

Bonita - Ugly Bananas

Duration 23mins Released 2004

Over the last three years, Glasgow based artist Jan Nimmo has gathered images and testimonies to make a series of portraits of banana workers. English with Spanish subtitles. A film by Jan Nimmo. Co-produced and edited by Cassandra McGrogan. Sound by John Cobban and Craig Aitchison. Music by Los Reyes del Vallenato. Exploitation of banana workers in Ecuador In spring 2002 Jan visited Ecuador for the first time. Although Ecuador is the world's largest exporter of bananas, the workers have the lowest pay and the worst conditions in the whole of Latin America. The country's biggest banana baron is Álvaro Noboa of the Bonita Brands company. "I don't like unions, I will fight them."
Álvaro Noboa He's the country's richest man and owns the world's fourth largest banana company but his workers are only paid \$3.00 a day - a lot less than the legal minimum wage.

Banana worker unions The economic and political power of big business means that less than 1% of banana workers in Ecuador are members of unions. When workers decided to organise and strike to gain the most basic of labour rights, Jan found herself witnessing the violent attack on a peaceful occupation of a Bonita banana plantation.

Get copies of this film Contact Jan, the filmmaker, directly if you want a copy of this film or if you would like to organise a screening. Jan Nimmo - jan@cacomistle.freeserve.co.uk - tel: +44 141 357 3803

All Camcorder Guerilla films are made by a voluntary collective - if you would like to know more, make a donation or would like to get involved then please follow the links.