

Cinema
from  SPAIN

Producers Network

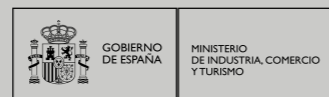
SPANISH SPOTLIGHT

20 May 2023

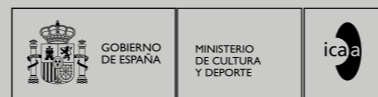
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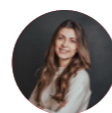
Producers Network Spanish Spotlight. Producers and projects

Producers Network Spanish Spotlight will celebrate Spanish producers during a meeting that brings together more than 400 producers from around the world at the Marché du Film.

The programme includes a series of meetings and unique events specifically designed to create opportunities to build networks and get international co-production projects off the ground. This initiative is part of the boost being given to international co-production by Cinema from Spain in the main international markets.

ICEX Spain Trade and Investment together with ICAA (the Institute of Cinematography and Audiovisual Arts) are collaborating with the Marché du Film 2023 with this programme.

These are the 5 Spanish producers that will participate in the Spotlight pitching their projects:



Paola Botrán
(SIDERAL)



Marisa Fdez. Armenteros
(BUENAPINTA MEDIA)



Luis Ferrón
(LAZONA PRODUCCIONES)



Xavier Font Pijuan
(ZUZÚ CINEMA)



Emilia Fort Molas
(AVALON)

Besides, 8 producers will participate as visitors:

- José María Alba Camacho (Pecado Films)
- Marian Fernández (Txintxua Films)
- Julieta Juncadella (Vitrine Filmes)
- Nacho La Casa (Capitán Araña)
- Miguel Molina (Jaibo Films)
- Clara Nieto (Powehi Films)
- Inés Nofuentes (Curuxa Films)
- James Weiss (El Viaje Films)



Paola Botrán

Paola Botrán is a Spanish Executive Producer at Sideral. EAVE Puentes 2022, she has produced *The Fantastic Golem Affairs* by Burnin' Percebes and *Girl Unknown* by Pablo Maqueda. In 2023, Paola is developing feature films like *Cheaper Than Stealing* (selected at Berlinale Co-production Market and TFL Script Lab Next Comedy, among others) directed by Pedro Collantes (*The Art of Return*, Venice 2020). She is also co-producing *In the Sultan's Bedchamber* by Javier Rebollo (France, Spain), *The Anatomy of the Horses* by Daniel Vidal (Peru, Spain, France), as well as the documentary *ALPHA* by Magalí Daich.

Her experience as Marketing Manager for international sales of films such as Netflix nº1 *The Platform*, and her background at the production company Tornasol Films (Oscar winner for *The Secret in Their Eyes*), has given her a global vision of the industry and a tendency for international co-productions.

PRODUCTION
COMPANY :

SIDERAL

Sideral is the new label for cinema production and distribution by Elamedia Estudios, one of Spain's leading audiovisual companies, based in Madrid. A unique independent studio that produces, worldwide distributes and supports both national and international titles.

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DELIVERY DATE:
EARLY 2025

Cheaper Than Stealing

FRENCH, SPANISH, ENGLISH
100'

SPAIN, FRANCE
COMEDY, DRAMA
2K DCP

FINANCING
(TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET) :
2.450.000 € / 34.45%

GOALS
Sales Agent, Networking

SYNOPSIS

Javi, an Uber driver who dreams of becoming a writer, sees himself on a huge billboard. A picture that has been used without his permission to promote a dating app. He threatens to sue the agency behind it, but is offered a job instead to avoid a lawsuit. Javi will enter into a new wild and surreal environment, where he has to search for the balance between ambition, reality and desire.



