia Dolin and Vivian De Luccia, Cinemateca Brasileira

Carlos Oteyza, Alejandro Mendoza, and Florianna Blanco De Fino, Cine Arcivo, B.F.

Judy Aley

Prue Arndt

Anne Morro, MoMA

Sally Berger, MoMA

Roxana Marcoci, MoMA

The Poetics of Development, A film project on 7 screens.

In 2013 MoMA commissioned Los Angeles-based filmmaker Joey Forsythe to research and produce seven city portraits for the exhibition presented here, as well as the film extracts in the galleries that follow. Two years of research into archives throughout the hemisphere (see credits at exit of the exhibition) are here condensed to seven 8 ½ minute anthologies of historic footage edited to evoke the parallels and distinctions between the rapid transformation of cities. The cities are unfurled here topographically from south to north following an arc that encompasses the Atlantic front of Latin America – Buenos Aires, Montevideo, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Caracas, Havana, and Mexico City. Each film is synchronized with the others using footage suggestive of the motors of change, be they changing modalities of transportation from street cars, trains, and automobiles to ocean liners, zeppelins (largely confined to the southern cone) and airplanes, as well as new infrastructures of electrification, healthcare, education, newspapers and radio, telephone systems, and of course industrialization both civil and in service of the Second World War (Brazil sent troops to Europe and Mexico deployed a mission in the Pacific in World War II) During the synchronized moments all screens display the same footage, in between footage specific to each city is juxtaposed.

Buenos Aires

In the opening decades of the 20th century Buenos Aires was one of the fastest growing cities in the world, the first city in Latin America to reach a population of a million on the eve of World War I, when Argentina's soaring gross domestic product evinced the fastest growth of any country in the world to date. The city was the busiest port in Latin America, and the port was a chief transit point both for the export of the agricultural riches and meat of the pampas and for the influx of an intensive immigration largely from Italy and Spain, and later escaping Jewish persecution in Europe. The city's expansion and urban transformation in late 19th century was based on models imported from continental Europe, with broad boulevards lined with apartment houses reminiscent of Paris and Madrid, adapting the latest styles from neo-Gothic to the floral art nouveau. Meanwhile the port was developed as one of the most modern industrial infrastructures anywhere in the world. The skyscraper era in South America was opened in Buenos Aires with the Palacio Barolo (1919-23), the tallest building of reinforced concrete in Latin

America and continued with the residential tower of the Kavanagh Building of 1936. When construction was finally undertaken between 1935 and 1937 of the Avenida de 9 de Julio it was the widest avenue in the world, its main feature being the Obelisk commemorating the 400th anniversary of the founding of the city, designed by the architect Alberto Prebisch and erected in two months between March and May 1936. Schools, hospitals, and especially modern apartment houses began to transform the face of the city, even as citizens and planners alike became increasingly preoccupied with the rapid growth of slums, known in Argentina as Villas Miserias. .

THE POETICS OF DEVELOPMENT: BUENOS AIRES
USA 2015

Digital, (B&W and Color) 8:28 minutes

Filmmaker and Researcher: Joey Forsyte
Editors: Johnny Woods and Alex Tyson
Associate Producer and Researcher: Luisa Martinez
Graphics: Zena Grey
Produced by Velocity Filmworks

Archival footage excerpted from:

Por Tierras Argentinas
Argentina 1922
Dir. Federico Valle
Prod. Cinematografía Federico Valle
35mm (B&W, Silent) 10 min.
Courtesy of Archivo General de la Nación, Argentina (AGN)

São Paulo, A Symphonia da Metr pole
Brazil 1929
Dir. Rodolpho Rex Lustig and Adalberto Kemeny
Prod. Rex Filme
35mm (B&W, Silent) 90 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Highways of Argentina
USA 1930
Scenario: A.C. Rose
Photography by: George R. Goergens
Prod. The Bureau of Public Roads
35mm (B&W, Silent) 11 min.
Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration

Romantic Argentina
USA 1932
Dir. James A. Fitzpatrick
Prod. James A. Fitzpatrick
(B&W, Sound) 9 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Los que torcieron el viento. Graff Zeppelin.
Argentina 1934

Prod. Proartel
(B&W, Silent) 4 min.
Courtesy of Archivo General de la Nación, Argentina (AGN)

Untitled (Zeppelin)
Uruguay 1934
(B&W, Silent) 3 min.
Courtesy of: Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

Pan Am To South America
USA 1935
16mm (B&W, Sound) 39 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Así Nació el Obelisco (The Birth of the Obelisk)
Argentina 1936
Dir. Horacio Coppola
16mm (B&W, Silent) 7 min.
Courtesy of The Estate of Horacio Coppola; Galería Jorge Mara - La Ruche, Buenos Aires

Dos Destinos
Uruguay 1936
Dir. Juan Etchebehere
Prod. Ciclolux
35mm (B&W, Sound) 76 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

Imágenes sobre Buenos Aires
Argentina 1936
16mm (B&W, Silent) 7 min.
Courtesy of Archivo DiFilm, Buenos Aires - Argentina

Flying the Lindbergh Trail: An Aerial Travelogue of the Southern Americas
USA 1937
Produced and Photographed by: Palmer Miller and Curtis F. Nagel
16mm (B&W, Sound) 48 min.
Courtesy of Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Archivo Gráfico de la Nación.-AGN N°33 (Frag.)
Argentina 1938
Prod. Archivo Gráfico de la Nación
16mm (B&W, Sound) 1 min.
Courtesy of Archivo General de la Nación, Argentina (AGN)

Argentine Primer: A Talk by Julien Bryan
USA 1940
Dir. Julien Bryan
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
16mm (B&W, Sound) 23 min.
Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration and The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Wings Over Brazil
USA 1940
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
16mm(B&W) 14 min.
Courtesy of Rockefeller Archive Center

Americans All

USA 1941
Dir. Julien Bryan
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
35mm (B&W, Sound) 24 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Uruguay
USA 1945
Dir. Julien Bryan
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
35mm (B&W, Sound) 19 min.
Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration

