

JOAQUÍN VENTURA YILIANA CHONG JOSÉ LUIS GARCIA GABRIELA TELLO WILLIAM GÓMEZ

PARAISO

A FILM BY HÉCTOR GÁLVEZ

 66
VENEZIA 2009
Orizzonti
WORLD PREMIERE

CHULLACHAKI CINE PRESENTS
A PRODUCTION OF VEINTESOBREVEINTE PRODUCCIONES S.R.L. CO PRODUCED BY OASIS P.C. S.L., ULYSSES FILMS, NEUE CAMEO FILMS, AUTENTIKA FILMS.
WITH THE SUPPORT OF CONACINE, PROGRAMA IBERMEDIA, FILMSTIFTUNG NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN, GÖTEBORG INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL FUND, VISIONS SUD EST PARAISO
CASTING LUZ TAMAYO COSTUME DESIGNER JIMENA QUISPE ORIGINAL MUSIC LALO WILLIAMS SOUND DIRECTOR FRANCISCO ADRIANZEN EDITOR ERIC WILLIAMS
ART PRODUCER KARLA LORENZETTI ART DIRECTOR IVAN LOZANO "CHURCHIL" DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MARIO BASSINO COPRODUCERS OLE LANDSJOAASEN CHRISTIAN FURST
ANNETTE PISACANE GUDULA MEINZOLT PAULO DE CARVALHO TERESA FERNANDEZ CUESTA LUIS ANGEL RAMIREZ DELEGATE PRODUCERS CARMEN MUNOZ CLAUDIA AGUIRRE
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ENID CAMPOS JOSUE MENDEZ HECTOR GALVEZ PRODUCTION ENID CAMPOS JOSUE MENDEZ WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY HECTOR GALVEZ



Chullachaki Cine (Perú)

In Co-Production with

Ulysses Films / Oasis (Spain)

Neue Cameo Film / Autentika Films (Germany)

presents

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VISIONS SUD EST

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TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Original Title:	PARAISO
Screening Format:	Color; 35mm; 1:1,66; Dolby Digital
Length:	91 minutes
Country of Production:	PERÚ
Coproducing Countries:	SPAIN, GERMANY
Production Company:	CHULLACHAKI CINE (PERÚ)
Coproducing Companies:	OASIS (SPAIN) ULYSSES FILMS (SPAIN) NEUE CAMEO FILMS (GERMANY) AUTENTIKA FILMS (GERMANY)

SYNOPSIS

Joaquín, Antuanet, Lalo, Mario and Sara live in PARAISO, a shantytown on the outskirts of the capital city of Lima. They are at the age of deciding a future, yet they don't have many options to chose from. If growing up into youth was ever complicated, living in PARAISO makes things even tougher, seeing how day to day the milieu around them denies their dreams and opportunities.

But they feel they have to do something about it.

They struggle to hang on to any possible illusion: enlisting in the army, finishing high school with the best grades, building a pool where there is not even running water, or just looking at the photo of a disappeared parent. Simple and utopian desires like the one Joaquin wishes to fulfill: to fly like the trapeze artist of the new circus that just got into town.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I met the kids from PARAISO in Cajamarquilla district the year 2000. I got there to give a video workshop. Their mothers had come to the NGO where I worked at the time to ask us to please do something about their children, who had no idea what to do. They were hanging out in gangs and their fights provoked many wounded and some deaths. So I proposed to organize a video workshop in order to generate in them a higher self-esteem and release their creative capabilities.

I had no idea at that moment that the idea for this film was being born.

After breaking the ice, the kids talked to me about their concerns, what they liked doing, how their family lives were, of their girlfriends. We started to know one another and a friendship emerged which lasts until today. The ones who hadn't yet finished school had millions of plans; the ones who had already finished, or dropped out of it, knew real life was actually much tougher. It was just that this place, stuck in the middle of a pre-inca ruin and lacking running water, didn't provide the financial nor social conditions for them to move on and improve their lot. I couldn't help but relate it to my own youth, stuck with my friends in the Callao neighborhood, at that age where we roam aimlessly.