DIRECTOR

PEDRO COLLANTES

Pedro Collantes is a film director and screenwriter. He studied editing and later studied an MA at the Netherlands Film Academy in Amsterdam. Since 2018 he is a member of the Oscars Academy and of the French Académie des Arts et Techniques du Cinéma since 2020, after the selection for the César 2019 award. His first feature film, *The Art of Return* (2020, world premiere at the Venice Film Festival and national premiere at Sevilla European Film Festival) was the first Spanish project selected in the Biennale College Cinema program. For this work he received a CEC awards nomination for Best New Director. His short films have screened in international film festivals, including IFFR Rotterdam, Chicago or Festival des Films du Monde de Montréal and received support by ARTE, as well as awards at Clermont Ferrand, Malaga Film Festival, ALCINE, Palm Springs and Cinespaña Toulouse, among others.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY :

- *15 Summers Later*. Short film, 5'. Director, screenwriter, editor (2011)
- *Hourglass*. Short film, 16'. Director, screenwriter, editor (2012)
- *Eskiper*. Short film, 14'. Director, screenwriter, editor (2013)
- *Serori*. Short film, 15'. Director, screenwriter, editor (2014)
- *Nothing Stranger*. Short film, 22'. Director, screenwriter, editor (2015)
- *Off Ice*. Short film, 20'. Director, screenwriter (2017)
- *Ato San Nen*. Short film, 25'. Director, screenwriter (2018)
- *El arte de volver*. Feature film, 90'. Director, screenwriter, editor (2020)



DELIVERY DATE :
EARLY 2024

Alpha

ITALIAN
90'

SPAIN
DOCUMENTARY
2K - DCP

FINANCING
(TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET) :
297.000 EUROS / 30%

GOALS

Italian co-production

SYNOPSIS

Enrico is the creator of the seduction school 'In attraction'. He doesn't have any university degree, but he proclaims himself to be a specialist in female psychology. Last but not least, he has been betrayed by two of their students, who created their own school. Playing with sarcasm, focusing on the criticism and denunciation of this 'business', *ALPHA* immerses us in the seduction schools' world.



DIRECTOR

MAGALÍ DAICH VARELA

Magalí Daich Varela (Buenos Aires, Argentina) is a screenwriter, filmmaker and photographer. Humanity fascinates and disgusts her in equal measure: her work is based on this thesis, focusing mainly on human contradictions and ironies. In 2014, after studying a degree in social communication and advertising, she moved to Spain where she studied visual arts and artistic photography. Her first photographic-documentary series *Concrete Jungle* was selected at festivals such as Manifesto in Toulouse. She started her first documentary film, *ALPHA* after her selection to participate in the 'ICP New York' Masterclass in Turin. The project was selected for the CIMA IMPULSA program in Madrid in 2021, and allowed her to continue learning documentary filmmaking at the feminist institution La Bonne in Barcelona, where she is currently based.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

- *ALPHA* Short Documentary Film. Screenwriter, director, DOP (2020)
- *ALPHA*. In production. First Documentary Feature Film. Screenwriter, director (2023)

PRODUCERS

Nuria Landete
and Paola Botrán





Marisa Fdez. Armenteros

Marisa Fernández Armenteros founded Buenapinta Media in May of 2021, after having co-produced the Academy-nominated documentary *The Mole Agent* by Maite Alberdi.

In 2022 she coproduced *Lullaby (Cinco lobitos)*, by Alauda Ruiz de Azúa. The film was premiered at the Berlinale (Panorama) and won three Spanish Academy awards (Best First Film, Best Main Actress -Laia Costa- and Best Supporting Actress -Susi Sánchez). Pedro Almodóvar endorsed *Lullaby* 'as the best debut of the Spanish Cinema for years'.

Previously Marisa worked for 17 years at The Mediapro Studio with international directors such as Isabel Coixet, Fernando León de Aranoa (*The Good Boss*), Woody Allen (*Midnight in Paris*) or Patricio Guzmán (*The Pearl Botton*).

Her last project at Buenapinta is *Un amor*, the new film by Isabel Coixet, in post-production. Marisa is producer mentor at the acclaimed Spanish Incubator's development programme.

PRODUCTION COMPANY :

BUENAPINTA MEDIA

Spanish film production company set in Madrid, 2021. Buenapinta's backing comes from the commitment to produce independent films with an international vocation, which we can defend because of their issues and artistic ambition.

The first awarded films produced include: *The Mole Agent* by Maite Alberdi; *Lullaby (Cinco lobitos)* by Alauda R. de Azúa; and *Un amor*, by Isabel Coixet, in post-production.