La Ciudad Frente al Rio
Argentina 1948
Dir. Enrico Gras
Prod. EMELCO
16mm (B&W, Sound) 11 min.
Courtesy of Frances Loeb Library. Harvard University Graduate School of Design

Sucesos Argentinos N° 488 (Fragmento)
Argentina 1948
Prod. Antonio Angel Díaz
16mm 1:16 min.
Courtesy of Archivo General de la Nación, Argentina (AGN)

Buenos Aires
Argentina 1950
Dir. S. Rives
Prod. EMELCO
16mm 13 min.
Courtesy of Archivo General de la Nación, Argentina (AGN)

Venezuela Road: \$60,000,000 Spent on New Highway
USA 1952
Prod. Universal International News
16mm (B&W, Sound) 1 min.
Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration

Buenos Aires en Relieve
Argentina 1953
Dir. Don Napy (pseudonym of journalist and filmmaker Luis Napoleón Duclout)
Prod. Subsecretaria de Informaciones
16mm (Color, Sound) 27 min.
Courtesy of Archivo General de la Nación, Argentina (AGN)

Buenos Aires, 1958
Argentina 1958
Dir. David José Kohon
Prod. Ereno Film
16mm (B&W, Sound) 12:03 min.
Courtesy of Elena Cialdoni and APROCINAIN, Argentina

Wings To South America: Journey Into Springtime
USA 1963
Dir. Harry L. Coleman
Prod. Harry L. Coleman
16mm (Color, Sound) 28 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Beautiful Buenos Aires

USA 1950s

Dir. James A. Fitzpatrick

Prod. James A. Fitzpatrick

16mm 9 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Montevideo

The smallest and youngest of the cities represented here, the Uruguayan capital witnessed a dramatic increase in population and urban territory – with the annexation in 1913 to include the whole of the bay area – in the first half of the twentieth century. Strategically located on the north shore of the Rio de la Plata, where Spanish and Portuguese colonial interests clashed, Montevideo was founded in 1724 for strategic reasons and thus had but a century of colonial development before independence in 1828. In the 1910s the city was transformed dramatically by the construction of a coastline road works and promenades, La Rambla, uniting the colonial gridded center with the fast growing eastern quarters particularly at the beachfront of Los Pocitos, even as under President José Battle y Ordóñez, the country adhered to a liberal, secular, and republic ideology that paved the way for the embrace of modern architectural expression. Around the same time electric trams were introduced and a vast rebuilding of a new port undertaken, the city's networks relating it to both the productive Uruguayan interior and to international trade were being laid. In the centennial year of independence, 1928, the city's first – and for many years only – skyscraper was built, the Palacio Salvo, an entirely concrete tower, 100 meters tall, by the Italian émigré Argentine architect Mario Palanti, twin to the same architect's elaborately ornamented twin skyscraper in Buenos Aires. The following year ground was broken for the Estadio Centenario (centenary stadium) which, along with the construction of the towering hospital buildings of the Clinicas announced a whole new scale and modern visage for the capital of the liberalizing republic. Hints of the importance of air travel to changing geography are here displayed by the effect on the imagination of the passage overhead on 1 July 1934 of the Graf Zeppelin air ship on its way to Buenos Aires. The new Engineering school (1938) designed by the architect Julio Vilamajó announced a new cosmopolitan architecture in concrete, as Uruguay's engineers recast both the urban and rural territory of the country. After the passage of a national law creating condominium ownership of multiple family dwellings in 1946 a boom in modernist apartment house construction began to change the look and the scale of the city's residential quarters, particularly along major avenues. The exquisite International Style apartment house El Pilar (195x), appears in the final shot.

THE POETICS OF DEVELOPMENT: MONTEVIDEO

USA

Digital, (B&W and Color) 8:28 minutes

Filmmaker and Researcher: Joey Forsythe
Editors: Johnny Woods and Alex Tyson
Associate Producer and Researcher: Luisa Martinez
Graphics: Zena Grey
Produced by Velocity Filmworks

Archival footage excerpted from:

Untitled (Av. 18 Julio)

Uruguay 1927

(B&W, Silent) 28 sec.

Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

São Paulo, A Symphonia da Metr pole

Brazil 1929

Dir. Rodolpho Rex Lustig and Adalberto Kemeny

Prod. Rex Filme

35mm (B&W, Silent) 90 min.

Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Construcci n Unidad Centenario

Uruguay 1929

(Color, Silent) 5:42 min.

Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Cat lica del Uruguay.

Construcci n del Estadio Centenario

Uruguay 1930

Prod. Max Gl cksman

35mm (B&W, Silent) 3:35 min.

Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

Highways of Uruguay

USA 1930

Prod. Bureau of Public Roads

35mm (B&W, Silent) 10:40 min.

Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

In ditos (archival excerpt)

Uruguay 1930

(B&W, Silent) 9:48 min.

Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Cat lica del Uruguay.

Untitled (Zeppelin)

Uruguay 1934

(B&W, Silent) 2:27 min.

Courtesy of: Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Cat lica del Uruguay.

Pan Am To South America

USA 1935

16mm (B&W, Sound) 38:30 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Dos Destinos

Uruguay 1936

Dir. Juan Etchebehere

Prod. Ciclolux

35mm (B&W, Sound) 76 min.

Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

Imágenes sobre Buenos Aires
Argentina 1936
16mm (B&W, Silent) 7:11 min.
Courtesy of Archivo DiFilm, Buenos Aires - Argentina

Facultad de Ingeniería
Uruguay 1936-1945
(B&W, Silent) 4:08 min.
Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

Algumas das Realizações em Obras Públicas pela Administração Fabio Prado na Prefeitura de São Paulo
Brazil 1937
Prod. Rossi - Rex Film
35mm (B&W, Sound) 9:23 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Flying the Lindbergh Trail: An Aerial Travelogue of the Southern Americas
USA 1937
Produced and Photographed by: Palmer Miller and Curtis F. Nagel
16mm (B&W, Sound) 47:57 min.
Courtesy of Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Wings Over Brazil
USA 1940
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
16mm (B&W, Sound) 14 min.
Courtesy of Rockefeller Archive Center

Americans All
USA 1941
Dir. Julien Bryan
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
16mm (B&W, Sound) 23:41 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Montevideo Family
USA 1943
Dir. Julien Bryan
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
35mm (B&W, Sound) 15:48 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

Uruguay
USA 1945
Dir. Julien Bryan
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
35mm (B&W, Sound) 19 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

La Ciudad Frente al Rio
Argentina 1948
Dir. Enrico Gras
Prod. EMELCO
16mm (B&W, Sound) 9:47 min.
Courtesy of Frances Loeb Library. Harvard University Graduate School of Design

Venezuela Road: \$60,000,000 Spent on New Highway
USA 1952

Prod. Universal International News
16mm (B&W, Sound) 1:19 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

Uruguay, País Lejano Visto de Cerca
Uruguay 1956
Dir. Joop Huisken
Prod. DEFA
35mm (Color, Silent) 1:16 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

Buenos Aires
Argentina 1958
Dir. David José Kohon
Prod. Ereno Film
16mm (B&W, Sound) 12:03 min.
Courtesy of Elena Cialdoni and APROCINAIN, Argentina

Wonderful World
USA 1959
Prod. Handy (Jam) Organization
35mm (Color, Sound) 43:20 min.
Courtesy of Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Wings To South America: Journey Into Springtime
USA 1963
Dir. Harry L. Coleman
Dir. Harry L. Coleman
16mm (Color, Sound) 28 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Country background, Montevideo, Uruguay
USA 1964
35mm (Color, Silent) 8:12 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

Montevideo
USA 1964
16mm (Color, Silent) 2:45 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Hospital de Clínicas Dr. Manuel Quintela
Uruguay n/d
Dir. Conrado Müller de Berg
Prod. Selecciones Nacionales
16mm (B&W, Silent) 5:26 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

El Tranvía
Uruguay n/d
Prod. Cine Club del Uruguay
16mm (B&W, Silent) 14 sec.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

El País de las Playas
Uruguay n/d
Dir. Carlos Bayarres
35mm (Color, Silent) 21 sec.

Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

Buenos Aires and Montevideo

USA n/d

Photographed by: Luis Marden

Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs

(Color, Sound) 20:52 min.

Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

Rio de Janeiro

Founded in 1565 by the Portuguese in one of the most spectacular harbor sites anywhere in the world, Rio de Janeiro was the capital of Brazil from 1763 until the inauguration of Brasilia in 1960. Modernization was catalyzed by Brazilian independence in 1889 and driven especially in the early decades of the 20th century by the creation of an electrified streetcar system (1905), the demolition of large swaths of the colonial center for the creation of the Rio Branco (1930) and its broad cross axis the Avenida Vargas (1942), and the cutting of the first tunnel under the mountains connecting the working port and the financial center hugging Gunabara Bay to the beaches to the south along the Atlantic Coast, at Copacabana, whose famous hotels became the very image of the tropical paradise in the rapid evolution of the city also as a tourism pole. Against the backdrop of the dramatic mountains of Corcovado and the Sugarloaf (accessible by cable car after 1912), the city's sea level topography was fundamentally transformed beginning in the 1930s using landfill from the restructuring of the colonial core and the cutting of new boulevards. Here was developed a modern government quarter of ministries and office buildings, for the most part conforming to a city block format. The one famous exception, and the veritable hallmark of Brazil's embrace of radical modern architecture was the Ministry of Health and Education, designed by a young team of architects and artists under the guidance of Lúcio Costa, including Oscar Niemeyer, seen here in a model and in some of the most arresting images in the film. It was joined by the Brazilian Press Building (ABI) by the Roberto Brothers of 193x. Stretching south from the vast landfill operation that created Santos Dumont airport in the 1930s, making the financial and administrative center of Brazil's capital accessible by sea plane and airplane service, the coastline southward to Botafoga was recrafted as a parkway combining a modern road system with the landscaped Flamengo Park conceived by Burle Marx. Burle Marx was also the author of Rio's signature walkways adapting a traditional Portuguese bicolor paving tradition to the sinewy lines of modern abstract painting. Between 195x and 1955 the northern end of the Flamengo Park was anchored by the heroic modern structure of Affonso Eduardo Reidy's Museum of Modern Art. Rio's population –and its territory – grew with great speed throughout the period, From a population of 1.15 million in 1920, the city was at 3.28 million when Brasilia was inaugurated in 1960 and at 5.09 million in 1980.

USA 2015

Digital, (B&W and Color) 8:28 minutes

Filmmaker and Researcher: Joey Forsythe
Editors: Johnny Woods and Alex Tyson
Associate Producer and Researcher: Luisa Martinez
Graphics: Zena Grey
Produced by Velocity Filmworks

Archival footage excerpted from:

The Treasure of the Tropics
USA 1920's
16mm (B&W, Silent) 30 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

São Paulo, A Symphonia da Metr pole
Brazil 1929
Dir. Rodolpho Rex Lustig and Adalberto Kemeny
Prod. Rex Filme
35mm (B&W, Silent) 90 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Highways of Brazil
USA 1930
Prod. Bureau of Public Roads
35mm (B&W, Silent) 20 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

Jornal Carioca
Brazil 1930 - 1935
35mm (B&W, Sound) 13 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - SAV/MinC

Rio, The Magnificent
Brazil 1932
Dir. James A. Fitzpatrick
Prod. Metro-Goldwin-Mayer
16mm (B&W, Sound) 8 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Untitled (Zeppelin)
URUGUAY 1934
16mm (B&W, Silent) 3 min.
Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Cat lica del Uruguay.