The 5 friends of this story developed at their own will page after page in the screenplay, giving life to many situations "stolen" from episodes experienced by them in real life. I didn't want to contemplate their misery, nor idealize them, just tell how their daily lives developed, what friendship means to them, how reality shatters their dreams, how their simple soccer games represent their will to win something. Throughout this process I also worked at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and PARAISO took a completely different meaning to me: now the whole story would take place in one unique place, intensifying the suffocation and entrapment in which they live.

Now that the film is done I don't really know if I did them justice, if all the wittiness and humour that fill their conversations have been accurately portrayed, if I have designed the best possible endings for them. One always remains unsatisfied. Yet if it motivates the audience to look at them closely now, and with renewed eyes, then I'll feel happy enough.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Héctor Gálvez was born in Lima, Peru. Studied TV Production at the National Institute of Telecommunications (INICTEL) He has written and directed a number of short films in a variety of genres, and worked for different NGO's producing documentaries focusing on human rights. In 2000 he covered the job of the Commission of Truth and Reconciliation, the body that was in charge of investigating the violation of human rights that had happened in the last 20 years in Peru. As a result of that experience he developed the documentary project LUCANAMARCA, and it inspired him to write his first project of fiction PARAISO. At the same time, he also writes short stories, receiving honorable mention awards at the Caretas 1000-Word-Story Contest, and at the Gastronomical Short Story Contest organized by MATALAMANGA Editorial House in 2007.

FILMOGRAPHY

“Paraíso”.

Feature Film, 2009

Writer & Director

CONACINE Production Award, Peru 2006.

Filmstiftung NRW Production Fund, Germany 2007

IBERMEDIA Production Award, Spain 2007

Finalist at Cine en Construcción Toulouse, France 2009

Post Production Grant, Goteborg Film Festival Fund, Sweden 2009

“NN”

Feature Film Project (In development).

Writer and Director.

Finalist at the Amiens Development Fund, France 2008

Selected for the Fifth Coproduction Encuentro, Guadalajara, Mexico 2009

“Lucanamarca”.

Documentary Feature, 2008.

Writer & Director.

Winner of the 2004 Grant from the Alter-Ciné Foundation

Winner Jan Vrijman Fund, post –production 2007.

Avant premiere. IDFA 2008, Silver Wolf competition.

Festival Internacional de cine en Guadalajara 2009

Amnesty International's Movies that Matter 2009

“Fotos de Familia”. (“Family pictures”)

Short fiction, 2004.

Writer & Director.

Honorable Mention at the I Festival Nacional y Muestra Internacional CUZCO 2004.

Official Selection at THE NIGHT OF THE SHORT FILMS PARIS 2005

Second prize at the First Short Fiction Films CINECORP Competition . May 2005

“Tarea Pendiente”. (“Homework to be done”)

Short documentary, 2003. TV Cultura.

Writer & Assistant Director.

Winner of the Human Rights Award at the First BIENAL DE CINE & VIDEO, Lima.

Honorable Mention at the International Film Festival “La noche de los Cortos”

“Comisión de la Verdad y Reconciliación”. (“Commission of Truth and Reconciliation”)

TV Report, 2002. TV Cultura.

Writer & Director.

“El Colchonero”. (“The Mattress Maker”)

Short fiction film, 1998.

Writer & Director.

“Circo de Arena”. (“Sand Circus”)

Short documentary, 1998.

Writer & Director.