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DELIVERY DATE:
DECEMBER 2024

Better Class

SPANISH
110'

SPAIN
SOCIAL SATIRE, DRAMEDY
DIGITAL - 16:9

FINANCING
(TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET):
2.200.000 € / 22%

GOALS

To find minority European partners to set an artistic coproduction with European cast involved, and international sales.

SYNOPSIS

A narco's murder witnessed by his son at the door of an international school in Madrid causes a crisis situation within school management and the parents' association. How can they guarantee security and avoid a stain on their reputation? The best solution is to remove the narco's kids, but nobody wants to appear racist. They'll need a strategy. Anything for the future of their heirs.



DIRECTOR

VÍCTOR GARCÍA LEÓN

Víctor García León, Madrid, 1976. His first film in 2001, *More Grief than Glory*, won Best Actor (Biel Durán) at the 2001 Malaga Film Festival. His second film, *Go Away from Me*, won the Silver Shell as Best Actor at the San Sebastian Film Festival and the Spanish Academy award as Best Actor. His track record of independent films includes *Selfie*, Critics' Award and Jury's Special Mention at the 2017 Malaga Film Festival, and *The Europeans*. In 2022 he directed an original for Amazon, *The Three Wise Men: The Truth*. In television he worked as writer and director for series like *Venga Juan* and *Vamos Juan* (HBO), or *Paco's Men*, *The Return* and *The Neighbor* (Netflix).

BETTER CLASS

A FILM BY Víctor García León
WRITTEN BY Borja Cobeaga & Víctor García León



Luis Ferrón

Luis Ferrón is a film and TV producer and executive producer. He earned a degree in Audiovisual Communication from the University of Navarra and a diploma in film production from ECAM. Recently, he has joined the production company LAZONA.

For the past eight years, he has combined his work as ECAM Film School manager with the production of films such as *Tardes de soledad* by Albert Serra, *The Year of the Discovery* by Luis López Carrasco, *Sueñan los androides* by Ion de Sosa, and the documentary series for Movistar+ *UMMO*, directed by Pousa&Olivera.

PRODUCTION
COMPANY :

LAZONA
PRODUCCIONES

Lazona is a production company based in Madrid with more than two decades of experience in the production of films, television series, and theatrical plays. Our portfolio includes box office hits such as the most successful franchise in Spanish cinema, *A Spanish Affair*, as well as critically acclaimed films such as *The Rite of Spring* by Fernando Franco and *The Motive* by Manuel Martín Cuenca.

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DELIVERY DATE:
2025

Carta Blanca

SPANISH
120'

SPAIN
WESTERN
DIGITAL

FINANCING
(TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET) :
3.400.000 € / 40%

GOALS

Find an international co-producer

SYNOPSIS

Faura, a young man broken by heartbreak, enlists in the Legion to be sent to the War in Morocco: all he wants is to be killed. There, he becomes trapped in the personal revenge of the platoon leader, Sergeant Bermejo. Blind with rage, Bermejo drags his men on a suicidal mission behind enemy lines, a punitive raid against a Berber village that ends in unleashed violence, madness, and death.



DIRECTOR

ENRIQUE URBIZU

Enrique Urbizu is a Spanish film director, screenwriter, and producer. Born in Bilbao in 1962, he began his career directing short films and documentaries before making his feature debut with *Todo por la pasta* in 1991. He gained critical acclaim with his 2002 film *Box 507*, which was awarded the Best Film and Best Director prizes at the Malaga Film Festival. In 2010, he directed *No habrá paz para los malvados*, which won six Goya Awards, including Best Director and Best Film. He has also directed two tv-series *Gigantes* and *Libertad*, both for Movistar+. Urbizu is known for his gritty crime dramas and his ability to capture the dark underbelly of Spanish society. He is regarded as one of Spain's most talented and influential filmmakers.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

- *Todo por la pasta* (1991)
- *Cachito* (1996)
- *Cómo ser infeliz y disfrutarlo* (1997)
- *La caja 507* (2002)
- *La vida mancha* (2003)
- *No habrá paz para los malvados* (2011)
- *Gigantes* (2018-2019) – TV series
- *Libertad* (2020) – TV series



