

CATALAN FILMS AT MIF 09

OFFICIAL COMPETITION



MAP OF THE SOUNDS OF TOKYO

by Isabel Coixet

PRODUCED BY: Mediapro, Versátil
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Imagina Int'l Sales
 bsetuain@imagina.tv
CAST: Rinko Kikuchi, Sergi López, Min Tanaka
Saturday 23 May 22.30h, Louis Lumière Theatre (Premiere)

SYNOPSIS:

Ryu is a solitary girl whose fragile appearance is in stark contrast with the double life she leads, working nights at a Tokyo fishmarket and sporadically taking on jobs as a hit-woman. Mr Nagara is a powerful impresario mourning the loss of his daughter Midori, who has committed suicide. He blames David, a Spaniard who runs a wine business in Tokyo. Mr Nagara's employee, Ishida, was silently in love with Midori and hires Ryu to murder David.

A sound engineer, obsessed with the sounds of the Japanese city and fascinated with Ryu, witnesses this love story which searches the shadows of the human soul, reaching deep into places where only silence has the power of eloquence.

OFFICIAL COMPETITION SHORT FILM



WORSTWARD HO

by Àlex Brendemühl

PRODUCED BY: Voodoo Productions
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Txell Sabartes
 txell@voodooproductions.net
Saturday 23 May 11.00h

SYNOPSIS:

Two men dressed as footballers wander about through nature. They are lost and find a woman on the highway. Overwhelmed by her beauty, they insist that she come along with them.

SEMAINE DE LA CRITIQUE



HIERRO

by Gabe Ibáñez

PRODUCED BY: Roxbury Pictures, Madrugada Films, Telecinco Cinema
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Wild Bunch
 gnouaille@wildbunch.eu
CAST: Elena Anaya, Bea Segura, Kaiet Rodríguez, Andrés Herrera
Monday 18 May 20.00h, Espace Miramar

SYNOPSIS:

While travelling by ferry on the way to the island where they plan to spend their holidays, Maria's son Diego disappears. Has he fallen overboard? Has he been abducted? Nobody knows. Diego has simply vanished. Six months later, Maria is still fighting to overcome the pain of her loss, to go on with her life. It is then that she receives an unexpected phone call. The body of a child has been found, and she must return to the island. There on the island, in the evocative and disturbing landscape, surrounded by disquieting and sinister people, Maria is forced to confront her worst nightmares. And as she travels along the terrible path that will lead to her son, Maria ultimately discovers that some mysteries should never be uncovered.

MARCHÉ DU FILM



25 KARATS

by Patxi Amézcuca

PRODUCED BY: Ovideo TV, Icónica
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Imagina Int'l Sales
 bsetuain@imagina.tv
CAST: Francesc Garrido, Aida Folch, Manuel Morón, Joan Massotkleiner, Héctor Colomé
Saturday 16 May 14.00h, Riviera 3
Monday 18 May 14.00h, Riviera 1

SYNOPSIS:

A guy specialised in collecting debts through expeditious methods; a juvenile female offender involved in car thefts; her father, a receiver of stolen goods with a special knack for getting into jams; Garro of the anti-robbery team, a detective of doubtful integrity; a gang of Kosovo; a pair of Mexican hoods... all want to pull of their ultimate heist.



7.5 STEPS

by Lalo Garcia

PRODUCED BY: Iris Star
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Coach 14
 n.arnould@coach14.com
CAST: Ernesto Alterio, Pere Arquillué, Sancho Gracia, Ingrid Rubio
Friday 15 May 15.30h, Arcade 3

SYNOPSIS:

To sail, to live another life. That is Abel's dream. Luis, his childhood friend, is tired of his home life and his work. Fate has offered them very different lives. The same fate brings them together years later, and in the shape of a bet, affords them the opportunity to radically change their situations. Whether or not they take the opportunity entirely depends on them, yet it involves dangers that neither of them can foresee.



ANDER

by Roberto Castón

PRODUCED BY: Ilusión Óptica, Euskal Irrati
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Latido Films
 latido@latidofilms.com
CAST: Josean Bengoetxea, Cristhian Esquivel, Mamen Rivera
Thursday 14 May 09.45h, Palais C
Tuesday 19 May 18.00h, Palais I

SYNOPSIS:

'Andere' is an intimate story which portrays a Basque countryman well into his forties at the turn of the twentieth century. He lives a monotonous life that takes place between his work in a bicycle factory and his peasant duties shared with his sister and their elder mother. His life starts to change when due to an accident; he needs to hire a Peruvian helper, José. The newcomer's presence alters unintentionally the relationships between "Andere", his relatives and acquaintances. When Andere acknowledges that he is developing deep feelings towards José, he has to decide whether he will transform his life to include him or not.