Im genes sobre Buenos Aires
Argentina 1936
16mm (B&W, Silent) 7 min.
Courtesy of Archivo DiFilm, Buenos Aires - Argentina

Dos Destinos
Uruguay 1936
Dir. Juan Etchebehere
Prod. Ciclolux
35mm (B&W, Sound) 76 minutes
Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

Algumas das Realizações em Obras Públicas pela Administração Fabio Prado na Prefeitura de São Paulo
Brazil 1937

Prod. Rossi - Rex Film

35mm (Color, Sound) 9 min.

Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Rio de Janeiro

USA 1938

Dir. André de la Varre

Prod. A Screen Traveler Picture

16mm (B&W, Sound) 10 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Brazil at War

USA 1943

Prod. The Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs

16mm (B&W, Silent) 10 min.

Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration

Wings Over Brazil

USA 1943

Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs

16mm (B&W, Sound) 14 min.

Courtesy of Rockefeller Archive Center

Rio de Janeiro: Capital City of Brasil, A Scenic Wonder of the World

USA 1945

Prod. The Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs

35mm (B&W, Sound) 16 min.

Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

La Ciudad Frente al Rio

Argentina 1948

Dir. Enrico Gras

Prod. EMELCO

16mm (B&W, Sound) 10 min.

Courtesy of Frances Loeb Library. Harvard University Graduate School of Design

Cidade do Rio de Janeiro

Brazil 1949

Dir. Humberto Mauro

Prod. INCE - Instituto Nacional de Cinema Educativo

35mm (B&W, Sound) 32 min.

Courtesy of Centro Técnico Audiovisual - CTAv / SAV - MinC

Our Good Neighbors, Brazil: Rio de Janeiro

USA 1950s

Photography: Burton Holmes Staff

Script and Production: Bill Park Films

16mm (Color, Sound) 12 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Venezuela Road: \$60,000,000 Spent on New Highway

USA 1952

Prod. Universal International News

16mm (B&W, Sound) 1 min.

Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration

Carnival in Rio
USA 1955
Photographed and Directed by Andre de la Varre
Prod. Warner Bros.
35mm (Color, Sound) 9 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Cinejornal Informativo n. 7/57
Brazil 1957
Prod. Agência Nacional (Brasil)
16mm (B&W, Sound) 8 min
Courtesy of Ministério da Justiça / Arquivo Nacional, Brasil

Cinejornal Informativo n. 11/57
Brazil 1957
Prod. Agência Nacional (Brasil)
16mm (B&W, Sound) 3 min.
Courtesy of Ministério da Justiça / Arquivo Nacional, Brasil

Buenos Aires, 1958
Argentina 1958
Dir. David José Kohon
Prod. Ereno Film
16mm (B&W, Sound) 12 min.
Courtesy of Elena Cialdoni and APROCINAIN, Argentina

Wonderful World
USA 1959
Prod. Handy (Jam) Organization
35mm (Color, Sound) 43 min.
Courtesy of Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Cinejornal Informativo v. 3 n. 8
Brazil 1960
Prod. Agência Nacional (Brasil)
16mm (B&W, Sound) 8 min.
Courtesy of Ministério da Justiça / Arquivo Nacional, Brasil

Wings To South America: Journey Into Springtime
USA 1963
Dir. Harry L. Coleman
Prod. Harry L. Coleman
16mm (Color, Sound) 28 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Cinejornal Informativo n. 27
Brazil 1966
Prod. Agência Nacional (Brasil)
16mm (B&W, Sound) 8 min.
Courtesy of Ministério da Justiça / Arquivo Nacional, Brasil

Arquitetura do Rio
Brazil 1972
Dir. José Maria Bezerril
Prod. J.P. Produções
35mm (Color, Sound) 10 min.
Courtesy of Centro Técnico Audiovisual - CTAv / SAV - MinC

São Paulo

Perhaps no city in South America was transformed more radically in the 20th century than São Paulo, which grew from a low scale city of the mansions of coffee barons and industrialists with a population of just over ½ million in 1920 to become the largest city in the Americas by 1980 when its population hit 8.4 million on its way to today's 11 million, making it the largest city in the Americas and the 11th largest city in the world. While sprawl and the gradual pushing of the poorer classes to the periphery are key features of the city's development – in contrast to the large scale efforts of planning in Rio de Janeiro or in the layout of the new city of Brasilia – the redevelopment of São Paulo's historic center followed patterns familiar from other cities in this hemisphere: The densification, ever growing height, and diminution of residential buildings in the old core was accompanied by the rise of a new center, in the 1950s and 60s, to the southwest along the Avenida Paulista (not seen here), set at the highest point of the city's site poised on the ridge of the Serra do Mar mountains that parallel the coast behind the port city of Santos, the outlet point for the industrial goods and coffee that were in the mid-twentieth century still the motors of the São Paulo economy. But while the financial capital of Brazil is known for its industry, it was also a major center of avant-garde art, launched famously with the Semana de Arte Moderna (Modern Art Week) in 1922, and echoed eight years later when the émigré architect from Ukraine, Gregori Warchavek, built a modernist house in the rua Itápolis, that was opened as an exhibition house for six weeks in 1930, seen here in rare footage. It was not until after the Second World War however that modernist apartment houses began to transform both life in the metropolis and the physiognomy of whole quarters, notably the area of Hiegeonopolis, featured as the film moves to color in one of the finest designs by the leader of the São Paulo or Paulista school of architecture J.B. Artigas. By the time these buildings were underway the city had been transformed into an ever growing landscape of towers and high rise slabs marching across the landscape.