DELIVERY DATE:
2025

Fama y Gloria

SPANISH
90'

SPAIN
DARK COMEDY
DIGITAL

FINANCING
(TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET) :
2.000.000 € / 20%

GOALS

Find an international coproducer and sales agent

SYNOPSIS

Ana, an unexceptional 13-year-old, auditions for the popular talent show 'Fama y Gloria'. Lacking talent and personality, Ana goes unnoticed during the casting until she fabricates her father's terminal illness. Her family discovers the lie, yet instead of discouraging her, they assist her as the deception becomes more complicated.



DIRECTOR

CARLOTA OMS

Director and editor Carlota Oms was born in Barcelona in 1995 and has been fascinated by movie making-ofs since a young age. She specialized in editing at ESCAC, but her ultimate goal was to direct. Fortunately, she was able to direct one of the final projects, which she co-wrote with Joan Pàmies. Carlota's first short film, *Adalamadrina*, was a hit, being selected at the Sundance Film Festival and winning at Kortfilmfestivalen and Milano Film Festival among others. Although currently working as an editor in advertising, she is dedicated to creating personal projects such as animation, fashion films, documentaries, and music videos.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY:

- *Adalamadrina* (short film, 2019)





Xavi Font Pijuan

Xavi Font is a rare profile in film production. He began his professional career in 1989 working in a bank as an international trade expert and manager for 20 years, taking care of small-mid size companies.

He has been involved in music bands from an early age, developing interest for film music and becoming professional in film scoring in 2005. In 2009 he left the financial sector and devoted himself solely to film scoring. He merged this management and creative skills as one of the main producers of *Fire Will Come* (Oliver Laxe, 2019).

As a producer, he also participated in *Ons* (Alfonso Zarauza, 2020) and *Sica* (Carla Subirana, 2023) premiered at Berlinale Generation. He is now developing *After*, a new film by Oliver Laxe, *San Simon* (by M.Ángel Delgado), *Strange River* (by Jaume Claret Muxart), *Ugeres* (by Carlos Amaral), and *Petróleo* (by Álvaro Pulpeiro), among other projects.

He is member of the European Film Academy, Spanish Academy and Galician Academy, where is also a member of the Board of Directors.

PRODUCTION
COMPANY :

ZUZÚ CINEMA /
MIRAMEMIRA

ZuZú is an independent film production company based in Catalunya and Galicia, mainly focused on courageous arthouse films that cross borders and push boundaries. Coproduction oriented, with a component of social responsibility and a broad audience aspiration. The company was founded in 2022 by Xavi Font, based on his experience as film producer and composer.

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DELIVERY DATE :
DECEMBER 2024

San Simon

GALICIAN,
SPANISH
100'

SPAIN
DRAMA
4K - DCI

FINANCING
(TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET) :
1.200.000 € / 60%

GOALS

Find potential co-producers

SYNOPSIS

After being one of the most important Lazarettos in Spain, the island of San Simon had remained deserted until Franco's dictatorship decided to make use of it. Turned into a deadly concentration camp, the prisoners were victims of brutal repression in the midst of overwhelming beauty.

