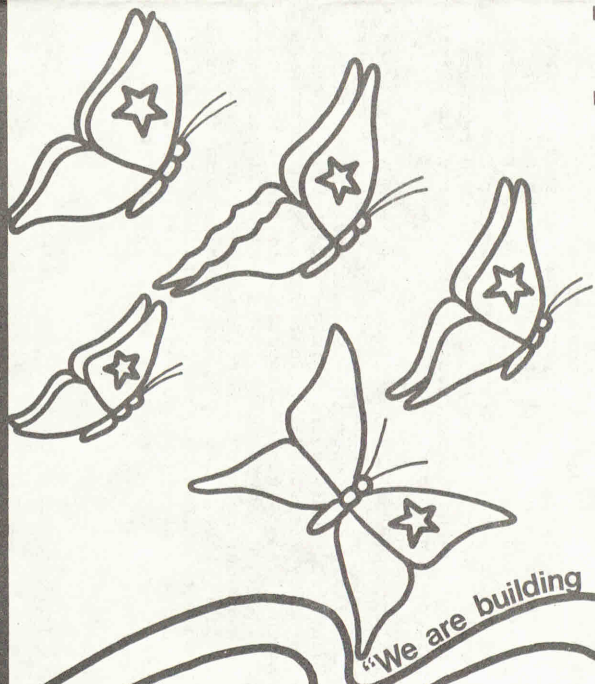


# Festival for CHILE



"We are building  
the roads back  
home"

**22nd September**  
**Conway Hall 10am- 11pm**  
**Red Lion Sq. WC1**

Videos-Workshops  
Music-Food-Drinks  
Main Speaker Judith Hart MP  
TICKETS £2.50 & £1.50

GLC  
funded

During 1984, Chile has witnessed the expansion of all opposition forces against Pinochet's dictatorship. The opposition has carried out "national protests" month after month despite strong repression, death and imprisonment etc.

The banner "Democracy Now" is pervading the whole spectrum of the opposition arena. The unifying and forceful struggle of all popular forces has encouraged the most committed and consistent sectors of the Democratic Alliance (AD) towards a national agreement which aims at restoring democracy in the short term. It is within this unifying framework that the activities carried out by the Coordinadora Cultural have gathered artists of all walks of life and thought together. They are presenting an alternative to the "cultural expressions" imposed by the dictatorship through the controlled media, TV, radio, press etc.

The ongoing popular mobilisation against the dictatorship has forced it to reaffirm the Jarpa plan of "controlled democratic opening". This aims to oppress the most active and committed sectors of the opposition and establish a dialogue with the soft liners of it. Following these 2 ideas an anti-terrorist law has been passed which was unanimously rejected by the opposition. Several intentions are behind this law: Firstly, it aims at legalising the recent activities of the secret police (CNI); Secondly, it is geared towards the institutionalisation of the regime; Thirdly, it tries to establish a model of "protected democracy" devised by USA imperialism to close all channels for an authentic democratic alternative. For this reason the government is making all possible efforts to divide the opposition into "marxists" and "non-marxists", "pacifists" and "guerrillas".

It is within this context that one should understand the repressive escalade against the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP). Since April 1984, the Chilean dictatorship has exerted strong and permanent repression on the MDP forces through imprisonment, internal and external exile and murder, as the destruction of the popular and revolutionary leadership is a crucial requirement to perpetuate the dictatorship in power. The Jarpa plan also aims at providing a public cosmetic image of governmental coherence at the political and economic level which would attract those industrial sectors lately opposing the regime. In addition it is geared towards a better image of the obvious mismanagement and paralysis of the government. For this reason a strong propaganda campaign has been set up to misinform the public with images of economic recovery. According to government figures, there is a reduction in the percentage of unemployment and an increase in industrial output. However, it is impossible to speak of economic recovery when the country has to spend 70% of her income from exports to pay interest and debentures for the heavy external debts incurred by the regime. It is also impossible for the country to experience economic recovery when the dictatorship has granted financial resources to the intervened private banks which exceed their patrimony many times.

It is very important to revitalize international solidarity to support all the forms of struggle being carried out by the Chilean people to overthrow Pinochet's regime. At the same time it is vital to support the Chilean exiles in their campaign for the "Right to return and to live in their own country". Pinochet's government has used exile as a daily instrument against hundreds and thousands of Chileans, for the sole reason of sustaining a democratic ideology. For us, Chilean exiles, the right to live in our own country is an essential part of the democratic struggle. To go back to our country, therefore, is to incorporate ourselves with the process of liberating our people which the democratic forces of Chile are undertaking. It must be understood, however, that the question of the return of those living in exile can only be solved to a lasting degree by returning to democracy and the departure of General Pinochet. International solidarity, our solidarity, must lend a helping hand.