THE POETICS OF DEVELOPMENT: SÃO PAULO
USA 2015

Digital, (B&W and Color) 8:28 minutes

Filmmaker and Researcher: Joey Forsyte
Editors: Johnny Woods and Alex Tyson
Associate Producer and Researcher: Luisa Martinez

Graphics: Zena Grey
Produced by Velocity Filmworks

Archival footage excerpted from:

The Treasure of the Tropics
USA 1920'S
16mm (B&W, Silent) 29:51 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

São Paulo, A Symphonia da Metr pole
Brazil 1929
Dir. Rodolpho Rex Lustig and Adalberto Kemeny
Prod. Rex Filme
35mm (B&W, Silent) 90 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Jornal Carioca
Brazil 1930
35mm (B&W, Silent) 13 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Exposi o de uma Casa Modernista
Brazil 1930
Prod. Rossi Filmes
16mm (B&W, Silent) 2:44 min.
Courtesy of The Warchavchik Family

Los que torcieron el viento. Graff Zeppelin.
Argentina 1934
Prod. Proartel
(B&W, Silent) 3:32 min.
Courtesy of Archivo General de la Naci n, Argentina (AGN)

Untitled (Rambla Sur)
Uruguay 1934
(B&W, Silent) 2:46 min.
Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Cat lica del Uruguay.

Untitled (Zeppelin)
Uruguay 1934
(B&W, Silent) 2:27 min.
Courtesy of: Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Cat lica del Uruguay.

Pan Am To South America
USA 1935
16mm (B&W, Sound) 38:30 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Dos Destinos
Uruguay 1936
Dir. Juan Etchebehere
Prod. Ciclolux
35mm (B&W, Sound) 76 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

Algumas das Realiza es em Obras P blicas pela Administra o Fabio Prado na Prefeitura de S o Paulo
Brazil 1937

Prod. Rossi - Rex Film
35mm (B&W, Sound) 9:23 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Wings Over Brazil
USA 1940
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
16mm (B&W, Sound) 14 min.
Courtesy of Rockefeller Archive Center

Americans All
USA 1941
Dir. Julien Bryan
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
35mm (B&W, Sound) 24 min.
Courtesy of Travel Films Archive via Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Brazil Gets the News
USA 1942
Prod. Rossi Rex Film in conjunction with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
(B&W, Sound) 10 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

La Ciudad Frente al Rio
Argentina 1948
Dir. Enrico Gras
Prod. EMELCO
16mm (B&W, Sound) 9:47 min.
Courtesy of Frances Loeb Library. Harvard University Graduate School of Design

Around the World with Ford
USA 1948
35mm (B&W, Sound) 13 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

Brazil
USA 1948
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
(Color, Sound)
27:34 min.
Courtesy of The Rockefeller Archive Center

Sao Paulo
USA 1949
Prod. Office of Strategic Services in collaboration with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
35mm (B&W, Sound) 14:46 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

Sao Paulo, Brazil - 1950s (Clip)
USA 1950s
(Color, Sound)
43 seconds
Courtesy of MyFootage.com

Over the Andes to Brazil
USA 1950s
Dir. James Fitzpatrick
Prod. James A. Fitzpatrick

16mm (Color, Sound) 9:45 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Venezuela Road: \$60,000,000 Spent on New Highway
USA 1952
Prod. Universal International News
16mm (B&W, Sound) 1:19 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

VENEZUELA'S RADIO CITY: VENEZUELA
USA 1952
Prod. Universal International News
(B&W, Sound) 1 min.
Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration

Untitled (clip)
Venezuela 1950's
(B&W, Silent)
Courtesy of Cine Archivo B.F.

Buenos Aires
Argentina 1958
Dir. David José Kohon
Prod. Enero Film
16mm (B&W, Sound) 12:03 min.
Courtesy of Elena Cialdoni and APROCINAIN, Argentina

Wonderful World
USA 1959
Prod. Handy (Jam) Organization
35mm (Color, Sound) 43:20 min.
Courtesy of The Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Wings To South America: Journey Into Springtime
USA 1963
Dir. Harry L. Coleman
Prod. Harry L. Coleman
16mm (Color, Sound) 28 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Caracas

Caracas was a quiet capital, its urban form largely redolent of the Spanish colonial grid, until the discovery in the 1920s of the vast extent of oil in the country's subsoil, resources that belonged to the nation by virtue of the Venezuelan constitution. The city was transformed in a few decades from the capital of a largely agrarian nation to a metropolis at the epicenter of the international markets for petroleum as both foreign investment and rural migrants poured into the national capital. By 1957, Caracas, which had some 163,000 inhabitants in the 1930s, passed the 1 million mark, even as the size of the city was increased almost ten-fold; the value of real estate increased 400% between 1938 and 1959. The transformation of the capital was launched monumentally with the Rotival Plan, devised by French urbanist Maurice Rotival in 1939, although it was followed only in part in the dramatic transformation of the center of the city with the creation of a broad boulevard cutting through the colonial fabric and anchored by the twin towers of the Centro Bolívar (Cipriano Domingo 19xx-19xx) intended to house government ministries and inspired by the new Ministry of Health and Education recently completed in the Brazilian capital of Rio de Janeiro. Road works were not confined to the urban center as the gargantuan task of connecting a highway link between Caracas, separated by the massive mountain range of El Avila from the sea, involved blasting and long span bridges to connect the capital to the port and the coast. After 1955, under the military dictator Marcos Pérez Jiménez, Venezuela was launched on a quest for *El Nuevo Ideal Nacional* (the new national ideal) with its ideal of the "rational transformation of the physical environment." Jiménez pushed construction on the campus of the Universidad Central, begun under a previous administration, undertook the construction of a monumental boulevard leading to the military academy, launched the laying out of a huge urban park, the Parque del Este designed by Brazilian Roberto Burle Marx (1956-61), and inaugurated a new hotel – the Hotel Humboldt atop the Avila connected by cable car both to the city and to the coast. Over the course of the period the Banco Obrero (Housing Bank) sought to get ahead of the growing housing crisis with ever an ever greater scale of investment and of planning, escalating from the urbane El Silencio in the 1940s with its arcades redolent of colonial architecture forming a new urban plaza to the huge slabs of the post-war developments which were scaled to the mountainous landscape.