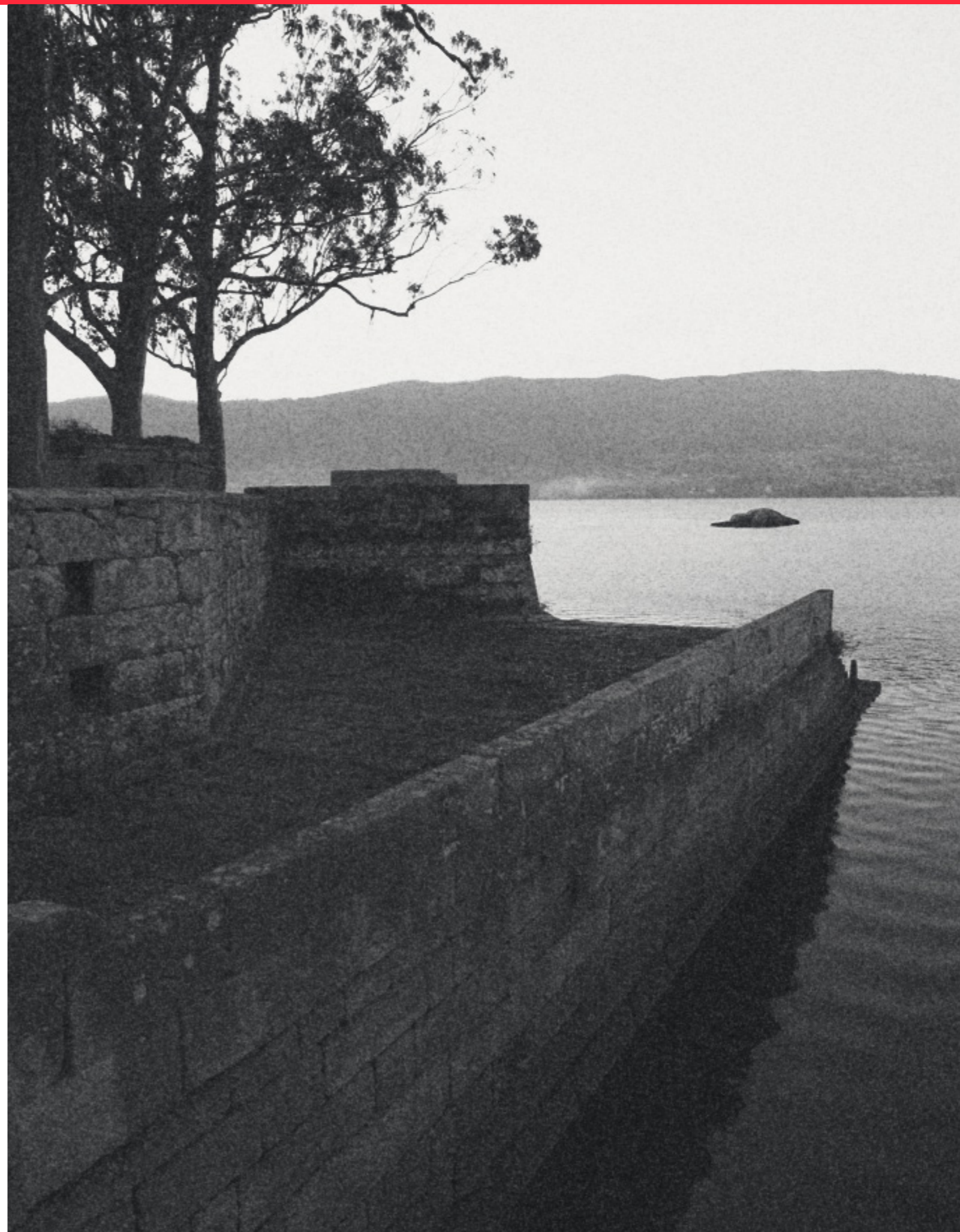


DIRECTOR

MIGUEL ÁNGEL DELGADO

Founder of Morelli Producciones. Executive producer, DOP and editor of *Alberto García-Alix. The shadow line* (New Directors Competition. 65th San Sebastian Film Festival; Best Ibero-American Documentary Award at Guadalajara International Film Festival, FICG33; Best Documentary Film Award at Cinespaña Film Festival).

Visual artist and filmmaker. His work has been exhibited at Tabacalera (Madrid), Seoul Art Space Geumcheon, Round the corner Lisboa, and Picnic sessions CA2M. He has been resident artist of the Hangar-AECID program. Film professor at the SUR school master at the Círculo de Bellas Artes in Madrid and collaborating filmmaker with the Art & Education Palestine program of GUCC/Shababek for Art, the Spanish Consulate in Gaza and AECID.



DELIVERY DATE :
MARCH 2025

Strange River

CATALAN, ENGLISH, GERMAN 100'	SPAIN, GERMANY, AUSTRIA COMING OF AGE, ROAD MOVIE 16MM	FINANCING (TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET) : 2.000.000 € / 20%
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GOALS

Look for potential co-producers

SYNOPSIS

Two brothers, Dídac (15) and Biel (13) are travelling by bicycle along the Danube with their family. But everything changes when Dídac meets the mysterious Alexander (18), who appears among the waters as if he were a river ghost. What is not clear to Dídac is that his mother Monika harbours a secret related to the strange boy.



