

## Río Negro Memorial Textile

### Weaver Profile

---

#### **Araceli Cical Lajuj, 28**

Araceli was born in the community of San Juan las Vegas, Baja Verapaz. Her family was not affected by the violence that affected Río Negro, and for that she feels truly grateful. At seventeen, she moved to Guatemala City and began to work as a seamstress in a maquila, where she met her husband, Augustín Iboy Osorio. The couple married in 2000, and moved in with his family in Pacux.

Araceli has been a weaver since she was twelve and designed her textile in memory of her husband's grandmother, Isabel Osorio, who died at Pak'oxom on March 13, 1982. Augustín was four when his mother left him with his grandmother, Isabel, while she went to Pueblo Viejo to shop.

When the soldiers came to their house and called her to a meeting, Isabel left two grandchildren hidden in a small streambed near the house, having a sense of her own fate that day. She took her own child with her to Pak'oxom that day and both were killed. Araceli's textile shows the mountains, pine trees and birds around Pak'oxom, a gift to a great-grandmother her three children will never know.

