This multi-media resource list, compiled by Paul Barenbo of the San Diego Public Library in partnership with the American Library Association, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary "Al Otro Lado" that premieres on August 1, 2006 at 10 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at www.pbs.org/pov/).

The proud Mexican tradition of corrido music — captured in the performances of Mexican band Los Tigres del Norte and the late Chalino Sanchez — provides both heartbeat and backbone to this rich examination of songs, drugs and dreams along the U.S./Mexico border. "Al Otro Lado" follows Magdiel, an aspiring corrido composer from the drug capital of Mexico, as he faces two difficult choices to better his life: to traffic drugs or to risk his life crossing the border illegally into the United States. Performance footage by corrido superstars is interspersed with the day-to-day struggles of Magdiel as he embarks on an uncertain journey. "Al Otro Lado" explores the world of drug smuggling, illegal immigration, and the corrido music that chronicles it all. An Official Selection of the Tribeca Film Festival.

**ADULT NONFICTION**


Edberg, Mark Cameron. El Narcotraficante: Narcocorridos and the Construction of a Cultural Persona on the U.S.-Mexico Border. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 2004. Since the late 1970s, a new folk hero has risen to prominence in the U.S.-Mexico border region and beyond—the narcotrafficker. Celebrated in the narcocorrido, a current form of the traditional border song known as the corrido, narcotraffickers are often portrayed as larger-than-life "social bandits."


Mcdowell, J. H. Poetry and Violence: The Ballad Tradition of Mexico's Costa Chica. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2000. Book and CD. Provides an in-depth study of a body of poetry that takes violence as its subject: the Mexican ballad form known as the corrido. Through interviews with corrido composers and performers, both male and female, and a generous sampling of ballad texts, McDowell reveals a living vernacular tradition that amounts to a chronicle of local and regional rivalries.

Quinones, Sam. "The Ballad of Chalino Sanchez" in True Tales from Another Mexico: The Lynch Mob, the Popsicle Kings, Chalino, and the Bronx. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2001. Through interviews and storytelling, Quinones presents an excellent view of the informal economy and various means that are used to get around Mexico's system of social, economic and political organization.


Harbinger House, 1990. In this grim exposé, Strong argues that the grinding poverty of Mexico produces people who will do almost anything to earn money. The author interviewed people throughout the Tucson area, mostly Mexican-Americans, all involved in the drug trade in some way. He has put their oral accounts together with brief introductions and an afterword.


BOOKS IN SPANISH


MAGAZINE ARTICLES


NEwSPAPER ARTICLES


Schwartz, Jeremy. "Mexican Songs Tell Tales of Drug Lords;
Delve Deeper into "Al Otro Lado"
A film by Natalia Almada


AUDIO

Corridos y Narcocorridos: Un Viaje al Mundo de la Musica de las Drogas, Armas y Guerrilleros. Fonovisa Inc., November 29, 2001. This album, designed to accompany Elijah Wald’s book "Narcochorrido: A Journey into the Music of Drugs, Guns, and Guerrillas" is the first to survey the modern corrido boom. It focuses on the work of the genre’s defining band, Los Tigres del Norte, with examples of other styles and artists showing the breadth and variety of the current scene.

Heroes & Horses: Corridos from the Arizona-Sonora Borderlands. Smithsonian Folkways, March 26, 2002. A joint project of the University of Arizona Southwest Folklife Center and Smithsonian Folkways, this CD covers nearly the entire range of regional experience, from songs of the Mexican Revolution to mining to regional experience, from songs of the Mexican Revolution to mining to horse racing. The focus here is on the older style of corrido. See also: www.mustrad.org.uk/reviews/corridos.htm.

