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WORKFORCE

A FILM BY DAVID ZONANA

TEOREMA PRESENTS "WORKFORCE" WITH LUIS ALBERTI STARRING ALEJANDRO DE IGAZA AND ENRIQUE FERNÁNDEZ TANCOS PRODUCED BY JOAQUIM ZIEGLER EDITOR EDUARDO BIRALI BRUN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY OSCAR FIGUEROA JARA EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SVIGNONE FUENTES
SCREENPLAY CAROLINA COSTA PRODUCED BY SANDRA PAREDES DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION DANIÓ YAZBEK BERNAL PRODUCED BY MICHEL FRANCO DAVID ZONANA AND ERÉNDURA NÚÑEZ LARIOS WRITTEN BY DAVID ZONANA

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WORKFORCE

(MANO DE OBRA)

A FILM BY DAVID ZONANA

82 MIN / MEXICO / 2019

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SYNOPSIS

Francisco and a gang of construction workers are building a luxury house in Mexico City. Following the accidental on-site death of his brother, Francisco learns that his widowed sister-in-law will not receive any compensation from the wealthy owner of the house. After enduring a succession of further abuses against himself and his colleagues, and having made several attempts to obtain justice, he finally takes the law into his own hands – but will the world he’s fighting against end up consuming him?



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Taking the complex and eroded relationship between working class and upper class as its context, the film explores the vices of a social system in which greed, power and corruption have permeated every individual to the deepest level, regardless of who they are or where they come from.

Francisco is a construction worker in his thirties who, after his brother's death on one of the sites where they work, will seek and obtain justice, not only for the lack of compensation received on behalf of the property's owner, but also for a life full of drawbacks, lack of opportunities, and oppression.

Bricklaying is a profession that brutally highlights economic inequality, with most workers constantly building luxurious projects that contrast painfully with their own lived reality. The psychological repercussions are compelling and part of an even more complex problem that demands analysis.

After Francisco and his fellow workers take possession of one of the houses they have built, it seems they have finally obtained what they have always yearned for. However, the atmosphere of the house quickly transforms: what initially appeared a long sought prize soon reveals itself as a prison, between whose walls the delusions of grandeur, corruption, gender inequality and other moral deficiencies inherent in our times begin to manifest.

Francisco and his co-workers find themselves confronted by a situation that exposes a double morality. On one side, there is the necessity of generating justice; on the other, if justice is achieved, will they be able to maintain it for any length of time? Will they manage to remain outside the system against which they have fought?

History reveals that the political ambiguity through which most ideals proposing social restructuring are sustained is often the cause of their downfall, something we have witnessed repeatedly in Latin America.



DAVID ZONANA DIRECTOR

David Zonana was born in Mexico City in 1989.

With Lucia Films, he has worked as a producer on films such as *600 Miles* (Best First Feature, Berlin FF 2015), *The Heirs*, *Chronic* (Best Screenplay, Cannes FF 2015) and *April's Daughter* (Jury Prize at Un Certain Regard, Cannes FF 2017).

His short films, *Princess* (2014), *Dim Blood* (2016) and *Brother* (2017) have screened at numerous national and international film festivals.

In 2015, *Variety* named Zonana as one of the upcoming talents of Mexican cinema.

The screenplay for *Workforce*, his feature film directorial debut, was awarded prizes at the IX BoliviaLab and the XVI National Script Competition (Guanajuato International Film Festival), and selected to participate in the Sundance-Morelia Lab in 2018. As a work in progress, it won both main prizes at Los Cabos Film Festival in 2018.

Workforce will premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival in the Platform Selection and will screen in official competition at San Sebastian Film Festival.



