

CENIZA NEGRA

(LAND OF ASHES)



Costa Rica - Argentina - Chile - France

SYNOPSIS

SELVA is 11 years old and resists growing up.

Her legs are long and unskilled. Her eyes are black, deep and separated. Her curly hair covers her shoulders, burned by the sun. As she goes through an age she doesn't understand, Selva tries to keep her family together, even though this proves to be harder every day.

Her brother has made the decision to leave home; Elena, her only motherly figure disappears after the town's fair; and her grandfather fixates on his imaginary goats while he lets himself die.

As she walks a path of detachment and growth, Selva will help the person she loves the most to die, even though this will mean passing through her last moments of childhood all alone.



THE PROJECT



“Ceniza Negra” has participated in important Markets and Labs such as 3 Puertos Cine, Bolivia Lab, LoboLab (IFF Mar del Plata), the Film Project Development Workshop Desarrollo by Ibermedia and the Carolina Foundation (Madrid), and Next Step; by Torino Film Lab and Critic's Week of the Festival de Cannes.

It received Ibermedia's Development (2016) and Co-production support (2017), Costa Rica's National Fund (2017) and it won the Industry Prize at the Costa Rica International Film Festival (CRFIC) and at Cartegena de Indias International Film Festival (FICCI).

More recently, it received the Tribeca Latin American Film Fund and the Aide aux cinémas du monde, fund managed by the CNC and the Institut français.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

'Ceniza Negra' is a raw and magical movie. An intimate story that portrays the life of Selva, and addresses the issues of grief, detachment and the end of childhood, building a surrealist vision of death, but deep and true from the sensitive point of view of the protagonist.

Selva is going through the process of letting go of her dead ones, just like me. And thus, we walk together through this land of ashes.

Her story takes place in the coastal towns of the Caribbean of Costa Rica, areas that coexist with migration, uprooting, and territorial uncertainty. 'Ceniza Negra' seeks to rescue this Latin American reality, from a solid artistic vision that immerses us in a playful, powerful and surreal atmosphere.

The visual and sound elements of the film connect us with the inner world of Selva, that ephemeral and particular moment of our life in which the thin line that divides childhood and adulthood is constantly vanishing.

How not to risk, then, to tell a story where imagination and fears coexist, cemeteries and schools intermingle, the living and the dead mix with each other?

-Sofía Quirós



“Ceniza Negra” is a sensible story about the hardships of going through the last moments of our childhood. A surrealist vision of death that's both profound and true, as seen through the eyes of a child.

CALENDAR

Preproduction: June-July 2018

Shooting: July 15th-August 20th 2018 (5 weeks)

Postproduction: August 2018-March 2019

International Premiere: May 2019

Costa Rican Premiere: September 2019



OUR TEAM

Sofía Quirós- Writer / Director

Sofía was born 1989. She studied Image and Sound Design at Buenos Aires University.

Her most recent short film "Selva" had its International Premiere at the Semaine de la Critique of the Cannes Film Festival in 2017. It has screened at festivals such as Melbourne, Gijon, Olhar du Cinema, and Guanajuato where it was awarded the Women in Film and Tv Award, and the Festival Biarritz Amérique Latin where it won the TV5 Award.



She is developing "Land of Ashes" her debut film, set to be shot in Costa Rica in 2018. "Land of Ashes" won industry prizes at Costa Rica's IFF and FICCI (Colombia) and it was supported by Ibermedia and Costa Rica's National Fund. It was selected in scriptwriting labs such as Ibermedia's Project Development Lab and NextStep (Semaine de la Critique + Torino Film Lab).

Mariana Murillo- Production

Mariana specialized in Film Production in Madrid's ECAM.

In 2011 she funded Sputnik Films, Production Company behind "The Sound of Things", film that premiered at the 38th Moscow Film Festival in 2016, and was awarded the Kommersant Weekend Prize. It went on to screen at multiple festivals such as the Festival Biarritz Amérique Latin, the Mar del Plata International Film Festival and the Costa Rica International Film Festival where it was awarded the Special Jury Prize. "The Sound of Things" was Costa Rica's Official Selection for the 2018 Academy Awards.

She's currently developing Ariel Escalante's second feature "Zanfona", selected for EAVE PUENTES 2017. Also, "Land of Ashes", by Sofía Quirós, a project that was selected to participate in 3 Puertos Cine (FIC Valdivia + Distrital + IFF Rotterdam) and LoboLab (Mar del Plata IFF). In 2016 it was granted an Ibermedia Development Aide and won the Project Presentation Forum in CR IFF and the XII International Producer's Meeting at the Cartagena de Indias International Film Festival (FICCI) in 2017. It was granted Costa Rica's National Film Fund and Ibermedia's Co-production fund in 2017.

Her most recent short film "Selva", directed by Sofía Quirós, was premiered at the 56th Semaine de la Critique. It has screened in more than 20 film festivals around the world including Melbourne, FIC Valdivia, IFF Guanajuato (Women in Film and TV Award) and Biarritz (TV5 Award).

PRODUCTION COMPANIES



Sputnik Films, Costa Rica. Founded in 2011 by Mariana Murillo and Ariel Escalante to develop and produce art house cinema, discovering new voices and powerful stories from Latin America.

It produced the feature film "The Sound of Things" (Ariel Escalante, 2016), Costa Rica's Official Selection for the Academy Awards 2018. It is also an Associate Producer of "Agosto" (Armando Capó, in postproduction) and "Rosado Furia" (2015).

Its latest short film "Selva" premiered at the Critic's Week of the Cannes Film Festival in 2017.



