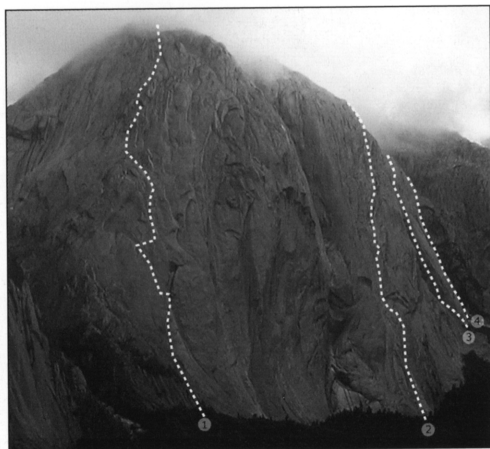


ruary 2005) climbs nine pitches of a prominent left-facing dihedral on the north face of Trinidad's south tower. Two climbers who have left their mark on Cochamó are Brazilian "Chiquinho" Jose Luis Hartmann and Sergio Tartari. While camped for months in the valley, they established new lines on or near Trinidad almost every year since the valley's first route in 1997. One of their classic lines, Alandalaca (5.12b, February 2000) ascends nine long pitches up the left-side arête of Trinidad's southern tower. Chiquinho's newest line, Pegadito a la Pared (5.11c A0, Jose Luis Hartmann-Valentin Reimay, February 2006) climbs seven pitches up the right-side arête. Other Chiquinho-Sergio routes include the 340m Velho Alerce (5.11b A2+, February 2000) on Cerro La Laguna, the 800m Mucho Mucho Granito Arriba (5.10d A4, February 1999) on Trinidad's overhanging north tower and the 750m Tabanos na Cara (5.10+ A3+, March 2003) on Trinidad's central tower.



Routes established on Trinidad in 2005-06: (1) Bienvenidos a Mi Insomnio. (2) Nunca Mas Mariscos. (3) Vida de Ogro. (4) Pegadito a la Pared. Daniel Seeliger

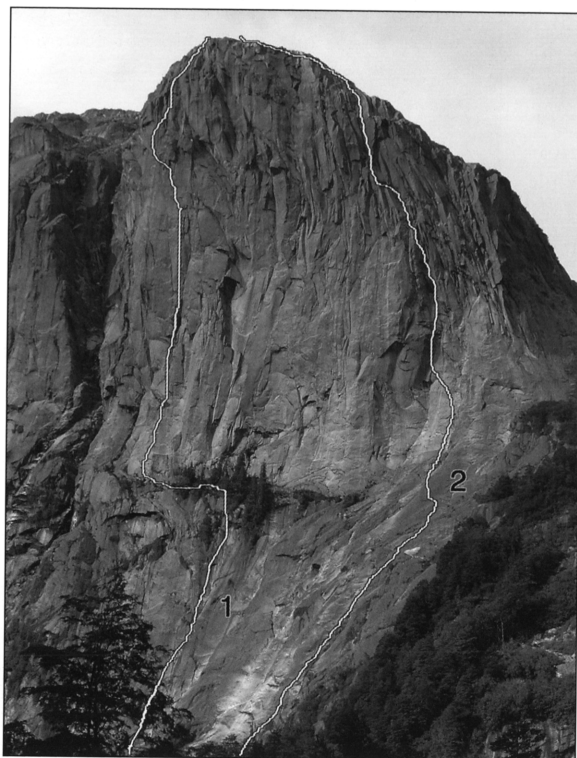
This Patagonian valley lies in the Chilean Andes 100km east of Puerto Montt and 18km northeast of the town of Cochamó. The approach to the refugio by foot or horse takes four hours along a muddy, eroded trail. The Refugio is run by climbers, has topos and info for almost every route, and is strategically centered near the biggest and more developed walls. On rest days you can fill up on their homemade bread and beer. Cochamó is notorious for wet weather; the driest time of year is from mid-January to mid-March, February being the most stable. December 2005 and February 2006 saw almost no rain. For more information, go to www.Cochamo.com and www.StoneDance.com.