DIRECTOR

JAUME CLARET MUXART

Jaume Claret Muxart (1998) is a Catalan filmmaker. A graduate of the Elías Querejeta Zine Eskola, he premiered his first short film *Ella i jo* (2020) at the San Sebastian Film Festival and at IFFR. His films have been presented at festivals such as DocumentaMadrid, IndieLisboa and FICUNAM, among others. His first feature film in development *Strange River* (*Estrany Riu*) has received the generous support of ICEC and TV3 television of Catalonia, and was selected for participation in the residency Ikusmira Berriak (2022) and in the Residence of the Academy of Catalan Cinema. Alongside this he is part of the A Bao A Qu collective, the studio Arquitectura Filmada and he is an associate lecturer in the Master's programme at the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya and the CCCB in Barcelona.





Emilia Fort Molas

Emilia Fort is Avalon's Executive Producer. She graduated with a degree in Audiovisual Communication from Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona) and began her career in the music & advertising industry. In 2015, she co-founded a studio focused on projects for artists such as Madonna, A\$AP Rocky or Rosalia, as well as brands like Nike, Givenchy or Volkswagen. Four years later, she decided to shift her focus to her passion: cinema. In 2019, she joined Avalon as the delegate producer for *Alcarràs* (Carla Simón), the 2022 Golden Bear Winner and Spain's Oscars entry; *Matria* (Álvaro Gago), premiered at the 2023 Berlinale; or *Creatura* (Elena Martín), premiered at Cannes' Quinzaine 2023. Currently, she is working on films including *Goat Girl* by Ana Asensio; *Iván & Hadoum*, Ian de la Rosa's debut feature; *Harta*, Júlia de Paz's second film; and *Basarda*, a period drama by Salvador Sunyer, among others.

PRODUCTION
COMPANY :

AVALON

Avalon is one of the most innovative independent media groups in Spain, focused on the production and distribution of arthouse cinema. It has produced 19 features and has strengthened its relationship with young Spanish talents by producing debut films for the international market. Our films have competed in festivals such as Cannes, San Sebastián, Rotterdam or Berlinale, where *Alcarràs* won the Golden Bear.

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DELIVERY DATE :
2025

Iván & Hadoum

SPANISH
95'

SPAIN
DRAMA
DIGITAL

FINANCING
(TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET) :
2.154.000 € / 21%

GOALS

We are looking for potential European co-producers (with special interest in France, Belgium and Italy but open to explore other territories), an international sales agent and pre-sales. We are eager to discuss the creative development of the project with international partners, and we would love to combine local and international cast and crew. Furthermore, part of the story takes place at an international agricultural fair, and we are open to filming in any European city. We are also willing to consider transferring the post-production outside of Spain.

SYNOPSIS

Iván (33), a trans man, and Hadoum (30), a Spanish-Moroccan woman, fall in love at the industrial greenhouse they work in. While facing the opposition from their families and co-workers, Iván realizes he doesn't need to be the man he is expected to be.



DIRECTOR

IAN DE LA ROSA

Ian de la Rosa is a director and a screenwriter coming from and based in Almeria, Spain. His first short film *Victor XX* (2015) won Third Prize in Cinéfondation at Cannes and screened at more than 60 international festivals, including AFI Fest and SXSW. *Farrucas* (2021), his latest award-winning short film, was also nominated for the Spanish Film Academy's Goyas, making Ian the first trans filmmaker to be nominated for such an award in Spain. As a screenwriter, his credits include the hit series *Veneno*, distributed to acclaim in the USA and LATAM by HBO Max. He has also directed *Red Flags*, a series for Atresplayer, and the upcoming *Vestidas de azul*, a spin-off of *Veneno* after its great success. *Iván & Hadoum* is his debut feature, which has recently won the prestigious Eurimages Co-production Development Award in this year's Berlinale Co-Production Market.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