ASHES FROM THE SKY

by José Antonio Quirós

PRODUCED BY: Bausan Films, El Nacedón Films
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Bausan Films
 loris@bausanfilms.com
CAST: Celso Bugallo, Gary Piquer, Clara Segura, Beatriz Rico, Fran Sariego
Wednesday 20 May 12.00h, Palais I

SYNOPSIS:

The Negron Valley, a place where most of the residents live in the shadow of a power plant. By chance, Pol Ferguson, a Scotsman who writes tourist guides, winds up in this region in northern Spain, intrigued by its wonders, which he has heard about through the media references of a princess and a Formula 1 driver.



ECCENTRICITIES OF A BLOND HAIR GIRL

by Manoel de Oliveira

PRODUCED BY: Eddie Saeta, Films do Tejo
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Pyramide Films
 pricher@pyramidefilms.com
CAST: Ricardo Trepá, Catarina Wallenstein
Thursday 14 May 12.00h, Riviera 3
Wednesday 20 May 10.00h, Palais G

SYNOPSIS:

A young man falls desperately in love with a blonde woman who turns his entire life upside down.



ELOÏSE

by Jesús Garay

PRODUCED BY: Els Quatre Gats Audiovisuals, Televisió de Catalunya
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Filmax Int'l
 v.canales@filmax.com
CAST: Diana Gómez, Ariadna Cabrol, Bernat Saumell, Laura Conejero
Wednesday 13 May 16:00h, Palais G
Wednesday 20 May 10:00h, Lerins 1

SYNOPSIS:

Asia, an 18-year-old girl, is in coma in the hospital. Her mother and her boyfriend, Nathaniel, take care of her. Little by little, we see the events that led to Asia's hospitalisation, her relationships with her mother, her girlfriends and her boyfriend, and particularly with Eloïse, a mysterious young woman who has introduced her to a world of new sensations. With her, Asia relives a painful episode from her past, one that her mother is not willing to allow to come to light. In the end, Asia will face up to everyone, and fight to be happy in her relationship with Eloïse.



INSIGNIFICANT THINGS

by Andrea Martínez

PRODUCED BY: Manga Films, Media Films, Tequila Gang
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Notro Films
 adelvalle@vertice360.com
CAST: Lucia Jiménez, Carmelo Gómez, Bárbara Mori, Fernando Luján
Wednesday 13 May 11.30h, Palais H
Tuesday 19 May 14.00h, Palais I

SYNOPSIS:

Esmeralda is an adolescent with a strange obsession: she collects lost objects and things that were forgotten or thrown away by people she doesn't know, and she keeps them in a box under her bed. This is the story of three objects in the box and the people behind them, all of who are somehow unable to connect with the people they love the most. It is also the story of the box itself, and how Esmeralda learns to open it, to feel and to treasure the most precious thing of all: human relations.



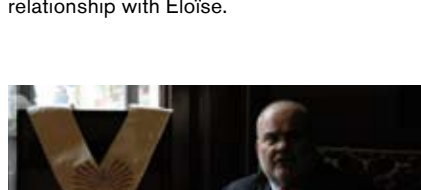
MAGIC JOURNEY TO AFRICA (TEASER-TRAILER)

by Jordi Llopart

PRODUCED BY: Órbita Max
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Órbita Max
 isabel@orbitamax.com
CAST: Leonor Watling, Verónica Blume, Eva Garretson, Raymond Mvula
Friday 15 May, 09.30h, Lerins 2

SYNOPSIS:

Jana, a 10 year old girl from Barcelona, sees a bushman boy (Kabbo) hospitalized. She then starts a magical journey on her winged horse searching for him in his land, Africa. While in Africa she will meet Mel, her new best friend, who will travel with her whenever possible. Jana will also interact with other children, animals and magical creatures that will show her the path to imagination and the meaning of life. Jana's magical journey to Africa contains a deep message about friendship, love, passion, nature and imagination. It is a spiritual journey for adults and a magical trip for kids, full of mysteries, adventures and discoveries.



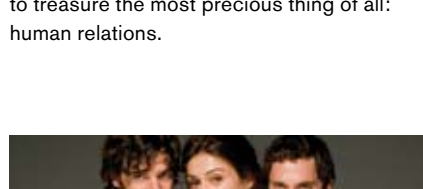
MASONS

by Santiago Lapeira

PRODUCED BY: Black Flag, Verne Films
INTERNATIONAL SALES: KWA
 kwa@kevinwa.com
CAST: Mafer Blanco, Marisa Duaso, Elena Cruz, Kepa Atxa
Monday 18 May 12.00h, Palais E
Wednesday 20 May 15.45h, Palais B

SYNOPSIS:

"Marta, a university professor, discovers that her father belonged to the Freemasonry. She starts off on an initiatic journey that will take her to Rome, Istanbul, London, Madrid, Salamanca, Bilbao and Barcelona where she will uncover some of the secrets of the Masonry, until she finally discovers a secret lodge en Paris."