DANIEL SEELIGER, *Bariloche, Argentina*

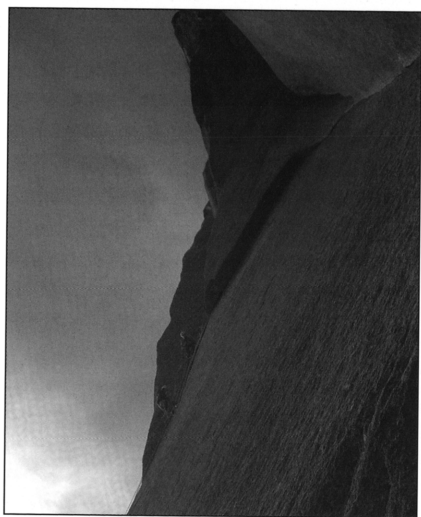
Cerro La Junta, Trinidad, and Roca Grande de la Junta, new routes. I made my first Cochamó expedition, from the DAV and supported by the Section Bayerland, with Stephan Schanderl (30, mountain guide, also from Munich). We spent six weeks between mid-December 2003 and the end of January 2004 there.

After a complicated journey, starting in Argentina, we wanted to find good, high, untouched walls. We found the 800m south-southwest face of the first mountain behind the La Junta junction, and called the peak Puta Bayerland. [Cochamo locals and most climbers know this peak as Cerro La Junta, which is the name we use elsewhere in this *Journal*—Ed.] The weather was bad: rain and snow for days. After three days of jungle-cutting and transporting equipment to the face, we started on wet rock. We finished in fine weather on December 29, 2003. It was mostly green, sometimes dirty and easy climbing: 23 pitches to the top jungle, without bolts. Alter Gartenweg (IV 5.10a A0).

At the very end of 2003 summer weather arrived. We turned to our second project, the



Roca Grande de la Junta (a.k.a. Capicua): (1) Pluja, Fam i Feina (Barrios-Barrios-Esquirol-Farreres-Solis-Teixidó, 2001). (2) Adios Michi Olzowy (Frieder-Schanderl-Tivadar, 2005). *Thomas Tivadar*



Felix Frieder (L) and Stephan Schanderl (R) atop pitch 15 on Adios Michi Olzowy. *Thomas Tivadar*

face's steeper left side. We began climbing with fixed ropes. However, on January 1, 2004 we found that our money (nearly \$1,000 U.S.) had been stolen from base camp. We lost three days of dream weather while reporting this to the police at Cochamó village. The following days we climbed and fixed up to the 11th pitch. Then in four days we climbed to the top jungle and rappelled our new 18-pitch route, which we called 1000 Dollar Gedächtnisweg (VI 5.11b A4c). We did the aid without drilled protection (clean, new wave) on good hardware: 20 beaks, cams, heads, pins, hooks, etc.

At the end of our trip, on January 23, we climbed a new alpine route on the north face of the north tower of Trinidad. Dick and Doof (15 pitches, IV 5.10b plus one point of A0) has good slab and crack climbing on excellent granite, with a few runouts and no bolts.

On our second visit to the Cochamó Valley, in 2005, there were of us: Schanderl, Felix Frieder (29), and I (44). Our aim was a first ascent on the biggest wall in Cochamó, the 1,000m west face of Roca Grande de la Junta [a.k.a. Capicua]. After cutting a new trail we transported equipment to the base. We found a possible line, without too much drilling, on the right side of the face. On the left side is the 2001 Spanish route Pluja, Fam i Feina. Nice weather and rain had been alternating every few days, so we started with fixed ropes. Our portaledge would not have a chance in the rainstorms, so we commuted daily between base camp and the wall. Later we put up a small tent on a ledge to save time.

