# Memory and Art: Remembering the Femicides Lydia Ruffin

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# Femicides Background

- Femicide → the targeted murders of women as a form of gender discrimination
- Approximately 470 women murdered from 1994-2006 in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico
- Most women reported missing or murdered worked in *maquiladoras*
- Experienced extreme gender discrimination in the work force
- Mexican government and police force has done little to nothing in terms of persecution or ending the femicides

## Campo Algodonero Case

- The Cotton Field Murders (2001)
- Bodies of 8 women found in a cotton field across from the maquiladora where they were all employed
- First ever femicides case brought to court in 2009
- Inter-American Court of Human Rights found the Mexican Government guilty of the mistreatment of the case



https://projects.seattletimes.com/2020/femicide-juarez-mexico-border/

### Adriana Corral

- Rising artist from El Paso, Texas
- Her art focuses on "human rights abuses"
  Brings a voice back to narratives that have
- been erased or forgotten

  Has several pieces about the femicides:
- Has several pieces about the femicides:
- Voces de las Perdidas
- Quebrar el Silencio

- Images below:

  Voces de las

  Perdidas
- Images to the right:

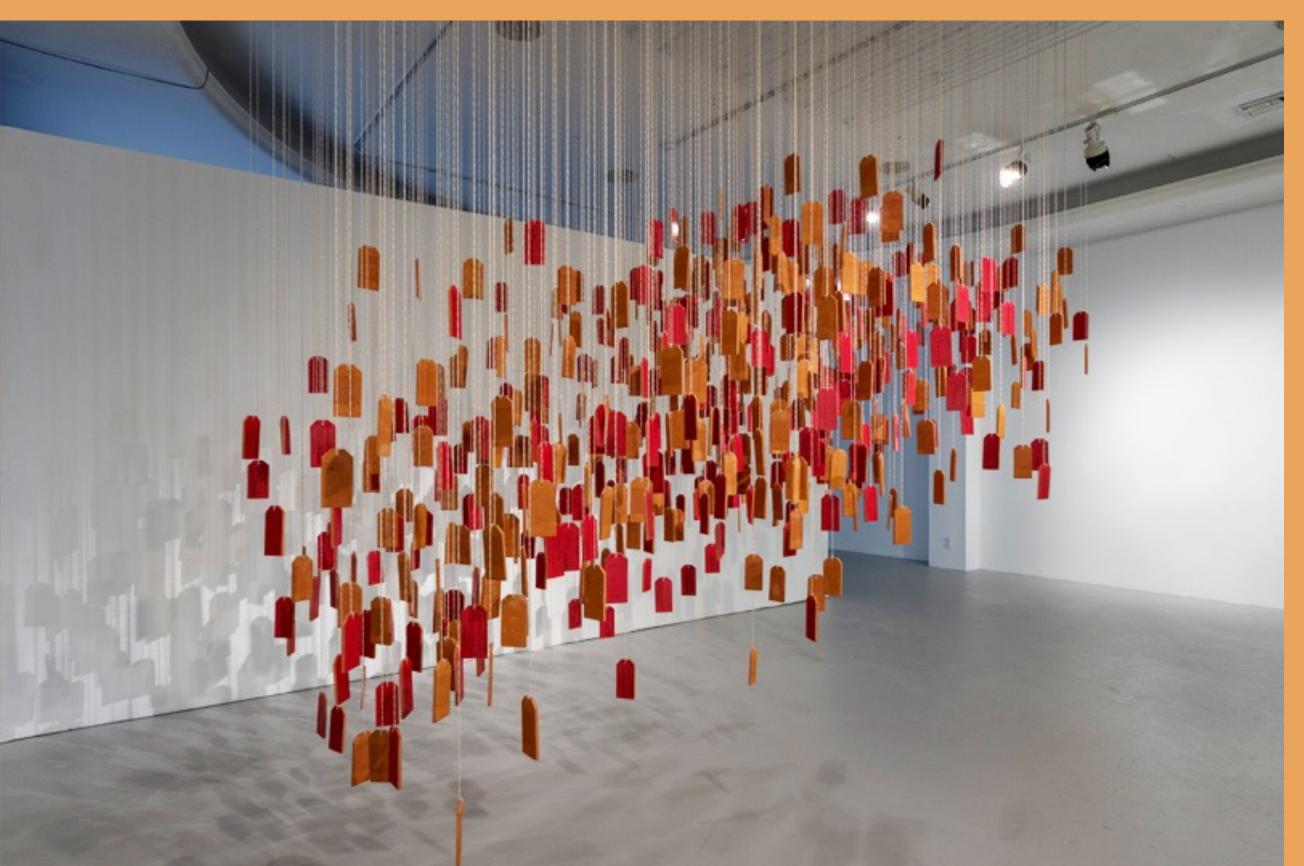
  Quebrar el
  Silencio







https://www.adrianacorral.com/voces-de-las-perdidas https://



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# Memory and Art

- Remembering is part of forgetting
- Art can help make painful memories more comprehensible
- Allows the viewer to understand the complexities of the tragedy
- Art evokes empathy

#### References

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