Winner of the Young Video Festival, A. C. S. Calandria

CAST

Joaquín	Joaquín Ventura
Antuanet	Yiliana Chong
Mario	Jose Luis García
Sara	Gabriela Tello
Lalo	William Gómez

CREW

Writer & Director	Héctor Gálvez
Producers	Enid Campos Josué Méndez
Delegate Producers	Carmen Muñoz Claudia Aguirre
Co Producers	Gudula Meinzolt Paulo de Carvalho Teresa Fernández Cuesta Luis Ángel Ramírez Ole Landsjöaasen Christian Fürst Annette Pisacane
Executive Producers	Enid Campos Josué Méndez Héctor Gálvez
Director of Photography	Mario Bassino
Production Designer	Iván Lozano
Sound Designer	Francisco Adrianzén
Editor	Eric Williams

Chullachaki Cine

Chullachaki Cine was founded in 1998 by filmmakers Josue Mendez and Enid Campos. As a production company it aims at establishing itself on the international market, with an interest on showing present issues and social urgencies of contemporary Peru, showcasing stories with strong social commentary. Since its creation, Chullachaki has produced five short films and four feature length films, which have been shown at the most important film festivals and sold worldwide.

Feature Films

2009 – Qué culpa tiene el Tomate, 35mm, seven directors. Documentary. Coproduction with Lagarto Cine (Argentina) and Tic Tac Producciones (Spain).

2009 – Paraíso, 35mm, director Héctor Gálvez. Fiction. Coproduction with Ulysses Films and Oasis (Spain), Neue Cameo Films and Autentika Films (Germany).

2008 – Dioses, 35mm, director Josué Méndez. Fiction. Coproduction with Lagarto Cine (Argentina), Mil Colores Media and Cachoeira Films (Germany), and TS Productions (France).

2004 – Días de Santiago, 35mm, director Josué Méndez. Fiction.

Short Films

2007 - Taxista, 16mm, director Enrica Pérez

2001 - La Escritura Desatada, 16mm, director Ronald García

1999 - Parelisa, 16mm, director Josué Méndez

1998 - Dreams & Other Adagios, 16mm, director Josué Méndez

1997 - Sólo Buenos Amigos, 16mm, director Josué Méndez

Main Festivals & Awards

Dioses | Feature Film

Best Actor, **Festival Cero Latitud** (2009), Ecuador
Best Sound, **Festival de La Habana** (2008), Cuba
Best Film, **Biarritz Film Festival** (2008), France
Best Peruvian Film, **Lima Film Festival** (2008), Lima
Audience Award, **Lima Film Festival** (2008), Lima
Official Competition, **Locarno Film Festival** (2008) – World Premier
Sección Horizontes, **Festival de San Sebastián** (2008)
Official Selection, **Toronto Film Festival** (2008)

Días de Santiago | Feature Film

Best Iberoamerican Film, **Miami Film Festival** (2005), USA
Best Film, **Kerala Film Festival** (2004), India
Jury Award to the First Film, **Havana Film Festival** (2004), Cuba
Best Film, Best Actor, **Lima Film Festival** (2004), Peru
Best Film, **Fribourg Film Festival** (2004), Switzerland
Best Actor, **Buenos Aires Independent Film Festival** (2004), Argentina
Official Competition, **Rotterdam Film Festival** (2004) – World Premier
Official Competition, **Toulouse Film Festival** (2004)
Competencia Oficial, **Festival de Valladolid - SEMINCI** (2004)
Official Selection, **Toronto Film Festival** (2004)

Taxista | Short Film

Best Short Film on Celluloid, **CONACINE** (2007), Peru
Best Narrative Short Film, awarded by **Cinewomen** (2008), New York
Best Female Director, **Adrienne Shelly Award**, (2008) New York
Best Female Director, **Someone to Watch Award**, given by **Cinewomen** (2008) New York

Parelisa | Short Film

Best New Director, **Huesca Festival** (2000), Spain
Best Short Film, **Peruvian Short Film Festival** (“Orson Welles”) (2000), Perú
Official Competition, **Sao Paulo Short Film Festival** (2000) – World Premier
Official Selection, **Oberhausen Short Film Festival** (2000)