The lower half of the climb had hard slabs (5.11) and easy vegetated cracks. In the middle of the wall we climbed steeper rock, mixed aid and free. The cracks were mostly dirty or green, limiting

our free-climbing possibilities. We used hardware ranging from 23 beaks to a #4 Bigbro. After 19 pitches (up to 65m) we reached easy terrain and climbed about 300m (5.0-5.3) up and down to the main summit. We rappelled the wall, mostly down our route. We named the route with our dead Bavarian friend and climber in mind: Adios Michi Olzowy (VI 5.11b/c A4b/c).

THOMAS TIVADAR, *Munich, Germany*

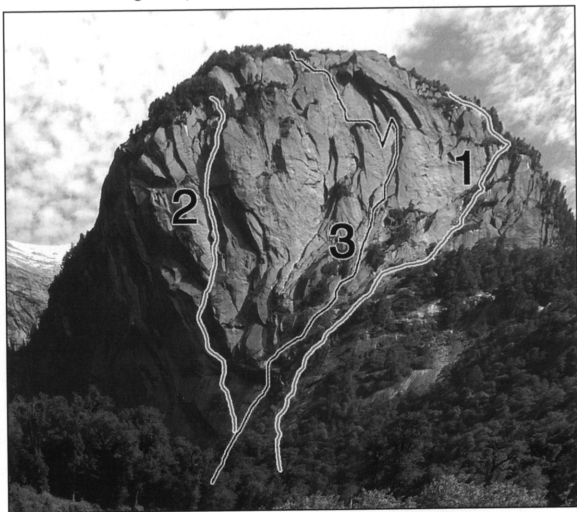
Cerro La Junta, Viaje a la Luna Creciente. In the grassy meadows of a high plateau, after six hours of horse packing along a muddy trail with several delicate river crossings, Jens Richter and I were surrounded by snowcapped mountains that towered over a valley that holds stunning granite walls of more than 1,000m. Yosemite Valley must lose in any comparison. The Valle Cochamó offers both more and higher walls, and you do not share the breathtaking views with anybody else.

Up the valley lies the Refugio Cochamó, a tiny old wooden cabin with nearby camping (and a loo with lots of view). Some days, the neighbor who lives 3km up the river comes riding by, stops for a cup of maté and a quick chat about what's new in the valley. It's never much, just a couple of cows and horses and the everlasting sound of waterfalls. Condors circle majestically around the granite walls.

Some climbers have left their traces on a few of these walls, but free-climbing remains in its infancy. A dominant and beautiful line on Cerro La Junta captured our attention. Shaped like a delicate crescent moon, a system of crack lines and dihedrals shoots up the 1,000m-high wall.

During our four weeks in the Refugio Cochamó, the unpredictable Patagonian weather and other bad circumstances gave us only seven days of climbing. We used the first days to clear the very old trail that leads through the dense, wet rainforest to the base of the wall. But after we fixed ropes and stored food and water high on the wall, an accident stopped our ambitions and reminded us of our vulnerability. Tired after a long, happy day of climbing, Jens slipped as we stumbled along the muddy path, and a bamboo stick ripped his cornea. Not a nice thing, when the clinic is a six-hour hike and one-and-a-half-day bus ride away.

Days of sunshine came and went while Jens sat in the cabin, blind and inpatient. Ten days later he seemed well enough to try again, but the weather changed, a north wind bringing five days of ridiculously strong, incessant rain. Eventually, the first day of sunshine found us back on the wall. It seems, though, that the Patagonian St. Peter is not a climber: the sky broke



Cerro La Junta: (1) Alter Gartenweg (Schanderl-Tivadar, 2003). (2) 1000 Dollar Gedächtnisweg (Schanderl-Tivadar, 2004). (3) Viaje a la Luna Creciente (Richter-Tittel, 2004). Not shown: Camp Farm (Hoyt-Seeliger, 2004; ascends only the lower part of the wall, starting as (3) for 3.5 pitches, then same as (2) for pitches 5 and 6, before an independent finish). *Jens Richter*