MICHEL FRANCO PRODUCER

Michel Franco was born in Mexico City in 1979. Films he has written, directed and produced include *Chronicle* (nominated for the Palme d'Or and winner of the Best Screenplay award at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival) and *After Lucia* (winner of the Best Film Award in Un Certain Regard, 2012 Cannes Film Festival). He produced

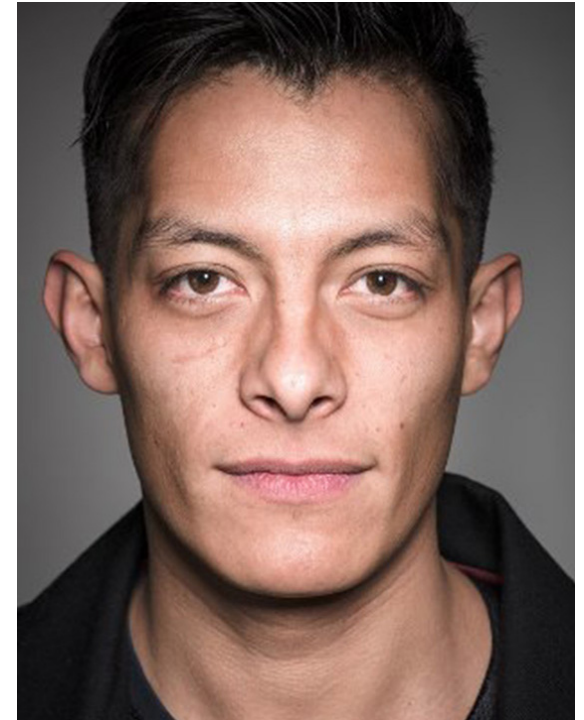
Gabriel Ripstein's *600 Miles*, winner of the Best First Feature award at the 2015 Berlin Film Festival and Lorenzo Vigas' *From Afar*, winner of the Golden Lion at the 2015 Venice Film Festival. His most recent work, *April's Daughter*, screened at Cannes International Film Festival, 2017 and won the Un Certain Regard Jury Prize.

LUIS ALBERTI LEAD ACTOR

Luis Alberti was born in 1981 in Mexico City and graduated from La Casa del Teatro drama school.

He made his acting debut in the Mexican TV series "Crónica de Castas", directed by Daniel Giménez Cacho in 2011, before appearing in a number of feature films including *El lado oscuro de la luz* (Hugo Carrillo), *La Caridad* (Marcelino Islas), *The Similar*s (Isaac Ezban) and *La jaula de oro* (*The Golden Dream*) (Diego Quemada-Díez). His first co-starring role, in Rigoberto Pérezcano's *Carmin Tropical*, winner of the Best Mexican Feature prize at the Morelia International Film Festival, also garnered Alberti a Mexican Academy Best Supporting Actor nomination.

More recently, Alberti co-starred in *Eisenstein in Guanajuato* (2015) directed by Peter Greenaway, which was nominated for Best Acting Ensemble



Audience Award at the Berlinale. He has also appeared in the famous Netflix series *Narcos: Mexico*.

Luis Alberti plays the leading role in David Zonana's *Workforce*, which premieres at the Toronto International Film Festival.

CAST

Francisco	LUIS ALBERTI
Lalo	HUGO MENDOZA
Enano	JONATHAN SÁNCHEZ
Roberto	HORACIO CELESTINO
Isidro	FRANCISCO DÍAZ
Mónica	KARINA SALAZAR
Laura	ALEXANDRA CORTÉS
Carla	JULIETA HERNÁNDEZ
Federica	JOANNA ISUNZA MARTÍNEZ
Teodora	GUDELIA CARRILLO
Toño	RAMIRO RESÉNDIZ
Yolanda	ALEXANDRA RODRÍGUEZ
Lupe	YESSICA GÁLVEZ
Lic. Sánchez Arias	MARIANO HERNÁNDEZ
Rita	KATERIN ALEXA GÓMEZ
House Owner	RODRIGO MENDOZA



CREW

Written & Directed by DAVID ZONANA
Producers MICHEL FRANCO,
DAVID ZONANA,
ERÉNDIRA NÚÑEZ LARIOS
Executive Producer DARIO YAZBEK BERNAL
Associate Producers DAVID PABLOS, MINEKO MORI
Director of Photography CAROLINA COSTA
Production Designer IVONNE FUENTES
Editor OSCAR FIGUEROA JARA
Original Music MURCOF
Postproduction Supervisor JOAKIM ZIEGLER
Sound Recordist FEDERICO GONZÁLEZ JORDÁN
Sound Design ALEJANDRO DE ICAZA,
ENRIQUE FERNANDEZ TANCO
Production Company TEOREMA
International Sales WILD BUNCH