VIDEOS/DOCUMENTARIES

"Maquilapolis.” A film by Vicky Funari and Sergio De La Torre. ITVS, 2006. (60 min.) Carmen, a worker in a maquiladora, and her friend Lourdes confront labor violations, environmental devastation and urban chaos, reaching beyond their daily struggle for survival to organize for change, taking on both the Mexican and U.S. governments and a major television manufacturer. www.pbs.org/pov/pov2006/maquilapolis


"Escuela.” A film by Hannah Weyer. Women Make Movies, 2002. (76 min.) For vivacious Liliana Luis, her debut as an all-American high school freshman is immeasurably complicated by the fact that her Mexican-American family makes its living following the harvests from Texas to California. www.pbs.org/pov/pov2002/escuela

"The Sixth Section” A film by Alex Rivera. SubCine, 2003. (26 min.) Captures a dynamic form of cross-border organizing through the story of "Grupo Unión,” a small band of Mexican immigrants in upstate New York devoted to raising money to rebuild the town they left behind. www.pbs.org/pov/pov2003/thesixthsection


"Go Back to Mexico!” A film by Hector Galan. Galan Inc., 1994. (57 min.) One woman’s attempt to illegally immigrate from Mexico to the United States.

"Zoot Suit.” A film by Luis Valdez. Universal Pictures, 1981. (103 min.) The director’s brother, Daniel Valdez, plays the lead character and composed the songs to this story of the zoot suit riots in 1940s Los Angeles. www.amazon.com


"Maria Full of Grace.” A film by Joshua Marston. HBO Films, 2004. (101 min.) A young girl becomes a drug mule when she is confronted with unemployment. www.amazon.com


"Maquila: A Tale of Two Mexicos.” A film by Saul Landau and Sonia Angulo, 2000. (55 min.) Presents the pros and cons of the maquiladora, an export manufacturing program established by NAFTA in the 1960s.

"A Day Without a Mexican.” A film by Sergio Arau. Eye on the Ball Films, 2004. (100 min.) Shows what would happen in California if every Mexican disappeared for one day. www.amazon.com


WEB SITES

P.O.V.’s “Al Otro Lado” www.pbs.org/pov/pov2006/alotrolado

Includes an interview with the filmmaker, resources, special features and more.

Smithsonian Center for Latino Initiatives http://latino.si.edu/researchandinitiatives http://latino.si.edu/researchandinitiatives/presents/chew sanches_papers.html

A center devoted to advancing the knowledge and contributions of Latinos in the United States.

Elijah Wald - Narcocorrido www.elijahwald.com/corrido.htm
Delve Deeper into "Al Otro Lado"
A film by Natalia Almada

A website to accompany his book about the music of drugs, guns and guerrillas.

The Borderlands Encyclopedia
www.ute.edu/border/inf.html
A multimedia instructional resource on contemporary issues of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Corridos Sin Fronteras
www.corridos.org/
Website for the Smithsonian sponsored traveling exhibition showcasing corridos.

Texas Online Handbook
www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/CC/lhc1.html
Informational text regarding Texas-Mexican corridos.

Center for Immigration Studies
www.cis.org/topics/illegalimmigration.html
Provides links to other immigration-related publications.

Los Tigres del Norte
www.fonovisa.com/lostigresdelnorte.html
Contains band's biography, videos and audio.

Jenni Rivera
http://music.yahoo.com/ar-293212---Jenni-Rivera
Includes biography and music of famous female corrido singer, Jenni Rivera.

Chalino Sanchez, El Pelavacas
www.elpelavacas.com/
Comprehensive fan site dedicated to famous corrido singer Chalino Sanchez.

Chalino Sanchez
www.chalino.com/artistas/chalino
Biography and discography of Chalino Sanchez.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
www.cbp.gov/
CBP's goal is to protect America's borders against terrorism and illegal migration.

Secure Border Initiative: SBInet Program
www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/contracting/sbi_net/
A comprehensive multi-year plan to secure America’s borders and reduce illegal migration.

Mexican Migration Project
http://mmp.opr.princeton.edu/
A multidisciplinary research effort between investigators in Mexico and the U.S. whose mission is to advance our understanding of the complex processes of international migration and immigration to the United States. Data gathered by the MMP have been the source of a sizable amount of research on international migration.

Migration Information Source
www.migrationinformation.org/issue_mar04.cfm
Feature stories and other resources on U.S.-Mexico Migration.

Center for U.S. Mexican Studies
http://usmex.ucsd.edu/research/research_migration.php
Since 1979, the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies has undertaken and supported serious, sustained research on Mexican migration to the United States. The purpose of this page is to give a brief overview of these efforts, past and present, and to point the user to various resources on the topic.