USA 2015

Digital (B&W and Color) 8:28 minutes

Filmmaker and Researcher: Joey Forsythe
Editors: Johnny Woods and Alex Tyson
Associate Producer and Researcher: Luisa Martinez
Graphics: Zena Grey
Produced by Velocity Filmworks

Archival footage excerpted from:

Por Tierras Argentinas
Argentina 1922
Dir. Federico Valle
Prod. Valle
(B&W, Silent) 10 min.
Courtesy Archivo General de la Nación, Argentina (AGN)

Untitled (Diagonal Agraciada)
Uruguay 1925
(B&W, Silent) 8:28 min.
Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

São Paulo, A Symphonia da Metr pole
Brazil 1929
Dirs. Rodolpho Rex Lustig and Adalberto Kemeny
Prod. Rex Filme
35mm (B&W, Silent) 90 minutes
Courtesy Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Highways of Venezuela
USA 1930
Scenrio: A.C. Rose
Photography by: G.R. Goergens
Prod. Bureau of Public Roads
35mm (Silent, B&W) 11 min.
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Los que torcieron el viento. Graff Zeppelin.
Argentina 1934
Prod. Proartel
(B&W, Silent) 3:32 min.
Courtesy Archivo General de la Nación, Argentina (AGN)

Untitled (Zeppelin)
Uruguay 1934
(B&W, Silent) 2:27 min.
Courtesy of: Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Cat lica del Uruguay.

Lustro 6: "S  que es imposible 1925-1929",
Mexico, 1991
Dir. Eduardo Pati o, Filmoteca
(Color, Sound) 25:48 Minutes
Courtesy of Filmoteca - National Autonomous University of M xico

Untitled Clips (Park)
Venezuela 1930's

35 (B&W, Silent)
Courtesy of Cine Archivo B. F.

Untitled (Rambla Sur)
Uruguay 1934
(B&W, Silent) 2:46 min.
Courtesy Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

Pan Am To South America
USA 1935
16mm (B&W, Sound) 38:30 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Dos Destinos
Uruguay 1936
Dir. Juan Etchebehere
Prod. Ciclolux 35mm
(B&W, Sound) 76 minutes
Courtesy Cinemateca Uruguaya

Así Nació el Obelisco (The Birth of the Obelisk)
Argentina 1936
Dir. Horacio Coppola
16mm (B&W, Silent) 7 min.
Courtesy of the Estate of Horacio Coppola; courtesy Galería Jorge Mara - La Ruche, Buenos Aires

Untitled Clips (School by Carlos Raul Villanueva)
Venezuela 1930's
35mm (B&W, Silent)
Courtesy of Cine Archivo B. F.

Untitled Clip (Hospital)
Venezuela 1930's
35mm (B&W, Silent)
Courtesy of Cine Archivo B. F.

Flying the Lindbergh Trail: An Aerial Travelogue of the Southern Americas
USA 1937
Produced and Photographed by: Palmer Miller and Curtis F. Nagel
16mm (B&W, Sound) 47:57 min.
Courtesy Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Wings Over Brazil
USA 1940
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
16mm (B&W, Sound) 14 min.
Courtesy Rockefeller Archive Center

Americans All
USA 1941
Dir. Julien Bryan
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
16mm (B&W, Sound) 24 min.
Courtesy Travel Films Archive via Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Brazil Gets the News USA 1942
Prod. Rossi Rex Film in conjunction with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs

(B&W, Sound) 10 min.
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Our Neighbors Down the Road
USA 1942
Prod. Herbert C. Lanks in cooperation with the Pan American Highway Confederation
16mm (B&W, Sound) 42:25 min.
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Untitled Clips (El Silencio by Villanueva)
Venezuela 1940's
35mm (B&W, Silent)
Courtesy of Cine Archivo B. F.

La Ciudad Frente al Rio
Argentina 1948
Dir. Enrico Gras
Prod. EMELCO
16mm (B&W, Sound) 9:47 min.
Courtesy of Frances Loeb Library. Harvard University Graduate School of Design

PAGEANT OF PROGRESS: VENEZUELA
USA 1952
Prod. Universal International News
16mm (B&W, Sound) 1:19 min.
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Venezuela Road: \$60,000,000 Spent on New Highway
USA 1952
Prod. Universal International News
16mm (B&W, Sound) 1:19 min.
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

VENEZUELA'S RADIO CITY: VENEZUELA USA 1952 Universal International News 16mm (B&W, Sound)
1 min. National Archives and Records Administration

Good Will Tour Venezuela
USA 1953
Prod. Universal International News
16mm (B&W, Sound)
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Venezuela's New Buildings Caracas, Venezuela
USA 1953
Prod. Universal International News
16mm (B&W, Sound)
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

VENEZUELA'S BOOM CONTINUES
USA 1954
Prod. Universal International News
16mm (B&W, Sound)
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Havana

Havana's two fold increase in population between 1930 and the Revolution in 1959 -- from 728,500 to over 1.5 million -- was reflected in the city's rapid modernization and the growth of a middle class, said in the 1950s to be the third largest in the hemisphere. The city's colonial core remained largely intact as the commercial neighborhood of Vedado and residential quarters rapidly expanded the urban area eastwards. Cuba's economy was booming in the 1950s with the rise of sugar cane prizes brought on by the loss of the European beet sugar industry and the upswing in US tourism to Havana, a gateway to beaches and tropical gambling, and night life mecca. All of this translated into a building boom with new modern infrastructure, modern tourist hotels, and luxury apartment houses and residences in a city moving continually westward. A whole new image of Cuba emerged to replace that defined before the war by the construction of a national capitol building closely modeled on that of Washington, now the architectural model was more in dialogue with Miami, Los Angeles, or Rio de Janeiro in the definition of a tropical cosmopolitanism, best embodied in buildings such as the Teatro Warner Radiocentro (Today Cinema Yara) of 1945-47 and a burgeoning landscape of resort hotels, most notably the Havana Hilton by the Los Angeles firm of Welton Becket (rebaptized La Habana Libre after 1959). Yet the class divide was ever greater as more than one third of Cuban households still lacked electrical light for instance, in the mid-1950s, and discontent with the corruption of the regime of Fulgencio Batista fed the forces of guerilla warfare in the late 1950s. The Revolution triumphed on New Year's Day 1959, with the new government of Fidel Castro inheriting elaborate plans for a modernized and expanded Havana, notably the extension of the capital to the east of the harbor, in projects drawn up for the National Planning Board created after repeated demands from Cuban architects in 1955 and which had enlisted the advice of architects from Italy and the US, notably the Regulatory plan drawn up by Josep Luis Sert and Paul Lester Wiener with Cuban Mario Romañach between summer 1955 and summer 1958.

