



Tech: Fluidity of Borders

"I Didn't Cross the Border, the Border Crossed Me"

Exhibition:
In the social scientific experiment *Talking Borders* (2018), border scholar Tech speaking from their position living and working in the border states of United States-Texas and California, and researching the criminal justice system, presented a 13-minute monologue on notions on border s and borderlands studies.

The selected snippets explore the fluidity of borders, demonstrating that borders are not fixed, demarcated lines on maps, but dynamic entities that shape everyday life, culture and identity.

Through lived experiences from the U.S- Mexico border, the narrator begins with the powerful notion: "I Didn't Cross the Border, the Border Crossed Me", highlighting how borders operate beyond geographic boundary and influence daily inland mobility, such as passing internal checkpoints within the United Sates while commuting. The speaker further explains that the borders change over time: "maps move, lines of demarcation move, and the river defining the Texas-Mexico border has flowed south". The fluidity of the border extends into the social and cultural life in South Texas, where witness "the mixing of Spanish and English", "the Tex-Mex food". At the same time, the hybrid social belongs and identity is witnessed in this borderland, producing a sense of belonging defined not by being either inside or outside, but "being both".

The snippets are selected under the theme Fluidity of Borders as part of the curators' interpretation. For further information on *Talking Borders*, including the complete audio recording, please visit <https://>

