



# THIS IS NOT BERLIN

A FILM BY  
HARI SAMA

CATATONIA CINE - "THIS IS NOT BERLIN"

CASTING: KABIANI PONCE DE LEÓN, JOSÉ ANTONIO TOLEDANO, XIMENA ROMO-MERCADO, MAURO SÁNCHEZ NIÑARRO,  
KLAUDIA GARCÍA, AMÉRICO HOLLANDER, CAYTE MONTENVELO, JUAN CARLOS REMOLINA, LINDY CAVAZOS & MARINA DE TAPIA

EDITED BY RODRIGO ORDÓÑEZ, HARI SAMA / MAX ZUNINO / DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY VIRIDIANA OLVERA / EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DIANA QUIROZ ENNIS / GABRIELA FERNÁNDEZ / KARINA RODRÍGUEZ  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS RODRIGO RÍOS LEGASPI, HARI SAMA / XIMENA CUEVAS / PRODUCED BY JAVIER UMPIERREZ / PRODUCED BY RICARDO WONG DEL MORAL / PEDRO DE LA BARZA / EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MAX OLDHMAN /  
HARI SAMA / PRODUCED BY ALFREDO ALTAMIRANO, AMC / EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CHARLOTTE LERCHNER / PRODUCED BY ALE GARCÍA, ANTONIO URDAPILLETA, VERÓNICA VALADEZ P. / HARI SAMA  
DIRECTED BY HARI SAMA

CATATONIA  
CINE

LOTIDO



DIRECTED BY HARI SAMA

ESTO NO ES BERLÍN / DRAMA / Production: Mexico / Language: Spanish / 2019 / 105 min

**LOTIDO**



## SYNOPSIS

1986. Mexico City. Seventeen year-old Carlos spends his time inventing robotic devices and doesn't fit in anywhere: not in his family nor with the friends he has chosen in school. But everything changes when he is invited to a mythical nightclub where he discovers the underground nightlife scene: post punk, sexual liberty, and drugs that challenges the relationship with his best friend Gera and lets him find his passion for art.

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From the producers of **GÜEROS**

With **Marina de Tavira (ROMA)**

Soundtrack including **JOY DIVISION, ROXY MUSIC, DEVO, EINSTURZENDE NEUBAUTEN, JUDAS PRIEST, CLAN OF XYMOX** and **LIGHTNING HOPKINGS**

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# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

**THIS IS NOT BERLIN** is a film that portrays the artistic and musical underground of the 80s in Mexico City, from the point of view of a teenager that enters the mythical bar "Aztec Lounge" where he discovers a new world full of art, punk, drugs and sexual liberty. As it is a story based on autobiographical events it was a very exhaustive writing and investigation process. Mexico in this time was a very closed country. There were no public rock concerts, no drugs, it was difficult to get the records of our favorite international bands and impossible to dress up like them. But there were private spaces that organized illegal happenings and concerts. One of them was a gay bar that opened its doors to the young artists and became the epicenter of this underground universe. This is the place that I turned into the "Aztec Lounge" in my film. For the writing I talked to several friends that had been my accomplices in those times and during the preproduction some of them, now internationally recognized artists, shares their knowledge and memories with the actors, so they could understand the context in a better way. It was a unique and enlightening process for everybody.

# BIOGRAPHY

Hari Sama is a Mexican director, screenwriter, actor, producer and musician. Since his second film, *El sueño de Lú*, he has become one of the most forceful voices in contemporary independent Mexican cinema. His films, with a clear humanistic tendency, are characterized by an overwhelming depth that, despite showing painful realities, seek spaces for personal transfiguration. His musical knowledge and his command of sound production have led him to connect music and cinema in all of his work. His most recent film **THIS IS NOT BERLIN** will premiere at Sundance in January 2019.

# FILMOGRAPHY

## **THIS IS NOT BERLIN**

(2019; feature film)

## **NOBODY PLAYS THE TROMBONE ANYMORE**

(2016; short film)

## **SUNKA RAKU, EVANESCENT JOY**

(2015; documentary feature film)

## **THE EMPTY TIARA**

(2014; short film)

## **AWAKENING DUST**

(2013; feature film)

## **LU'S DREAM**

(2011; feature film)

## **THE AFTERNOON HAS EYES**

(2007; short film)

## **TAIL BETWEEN THE LEGS**

(2005; short film)

## **WITHOUT RHYME OR REASON**

(2003; feature film)

# CAST

**XABIANI PONCE DE LEÓN** – Carlos  
**JOSÉ ANTONIO TOLEDANO** – Gera  
**XIMENA ROMO** – Rita  
**MAURO SÁNCHEZ NAVARRO** – Nico  
**KLAUDIA GARCÍA** – Maud  
**AMÉRICO HOLLANDER** – Tito  
**HARI SAMA** – Esteban  
**MARINA DE TAVIRA** – Carolina  
**JUAN CARLOS REMOLINA** – Emilio  
**LUMI CAVAZOS** – Susana  
**FERNANDO ÁLVAREZ REBEIL** – Quiñones



# CREW

**DIRECTOR:** Hari Sama  
**SCREENPLAY:** Rodrigo Ordóñez, Hari Sama, Max Zunino  
**PRODUCERS:** Ale García, Antonio Urdapilleta, Verónica Valadez P., Hari Sama  
**D.O.P.:** Alfredo Altamirano  
**ART DIRECTOR:** Diana Quiroz  
**SOUND:** Damián del Río, Javier Umpierrez  
**EDITING:** Rodrigo Ríos, Ximena Cuevas, Hari Sama  
**MUSIC SUPERVISOR:** Max Oldham, Hari Sama  
**COSTUME DESIGNER:** GABRIELA FERNÁNDEZ

# PRODUCTION

**PRODUCTION COMPANIES:** Catatonia Cine

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