- *Victor XX* (short film, 2015)
- *Farrucas* (short film, 2021)



DELIVERY DATE:
2025

Fed Up (Harta)

SPANISH,
CATALAN
100'

SPAIN
SOCIAL DRAMA
DIGITAL

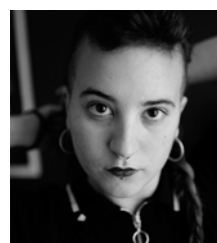
FINANCING
(TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET):
2.200.000 € / 40%

GOALS

Our aim in Cannes is to secure a European co-producer (although we are open to exploring other territories as well) and a strong sales agent to help us position Júlia de Paz (Berlinale Talent 2023) within the European film scene. We plan to shoot in the first semester of 2024, and having our partners on board at this stage is crucial to achieve this goal.

SYNOPSIS

Carmela is forced to see her father at a Family Meeting Point due to a sentence of gender-based violence against her mother. Being twelve years old, she will be dragged into a circle of violence from which she will try to escape.



DIRECTOR

JÚLIA DE LA PAZ

Júlia de Paz (Barcelona, 1995) graduated in the School of Cinema and Audiovisual Media of Catalonia (ESCAC), where she directed the short film *Ama*, the seed of her debut feature film also named *Ama* (2021). It premiered at Malaga Film Festival, where it was awarded the Silver Biznaga for Best Actress and the Feroz Puerta Oscura Award for Best Film. In 2022 it was nominated for Best Adapted Screenplay at the Goya Awards and for Best Actress at the Feroz Awards. Her last short film *Harta* is touring festivals such as Clermont Ferrand or Malaga, where it won the Silver Biznaga for Best Actress, the Silver Biznaga for Best Actor and the Audience Award. It also won the Gaudí Award for Best Fiction Short Film. She is currently working in her new feature film *Harta*, which has been developed in the Residence of the Spanish Film Academy, and has been selected in Berlinale's 2023 Script Station.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

- *Ama* (short film, 2018)
- *Ama* (feature film, 2018)
- *Harta* (short film, 2021)
- *Fuerta* (essay film, 2021)



DELIVERY DATE :
2026

Basarda

CATALAN
95'

SPAIN
DRAMA
DIGITAL

FINANCING
(TOTAL BUDGET / SECURED BUDGET) :
1.930.000 € / 10%

GOALS

We are seeking a French co-producer for *Basarda*, as the story is set on the Spanish-French border in Northern Catalonia, and a part of it takes place in Marseille. We would like to have a co-producer on board at this stage to co-develop the project and plan the best co-production strategy. We are also looking to start conversations with international sales agents to help us consolidate Sunyer's career with his first fiction feature.

SYNOPSIS

1955. Silvana (18) tries to save her father's charcoal business by trafficking in black truffles along the border between Spain and France. Liuet (16), her neighbour, shows her how to find them with his boar Basarda, but soon buried family conflicts will come to the surface.



DIRECTOR

SALVADOR SUNYER

Salvador Sunyer (1987) graduated from ESCAC (Catalan School of Cinema). *Bugarach* (2014), his first feature documentary, won the FIPRESCI award at St. Petersburg festival and competed at Hot Docs, Prix Europa or IDFA. His desire to combine performing and cinematographic arts has led him to work with artists such as Àlex Rigola (former Director of the Venice Biennale) or the playwright Sergio Blanco. *The Missing Part*, together with Baro d'evol Cirk cie, is the first film within The One Project, the biannual project he created in 2015. It was selected at Paris Courts Devant and won first prize at Choreoscope festival. In 2022 he released the autofictional short film *Androgenic alopecia*, which talks about family legacy while serving as an ironic reflection on artistic creation. He is currently developing a TV series created together with Isaki Lacuesta. *Basarda* is his debut fiction film.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

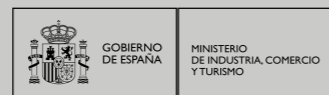
- *Bugarach* (documentary feature, 2014)
- *The Missing Part* (short film, 2015)
- *Remains of Things* (short film, 2019)
- *Androgenic alopecia* (short film, 2021)



Cinema from SPAIN

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