

# Waikil and Ketrafe Preform live at Ronald Reagan Washington National Aiport

9 July 2024

[Waikil y Ketrafe – “Wetruwe” \(Live at the Airport\) - Music Video](#)

Urban indigenous rap duo, Waikil and Ketrafe, performed at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, introducing fans and onlookers to the sounds of the vibrant Mapuche culture

Washington, D.C. – Coming from Chile, urban rap duo Waikil and Ketrafe brought their unique sound to the 2024 Smithsonian Folklife Festival and the Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. This year's theme, hosted by the Smithsonian Center of Folklife and Cultural Heritage on the National Mall, was Indigenous Voices of the Americas. The six-day event brought in thousands of visitors and hosted a variety of Native American artists. From skateboarding to flag-waving, culinary arts, and musical performances, the festival introduced attendees to the beauty of our hemisphere's indigenous communities.

Waikil and Ketrafe merge their urban rap style with traditional Mapuche instruments and lyrics to create a dynamic sound that tells a story of resilience, gratitude, and pride. Their hit song, “Wetruwe,” explains the discrimination of the Chilean government against the 1.9 million Mapuche people and names martyrs who have passed away due to the state’s brutality.

“These songs are more than just songs. I’m Chilean as well, but I grew up in New Jersey, and these songs help me trace the history of my country. For me, excluding indigenous voices from the history of Chile is detrimental. We can’t have one without the other, and I love the way that Waikil and Ketrafe bring that sound to life,” said Amelia Cortez, curator at the Center of Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

Waikil and Ketrafe decided to perform at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport to showcase the autonomy and individuality of the Mapuche community, working diplomatically with the United States of America. For the duo, this was an opportunity to show Chile, the U.S., and the world the respect and sovereignty all indigenous communities are entitled to.

The song, “Wretruwe,” combines lyrics in Spanish and Mapudungun, the Native Mapuche language. Below is a glossary of the Mapudungun terms in both English and Spanish.

## English Translation

*aukafe* – brave warrior

*che* – people

*füta* – great

*katrüwe* – knife

*ñaña* – “elder sister,” a respectful term used to address a wise woman who cares for others

*newen* – life force

*ngen* – beings, “owners,” or spirits that protect the natural world

*peñi* – brother; brothers and sisters

*Wallmapu* – ancestral Mapuche territory

*weñefe* – thief

*wetruwe* – bolas (traditional weapon, rounder)

*wewaiñ* – we will win, overcome, triumph

*winka* – non-Mapuche

## Spanish Translation

*aukafe* – guerrero valiente

*che* – pueblo

*füta* – grande

*katrüwe* – cuchillo

*ñaña* – “hermana mayor”, un término respetuoso usado para referirse a una mujer sabia que cuida de los demás

*newen* – fuerza vital

*ngen* – seres, “dueños” o espíritus que protegen el mundo natural

*peñi* – hermano; hermanos y hermanas

*Wallmapu* – territorio ancestral mapuche

*weñefe* – ladrón

*wetruwe* – boleadoras

*wewaiñ* – venceremos, venceremos, triunfaremos

*winka* – no mapuche

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