THE POETICS OF DEVELOPMENT: HAVANA
USA 2015

Digital (B&W and Color) 8:28 minutes

Filmmaker and Researcher: Joey Forsyte
Editors: Johnny Woods and Alex Tyson

Associate Producer and Researcher: Luisa Martinez
Graphics: Zena Grey
Produced by Velocity Filmworks

Archival footage excerpted from:

Havana, Cuba
USA 1919
35mm (B&W, Silent) 8:39 min
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Untitled (Diagonal Agraciada)
Uruguay 1925
(B&W, Silent) 8:28 min.
Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

São Paulo, A Symphonia da Metr pole
Brazil 1929
Dir. Rodolpho Rex Lustig and Adalberto Kemeny
Prod. Rex Filme
35mm (B&W, Silent) 90 minutes
Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

By Way of Panama: Havana the Siren City
USA 1931
Prod. A Panama Pacific Production
35mm (B&W, Sound) 10:21 min.
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Havana, Cuba
USA 1930's
Dir. Andre de la Varre
16mm (B&W, Sound) 8:43 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Romantic Argentina
USA 1932
Dir. James A. Fitzpatrick
Prod. James A. Fitzpatrick
16mm (B&W, Sound) 9:08 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Untitled (Rambla Sur)
Uruguay 1934
(B&W, Silent) 2:46 min.
Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Cat lica del Uruguay.

Los que torcieron el viento. Graff Zeppelin.
Argentina 1934
Prod. Proartel
(B&W, Silent) 3:32 min.
Courtesy of Archivo General de la Naci n, Argentina (AGN)

Untitled home movies (Beach)
USA 1930's
(B&W, Silent) 57 min.
Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives

Untitled (Zeppelin)

Uruguay 1934

(B&W, Silent) 2:27 min.

Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Católica del Uruguay.

Pan Am To South America

USA 1935

16mm (B&W, Sound) 38:30 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Dos Destinos

Uruguay 1936

Dir. Juan Etchebehere

Prod. Ciclolux 3

35mm (B&W, Sound) 76 minutes

Courtesy Cinemateca Uruguaya

Flying the Lindbergh Trail: An Aerial Travelogue of the Southern Americas

USA 1937

Produced and Photographed by: Palmer Miller and Curtis F. Nagel

16mm (B&W, Sound) 47:57 min.

Courtesy of Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Wings Over Brazil

USA 1940

Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs

16mm (B&W, Sound) 14 min.

Courtesy Rockefeller Archive Center

Americans All

USA 1941

Dir. Julien Bryan

Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs

35mm (B&W, Sound) 24 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Brazil Gets the News

USA 1942

Prod. Rossi Rex Film in conjunction with the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs

(B&W, Sound) 10 min.

Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Havana Holiday

USA 1942

Dir. Eugene Castle

Prod. Castle Films

16mm (B&W, Silent) 9:24 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Cuba

USA 1947

Dir. Carl Dudley

Dudley Pictures Corporation

16mm (B&W, Sound) 9 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

La Ciudad Frente al Rio

Argentina 1948
Dir. Enrico Gras
Prod. EMELCO
16mm (B&W, Sound) 9:47 min.
Courtesy of the Frances Loeb Library. Harvard University Graduate School of Design

Holiday in the Caribbean
USA 1948
Dir. Irving Hartley
Prod. Hawley-Lord, Inc.
16mm (B&W, Sound) 10 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Cuba, The Land and The People
USA 1950
Prod. Coronet Films
16mm (Color, Sound) 10:51 min.
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Venezuela Road: \$60,000,000 Spent on New Highway
USA 1952
16mm (B&W, Sound) 1:19 min.
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Construction Havana Hilton
Cuba 1952
8mm, color, silent
Courtesy of Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives

Focsa Building
Cuba 1952
8mm, color, silent
Courtesy of Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives

Havana Hilton
Cuba, N.D.
8mm, color, silent
Courtesy of Lynn and Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archives

Buenos Aires, 1958
Argentina 1958
Dir. David José Kohon
Prod. Ereno Film
16mm (B&W, Sound) 12:03 min.
Courtesy of Elena Cialdoni and APROCINAIN, Argentina

Adelante Cubanos
Cuba 1959
Prod. ProFilms de Cuba
35mm (Color, Sound) 17:28 min.
Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Wonderful World
USA 1959
Prod. Handy (Jam) Organization
35mm (Color, Sound) 43:20 min.
Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Havana Holiday

USA 1959

Dir. Eugene Castle

Prod. Castle Films

16mm (Color, Sound) 7:37 min.

Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Untitled (Universal outtakes)

USA n/d

(B&W, Silent) 10:41 min.

Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

Mexico City

When the Spanish conquered Mexico in 1521 they discovered in the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlán a major urban center and culture in the marshy grounds around the interlaced lakes of the high basin. Atop this was built in the next three centuries one of the most impressive and extensive cities anywhere in the Spanish colonial Empire. Like Buenos Aires, Mexico City experienced massive transformation and modernization already in the decades on either side of 1900 with the express intention of imitating and rivaling European cities, Paris above all. The most visible contributions of this period under the President Porfirio Díaz (1876=1911) are the great avenue of Reforma and the monumental buildings of the Palace of Fine Arts (Palacio de Bellas Artes) begun in 1904 and the Senate, both finished after the 1910 Revolution and the latter transformed into the great open domed Monument to the Revolution. The Revolutionary government launched a major development of modern schools as well as a program of public murals promoting national history, seen here in the courtyard of the Ministry of Education. From the early twentieth century the city had begun a march toward the west and a steady increase in population, the population increasing by at least a million a decade in the years since 1940 when the population stood at 1.75 million. While much of the residential development that created a patchwork of leafy neighborhoods was of low scale and density, the scale of the city suddenly changed around 1950 as the population soared above 3 million and the Torre Latino America began construction as the region's tallest skyscraper and the first engineered to withstand earthquakes. In the same years work began on the campus of the national university, moved from the colonial core to the lava fields south of the city (on display in the next gallery), where it would become a pole of development. Nearby the model garden suburb of El Pedregal was launched by the architect Barragan, seen here in the house designed by the German émigré architect Max Cetto for his family. Large scale housing projects from the 1940s to the 1960s also contributed to a whole new scale of the city. Today Mexico City is one of twelve largest urban conurbations in the world, neck to neck with slightly larger Sao Paulo among mega-cities.

