

GERALDINE CHAPLIN · UDO KIER

LUIS OSPINA · JAIME PIÑA · JACKIE LUDUEÑA



HOLY BEASTS

LA FIERA Y LA FIESTA

a film by LAURA AMELIA GUZMÁN & ISRAEL CÁRDENAS

PRODUCED BY AURORA DOMINICANA, BATO FILMS, REI CINE, PIMENTA FILMS, LANTICA MEDIA WITH THE SUPPORT OF PROGRAMA IBERMEDIA, INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE CINE Y ARTES VISUALES (INCAA)
DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE CINE (OGCINE), FFL LATIN AMERICAN FUND PRODUCED BY GABRIEL TINEO, LAURA AMELIA GUZMÁN, ISRAEL CÁRDENAS, RAFAEL ELIAS MUÑOZ, BENJAMÍN DOMENECH
SANTIAGO GALLELLI, MATÍAS ROVEDA, NICOLAS CELIS, SANDINO SARAVIA SINAY EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ALBERT MARTÍNEZ, GABRIEL TINEO AND EDITOR OF MÓNICA DE MOYA EXECUTIVE EDITOR LAURA GUERRERO
EDITED BY ANDREA KLENNAN, ISRAEL CÁRDENAS & PABLO CHEA EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS OF ISRAEL CÁRDENAS SOUND DESIGNER LEANDRO DE LOREDO MUSICAL SUPERVISION BY RAMUSIC
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY LAURA AMELIA GUZMÁN & ISRAEL CÁRDENAS



HOLY BEASTS



69th Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
Panorama



LA FIERA Y LA FIESTA / DRAMA / Co-production: **Dominican Republic, Argentina, Mexico /**
Language: **Spanish, English / 2019 / 90 min**

L**TIDO**



SYNOPSIS

Fading actress Vera gathers with the remnants of her 70's social circle to shoot her last film: an unfinished script left behind by cherished friend Jean-Louis Jorge. The Caribbean production is lavish, the musical numbers grand. But odd forces threaten the shoot. Vera turns to her ghosts for answers.

Starring

**Geraldine Chaplin (JURASSIC WORLD: FALLEN KINGDOM, TALK TO HER),
Udo Kier (DOWNSIZING, MELANCHOLIA)**

From the producers of
ZAMA, LOS PERROS, ROMA

By the directors of
SAND DOLLARS, JEAN GENTIL



DIRECTORS' NOTES

The Caribbean landscape conspires against the act of preservation, humidity and salt being its main perpetrators. It makes encountering the works of directors and photographers from previous generations extremely rare, if not impossible. Time has erased them.

HOLY BEASTS began as a battle against oblivion, as homage to a group of Dominican filmmakers and artists who sought to create against all odds; led by Jean-Louis Jorge, who at the time had already amassed a sensual and transgressive body of work filmed abroad.

Unlike our previous films, which we viewed through lens firmly grounded in reality; **HOLY BEASTS** favors fantasy in its approach. Its free spirit allows us to delve into the *mise en abyme*, where true and mythical characters coexist, and scenarios fluctuate from real to imaginary.

HOLY BEASTS is our most personal work to date. Under the guise of dreams, memories, and fantasies we attempt to depict the craft of filmmaking; to convey a state of vertigo and insecurity so closely entwined with the process of creation; to witness how film instigates destiny; and above all, to render it a weapon against mortality.

DIRECTORS' BIOGRAPHY

The Mexico-Dominican duo of Laura Amelia Guzmán and Israel Cárdenas has directed, written, photographed, and produced several feature films together.

Born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on May 7th 1980, Laura Amelia Guzmán first studied fine arts and photography at the Altos de Chavón School of Design; later moving to Cuba to attend the International Film and Television School (EICTV), where she specialized in cinematography.

Israel Cárdenas was born in Monterrey, Mexico on February 15th 1980; where he studied Communication. Besides his work with Guzmán, Cárdenas has collaborated as producer, editor, scriptwriter, and/or cinematographer in several projects.

Their first two films **COCHOCHI** (2007) and **JEAN GENTIL** (2010), celebrated their world premieres at the Venice Biennale. Next up came documentary **CARMITA** (2013), having its own at FICUNAM. In 2014, their feature film **DÓLARES DE ARENA / SAND DOLLARS** (2014), starring Geraldine Chaplin, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival, receiving further international recognition. 2017 saw them premiere two new works: their feature **SAMBÁ**, at the Tribeca Film Festival, and documentary **NOELI OVERSEAS** at Visions du Réel.

They currently live with their two sons in Santo Domingo, where they run together production company Aurora Dominicana, postproduction studio Aurora Color, and independent cinema Cinema Boreal (est. 2018).

CAST

GERALDINE CHAPLIN – Vera

UDO KIER – Henry

JAIME PIÑA – Víctor

LUIS OSPINA – Martín

PAU BERTOLINI – Stonem

FIFI POULAKIDAS – Stella

YERADIN ASENCIO – Myriam



CREW

DIRECTORS & SCRIPTWRITERS:

Laura Amelia Guzmán & Israel Cárdenas

PRODUCERS:

Gabriel Tineo, Rafael Elías Muñoz, Laura Amelia Guzmán, Israel Cárdenas, Benjamín Doménech, Santiago Gallelli, Matías Roveda, Nicolás Celis, Sandino Saravia Vinay

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Gabriel Tineo, Albert Martínez

PRODUCTION DESIGN: Mónica de Moya

D.O.P.: Israel Cárdenas

SOUND DESIGNER: Leandro de Loredo

SOUND: Homer Mora, Denis Godo

EDITING: Andrea Kleinman S.A.E. / E.D.A, Israel Cárdenas, Pablo Chea

COSTUME DESIGNER: Laura Guerrero



PRODUCTION

PRODUCTION COMPANIES: Batú Films, Lantica Media, Aurora Dominicana, Rei Cine, Pimienta Films

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