

Iqui Balam FINAL script, 8/31/01

	Title: Guatemala 2001
<i>scenes of poverty in Guatemala city and Mario Alloto</i>	An Iqui Balam rap song
<i>introduce Julio</i>	Title: Julio Mal, age 17 Ex-Gang Member Iqui Balam Theater Group
Julio, home i/v	To be poor is difficult. If you don't know how to read or write nobody's going to give you a job. Being in a gang you can get money easy. If I steal a car and sell it in a day I have 10 –15 thousand quetzales. But if I worked to get 15 thousand quetzales, I'd have to work for 6-7 months. That's why there's a lot of delinquency in Guatemala
Julio, home i/v	I used drugs because of problems at home. My mom was mistreated by my stepfather. I live with my aunt now because I was ready to kill my stepfather. I was in a gang . I hurt people a lot on the street who had nothing to do with my problems.
<i>Miguel stabs Jorge in the leg with a knife.</i>	
IB exits van, sets up for show in prison. Begins performing.	Title: Iqui Balam visits the San Jose Pinula detention center
AIDS play in prison	sound up full

Julio, i/v at home	My wish is to be able to take those kids out of the gangs; I know I won't be able to affect a large number of kids but if I can help 3 or 4 it's a great achievement.
Julio w/prisoners	brief bit of sound up— <i>Julio asks them a question</i>
Julio, i/v at home	That's the work I do with Iqui Balam, work with gangs so that they can move forward. I do theatre. I do this so kids have an alternative and can demonstrate the talent they have within themselves
<i>introduce Christian</i>	Title: Christian Salazar UNICEF Project Officer
Christian i/v <i>shots of crowd looking on</i>	When the group started, many parents and the neighbors around were very suspicious about another youth gang getting together. And then came Hurricane Mitch, and we had a major emergency here. The group then got out and started some community work
Julio i/v at Vasija	We were working with families when the water came in, when their houses collapsed.
Christian i/v	They started to dig platforms for water tanks. They went into the different shantytowns and told people about cholera and how to prevent it.
Julio i/v at Vasija <i>use slo-mo treated shot of water tank being filled</i>	It was a community that didn't have water. With "Doctors Without Borders" we helped them. They gave us a water tank and we took it to them because they didn't have drinking water.
Christian i/v <i>shots of people smiling as parade goes by</i>	And then the people suddenly saw, oh, they are helping us and that broke the ice and now they are getting a lot of support and people are very proud of them.
<i>introduce Miguel</i>	Title: Miguel Enrique Gaitan Founder, Iqui Balam Theater Group

Miguel, IB i/v	Iqui Balam is one of the first four men created in a Mayan creation myth. 3 of them form villages, have descendants,
Julio, home i/v	Iqui Balam was a god who didn't have descendants. He didn't believe in anything.
Miguel, IB i/v	Many of us often felt we were outside of society. We didn't have a story within our own culture, in our own country. We identified with Iqui Balam.
<i>shot of Miguel and Julio</i>	
Miguel, IB i/v	Julio changed a lot. He was very violent. He was prone to fighting . Now all that's changed. Now he's the most interested in helping other kids.
Julio i/v in schoolyard	We're doing some theatre workshops, with the kids from 5 th and 6 th grade, the older ones.
Julio i/v at home	We show the feelings we have inside. I tell them that their feelings can be expressed through theater.
Christian i/v	Groups like IquiBalam, they are giving children at risk a sort of alternative home, you know friendship that shows those kids that they can do things differently and better, even better than their parents and that makes them pretty proud and you know to be proud of oneself is maybe the best protection against drug and juvenile delinquency
<i>introduce Domingo</i>	Title: Domingo Soc Student
Domingo i/v <i>note: this can be changed and work on Eng. phrasing</i>	I'm participating in 2 plays that I like a lot. It helps me because I'm very nervous around people. Now I'm not afraid any more. Now can present myself well in front of people.
<i>introduce Luis and Margarita</i>	Title: Margarita and Luis Escoledo La Vasija Theater Company

Luis/Margarita working with IB during rehearsal	<i>Luis directs the boys in the stabbing scene</i>
Margarita i/v	We met Iqui Balam in a youth group in Zacapa.
Luis i/v <i>shots of set building</i>	We get together at least 3 days a week and work on acting techniques, acting methods and we do a bit of dramatic theory. Margarita is working on a drama workshop with them.
	bit of drama workshop up full
Julio, i/v at theatre wkshp	I'm learning a lot about theater. I want to become a writer. That's why I like to participate in these workshops so much.
bit of Titiriteo "drug" scene	
Luis i/v	Many of Iqui Balam's members come from broken homes, some are drug addicts, in recovery. So the work reflects their own lives. Precisely because they are members of young groups, gangs, they are repressed and have been hurt by the police.
Luis i/v ??	For example, the play "Titiriteo," Manuel, the guy who has the lead role, he's a guy who had problems with drugs, so in the play he talks about his own experience with drugs.
Margarita i/v	What they do, and do very well, is simply reproduce reality, as it is, and how they intimately know it. That's how they are capable of creating such powerful images, and those powerful messages.
Domestic violence play, sound up full	
Julio announces that the group will be performing a play to the people at the marketplace.	

	bit of AIDS play up full
Julio i/v at home	The AIDS play begins with these jokes where the public laughs, has fun.
Julio i/v at home	It's a comedy because kids pay more attention when there is laughter, when they have fun, and then at the same time they learn.
Christian i/v	If you want to be understood by the people, with a high illiteracy rate that you have here, and with virtually no exposure to culture, or to positive values you must find ways to speak, to be understood and Iqui Balam does that.
Julio i/v while putting on makeup	Through theatre I'm paying back for the bad that I did I'm helping other kids get out of bad places, like gangs, drug addiction, delinquencies.
Julio i/v while putting on makeup	And, for kids who want to change, like kids who are in gangs, this gives them an out to fight for their lives.