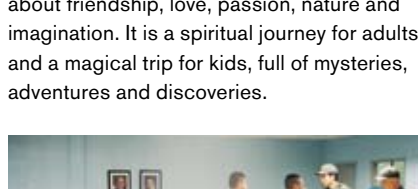
MEDITERRANEAN FOOD

by Joaquín Oristrell

PRODUCED BY: Messidor Films
INTERNATIONAL SALES: TVE
 mmayi.comercial@rtve.es
CAST: Olivia Molina, Paco León, Alfonso Bassave
Monday 18 May 13.30h, Riviera 4
Wednesday 20 May 12.00h, Gray 1

SYNOPSIS:

Sofia was born prematurely in a market in June 1968 on the same fated day that Robert Kennedy was assassinated. For 15 years she was raised amid the stovetops and tables of her parents' restaurant. A hard-working, ambitious and unpredictable woman, she soon falls in love with two men. With one of them, Toni (the son-in-law that every mother dreams of having), she gets married and has 3 children; with the other, Frank (the manager that every artist dreams of having), she becomes the best chef in the world.



NORTHLESS

by Rigoberto Pérezcano

PRODUCED BY: Tiburón Filmes, Foprocine, McCormick de México, IDN, Mediapro
INTERNATIONAL SALES: IMCINE
 promint@imcine.gob.mx
CAST: Harold Torres, Sonia Couoh, Alicia Laguna
Saturday 16. May 13:30 h, Riviera 4
Monday 18 May 16:00h, Palais G

SYNOPSIS:

Andres a young farmer from Oaxaca, Mexico, tries over and over again to cross the North-American border illegally; however death, thirst and the desert get in between him and his dream. Just when he is about ready to give up, the call of the north beckons him once more and by means of a surrealistic, yet brilliant plan, he embarks on one last attempt to cross the border.



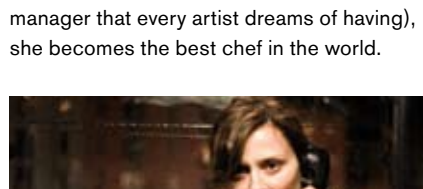
PAINTBALL

by Daniel Benmayor

PRODUCED BY: Filmax Entertainment
INTERNATIONAL SALES: Filmax Int'l
 v.canales@filmax.com
CAST: Brendan Mackey, Jennifer Mather, Patrick Regis
Friday 15 May 16:00, Olympia 6
Monday 18 May, 18:00, Riviera 3

SYNOPSIS:

By first-time director Daniel Benmayor, of the acclaimed Play-Station 3 adverts, Paintball starts out as fun between a bunch of young people but fast becomes a battle for survival.



THE FROST

by Ferran Audí

PRODUCED BY: Alta Realitat, Apuntolapospo in collaboration with Frost Media Films AS
INTERNATIONAL SALES: DeAPlaneta
 lmedina@deaplaneta.com
CAST: Trond Espen Seim, Aitana Sánchez Gijón, Tristán Ulloa, Eva Eklöf Morkeset, Bibi Anderson
Thursday 14 May 13:30, Riviera 2
Monday 18 May 10:00, Lerins 1

SYNOPSIS:

Alfred Allmers and his young wife Rita live in a nice, bourgeois country house on an island off the coast of Norway with their only son Eyolf, who, due to an unfortunate accident, is now crippled and walks with crutches. For some time now, underlying tensions have been stirring between Alfred and his wife. At the beginning of the story, Alfred is trekking in one of Norway's most incredible natural places: the Jostedal Glacier. Here, we discover that he's actually trying to find some meaning in his life. The very same day, Eyolf falls into the sea and drowns, his body never to be recovered.



THE MILK OF SORROW

by Clàudia Lloa

PRODUCED BY: Oberon Cinematográfica, Wanda Vision, Vela Producciones
INTERNATIONAL SALES: The Match factory
 info@matchfactory.de
CAST: Magaly Solier, Susi Sánchez, Efraim Solís
Wednesday 13 May 18:00, Lerins 1
Sunday 17 May 14:00, Olympia 5

SYNOPSIS:

Fausta suffers from "The scared breast", a strange illness that is transmitted by mothers who have been raped or mistreated during their pregnancy or nursing period. The children of these women are inevitably infected by their milk and inherit a terrible atavistic fear. Fausta's illness manifests itself in the form of haemorrhages or bleeding during moments of crisis or extreme tension. Fausta also keeps a secret that she won't reveal until her mother's death unleashes a series of unexpected events that will change her life.

CATALAN SCREENING SHORT FILM CORNER

16th may, starting at 11.30 h

WORSTWARD HO

By Àlex Brendemühl

THE MOUNTAIN OF THE MOON

By Pedro B. Abreu

SHEEPSKIN

By Gemma Martínez

ESPLÉNDIDO

By David Ciurana

EL PASO

By Daniel Torres

RIPPLE

By Pau Camarasa

POLS

By Poli Nuévalosance

IRIS

By Victor Azaustre

MICROPHYSICS

By Joan C. Martorell



catalanfilms&tv

catalanfilmstv@gencat.cat

www.catalanfilms.cat



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR E-NEWSLETTER.
 www.catalanfilms.cat/en/nletter.jsp