Murillo Cine, Argentina. It was founded in 2014 by Georgina Baisch and Cecilia Salim to produce feature films and documentaries that explore reality through an author's innovative vision.

In 2015 they produced "El Futuro Perfecto" by Nele Wohlatz (Pitching Docmontevideo 2015, Docstation Berlinale Talent 2016, Winner: BAL 2016 at BAFICI) premiered at the Cineasti del Presente Competition of the 69th Locarno Film Festival.



La Post Producciones, Chile. It was founded in 2015 by Millaray Cortés and Matías Echeverría, to produce Latin American cinema offering a special input in the postproduction stage.

Their projects include: "El Ciudadano Kramer" (Kramer Producciones - Chile); "El fumigador" (CalamarCine, LaPost Producciones – Chile and Argentina); "Una vez en la Noche estrellada" (Antonia Rossi Producciones – Chile); "Medea" (Grita Medios, Linterna Films, Temporal Films – Chile and Costa Rica).

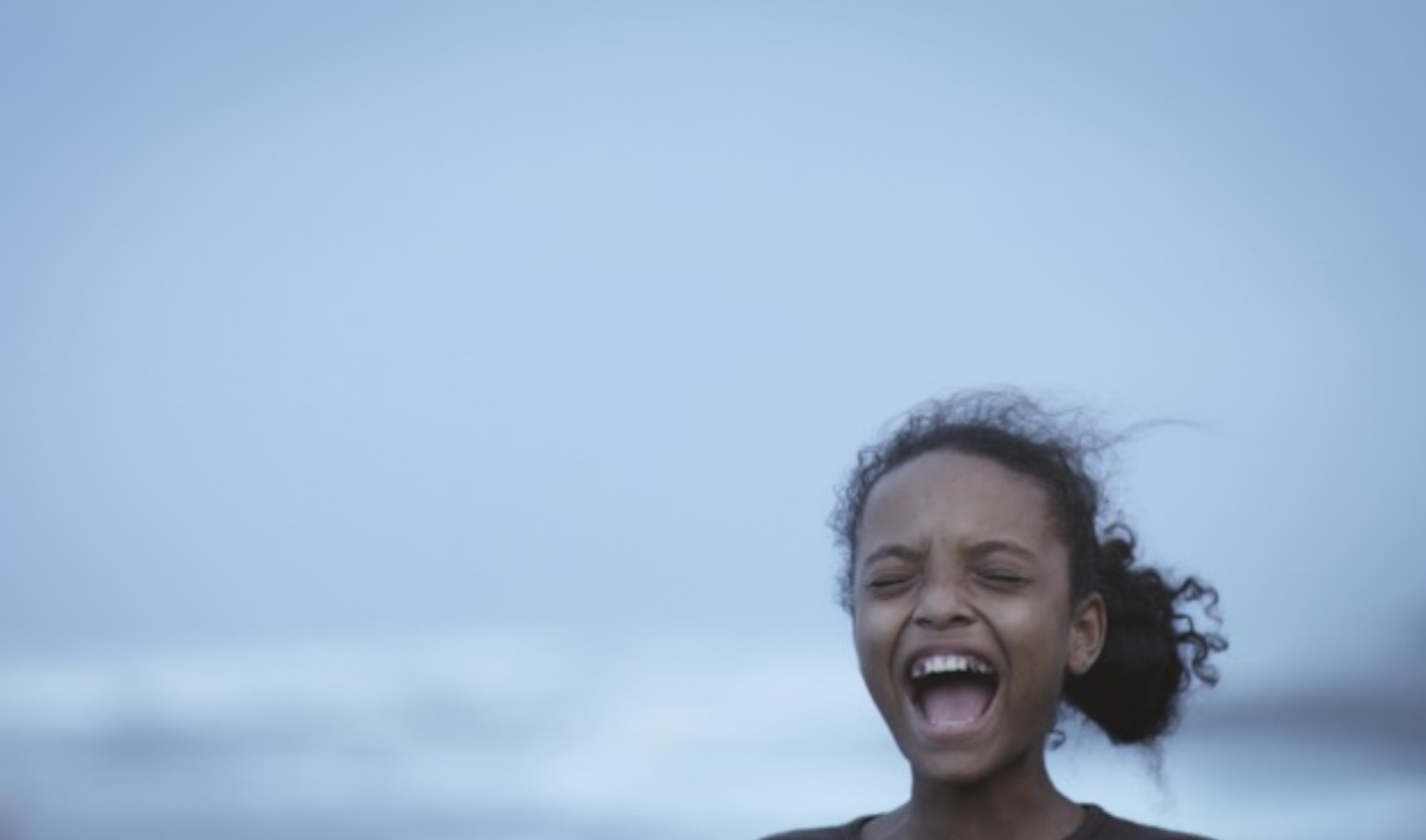
Promenade Films, France. Founded in 1996 by Samuel Chauvin and François Lunel to discover new talents in emerging cinematographies.



Their most recent production include: "Santa y Andrés" (2016) and "Melaza" (2013), both directed by Carlos Lechuga; "Chez Léon coiffure" (2011), "L'Apparition de la Jaconde" (2011), "Falling from Earth" (2009), "La Route du Nord" (2008), "Niort/Aubagne" (2006), y "Vie est une goutte suspendue (La)" (2006).



Distribuidora Romaly, Costa Rica. Distribution Company with a long track record of bringing Costa Rican cinema to national audiences. Its involvement in "Ceniza Negra" guarantees its theatrical release in Costa Rica.



CONTACT

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