THE POETICS OF DEVELOPMENT: MEXICO
USA 2015

Digital, (B&W and Color) 8:28 minutes

Filmmaker and Researcher: Joey Forsythe
Editors: Johnny Woods and Alex Tyson

Associate Producer and Researcher: Luisa Martinez
Graphics: Zena Grey
Produced by Velocity Filmworks

Archival footage excerpted from:

City of Mexico
USA 1925
Prod. Ford Motion Picture Laboratories
35mm (B&W) 7 min.
Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration

São Paulo, A Symphonia da Metr pole
Brazil 1929
Dir. Rodolpho Rex Lustig and Adalberto Kemeny
Prod. Rex Filme
35mm (B&W, Silent) 90 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Brasileira - Sav/MinC

Los que torcieron el viento. Graff Zeppelin.
Argentina 1934
Prod. Proartel
(B&W, Silent) 3:32 min.
Courtesy of Archivo General de la Naci n, Argentina (AGN)

Untitled (Zeppelin)
Uruguay 1934
(B&W, Silent) 2:27 min.
Courtesy of Archivo Audiovisual "Prof. Dina Pintos". Facultad de Ciencias Humanas. Universidad Cat lica del Uruguay.

The Land of Montezuma
USA 1935
Prod. Rothacker
(B&W, Sound) 7:51 min.
Courtesy of Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Untitled,
Uruguay 1929
(B&W, Silent)
Courtesy of: Stella M. Camps Scasso

Pan Am To South America
USA 1935
16mm (B&W, Sound) 38:30 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Dos Destinos
Uruguay 1936
Dir. Juan Etchebehere
Prod. Ciclolux
35mm (B&W, Sound) 76 min.
Courtesy of Cinemateca Uruguaya

Im genes sobre Buenos Aires
Argentina 1936
16mm (B&W, Silent) 7:11 min.
Courtesy of Archivo DiFilm, Buenos Aires - Argentina

Untitled (Mexico, 1930's)
USA 1938
(B&W, Sound) 29 sec.
Courtesy of Getty Images

Wings Over Brazil
USA 1940
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
16mm (B&W, Sound) 14 min.
Courtesy of Rockefeller Archive Center

The Day is New: Dawn to Darkness in Mexico City
USA 1940
Prod. Agustin P. Delgado for ALFA in conjunction with The Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
(B&W, Sound) 9:48 min.
Courtesy of Prelinger Archive via Getty Images

Americans All
USA 1941
Dir. Julien Bryan
Prod. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs
35mm (B&W, Sound) 24 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Mexico
USA 1941
Dir. Eugene Castle
Prod. Castle Films
16mm (B&W, Sound) 9:26 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

La Ciudad Frente al Rio
Argentina 1948
Dir. Enrico Gras
Prod. EMELCO
16mm (B&W, Sound) 9:47 min.
Courtesy of The Frances Loeb Library. Harvard University Graduate School of Design

Venezuela Road: \$60,000,000 Spent on New Highway
USA 1952
16mm (B&W, Sound) 1:19 min.
Courtesy of The National Archives and Records Administration

Architecture of Mexico
USA 1952
Dir. Spencer Moore
Prod. Allen-Moore Productions
16mm (Color, Sound) 19:41 min.
Courtesy of FILM Archives, Inc.

Meet Mexico City
USA 1958
Photography by: Agnew Fisher
Prod. Kellerman-Bracket
16mm (B&W, Sound) 12:29 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Buenos Aires, 1958

Argentina 1958
Dir. David José Kohon
Prod. Eneo Film
16mm (B&W, Sound) 12:03 min.
Courtesy of Elena Cialdoni and APROCINAIN, Argentina

The Two Mexicos
USA 1950s
16mm (Color, Silent)
15:51 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

The Magic of Mexico
USA 1950's
Prod. Linda Shuler for Humble Oil
16mm (Color, Sound) 28:30 min.
Courtesy of The Travel Film Archive at Global ImageWorks

Construcción de Ciudad Universitaria
Mexico, 1950
Dir. Carlos Lazo
16mm, (B&W Silent) 5:48 min.
Courtesy Carlos Lazo Collection - 1948-1950, Filmoteca - National Autonomous University of México

Aliados en el Progreso
Mexico 1963
U.S.I.S. Mexico
16mm (Color, Sound) 11:12 min.
Courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

"Yo soy México"
Mexico 1968
16mm (Color, Sound)
Courtesy of Filmoteca - National Autonomous University of México

Lustro 5: "Vieja Modernidad 1920-1924"
Mexico 1991
Dir. Jaime Tello Cadenas,
16mm (Color, Sound) 25:41 Minutes
Courtesy of Filmoteca - National Autonomous University of México

Lustro 6: "Sé que es imposible 1925-1929",
Mexico, 1991
Dir. Eduardo Patiño, Filmoteca
16mm (Color, Sound) 25:48 Minutes
Courtesy of Filmoteca - National Autonomous University of México

Lustro 8: "Cuando la sombra de la duda se cruza en el camino 1935-1939"
Mexico 1991
Dir. Ricardo Pérez Montfort
16mm (Color, Sound) 28:49 Minutes
Courtesy of Filmoteca - National Autonomous University of México