

BRIEF STORY FROM THE GREEN PLANET
by
SANTIAGO LOZA



Producer: CONSTANZA SANZ PALACIOS FILMS
Co-producer: AUTENTIKA FILMS, Germany



SYNOPSIS

Tania is a trans girl who makes shows at discos in Buenos Aires.

Pedro is a young creature of the night , a *voguing* dancer.

Daniela works in a bar as a waitress. She is dealing with a break-up and is in deep melancholia.

The three of them are friends. They went to school together in their home town.

Tania receives the news that her grandmother has died, so she decides to go back to the town with her two friends.

Her grandma has left her house as an inheritance, and hidden an Alien body that accompanied her in those last years.

She asks them in a letter to please take the creature to the place where it appeared to give it eternal peace.

Pedro, Daniela and Tania start a journey looking for that place.

They look for clues and they meet along with people from the past and the present.

They get lost, and found each other back. They find the appeasement they need, what makes their loneliness softer.

At the end, they arrive to a mysterious place, where the Alien ship comes to look for the creature.

Tania leaves with it, to the galaxy. Pedro and Daniela stay in Earth, closer than ever.

This story is told by a teenager, many years later. He returns to the town. We discover at the end of the movie that he is Daniela's son. A young man returning to find the place where his life began.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT AND VISUAL CONCEPT

The film is about the journey three characters must begin to bury the body of an alien. What cannot be assumed as normal, what is out of the socially accepted world, becomes an awkward and strange body. The "alien" in the film is the same as the different, the outcast, the outsiders. The three characters carry a body connected to their own. It is just as strange.

In my work, to make a film about aliens is a natural consequence. I have made films that were broadcasted on diverse festivals, that were seen, but in a strange way, are also hidden. Beltways, trying different styles and forms every time I started filming again. They are strange films (like the first one I made which is named EXTRAÑO). And now, attempting to make more approachable cinema, it is only logical that I use a character that does not belong to the real world, but to the collective imagination of a great beyond. It is that fantastic presence that the characters live as natural. And they do because themselves, to the world, are strange creatures that cannot be integrated.

I want to make a film about lovable beings, small, wounded, that are dragged into an extraordinary situation. Forced to live a huge and bizarre adventure. I wish to make a film that is more open to a story. Like a tale, an immortal legend. To mix genres, science fiction with dramatic comedy and adventure. Referring to certain pop cinema from the 80's. An existential journey. Between banality and profoundness. Between the every day and the sublime. A film about how to deal with loss. The paybacks offered by unknown roads. The otherness, the strange, the foreign, the supernatural narrated as an everyday circumstance.

I know the three people that will play the characters, one of them is a transexual actress. Another is a comedian and the third one is a dancer and an actor. We have had some meetings. In the movie I take a few traces from their lives, from their courage facing adversity.

The film is about the power of the weak. The hidden strength of the eternal forgotten. It is a homage to all losers. And an act of poetic justice.

VISUAL AND SOUND TREATMENT:

The film uses as referent a certain entertainment cinema style from the 80's. Those films about a group of teenagers that had to overcome a challenge. Rob Reiner's "Stand by me", Richard Donner's "The Goonies", among others. Also some classic alien's movies, *matinee* films. That visual imaginary goes through and against references as Andrei Tarkovsky's STALKER, the wandering about in Antonioni's or Tsai Ming Liang's films. With an image that commemorates the light of popular cinemas, the suspense, the work on the shades and the off-camera. The sound is rare, unnatural. The film includes black and white flashbacks, that past where the mysterious presence of the alien is. The wardrobe and spaces are timeless. the first part shows the gay night in Buenos Aires, with a touch of decadent glamour. The places are infested by blinding lights, that produce the effect of daydreaming or hypnosis. Unrealistic image. Strange, sometimes with pictoric sets, and other moments close to the panels of a cartoon strip.

CAST

My encounter with the actors and the decision of them being the main characters came up in a natural, casual, intuitive way. One actor led to another. I met each of them separately before starting to write the script. I took notes about their life stories, their way of thinking, their gestures. Some of these notes appear in the construction of the characters. Once I had started the script, I brought them together. I needed to see the three of them, the group, to know how they worked on the image level and on the relationship in a future job together.

The three are very peculiar, there's something odd about them, a certain unusual charm. They are not eccentric and, at the same time, they have a strange beauty. There is something damaged about them, a wound that left them scarred. They know how it is to be left out. They are low profile, modest, docile, but at the same time, they have the power of an explosion. They can be radiant or opaque. I believe they will become an anthology trio.

Lucía Romina Escobar (TANIA):

Due to her transexual condition, she has had a tough life. She has been acting for years. Thanks to this profession she managed to move herself from the marginal place other trans women are in. Lucía has perfected herself over time. She used to make presentations at nightclubs, she would prepare them to the last detail. With time she got parts on cinema and TV. She is an activist of transexuals civil rights. She works as an administrative at the first high school for transexuals in Argentina.



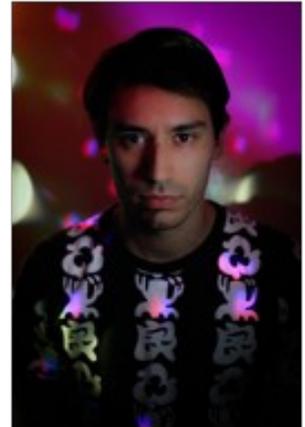
Paula Grinszpan (DANIELA):

She has been to drama courses since she was a little girl. She trained with different teachers and has become one herself. She has one of the leading roles in a web series followed by youngsters and teenagers. Due to her taciturn appearance, she is usually hired as a comedian. Her way of speaking and her cheerless behaviour generates a humor that is both hilarious and sad at the same time. Paula has had small parts in films like RELATOS SALVAJES and ZAMA.



Luis Sodá (PEDRO):

He is from a province in the northern area of the country. He has european and aboriginal (*guaraní*) roots, which give him an exotic look, strong complexion and a deep look. he has devoted himself to dancing and performing. He has attended drama courses and gives lessons in physical training. He has a young, serene look. He is tall and owns a distinguished, dry beauty. Due to his characteristics, a certain distance and at the same time tenderness, he becomes an ideal companion for the two girls on this journey.



BIOFILMOGRAPHY - SANTIAGO LOZA

Santiago Loza was born in Córdoba / Argentina.

He graduated as National Cinematographic Scriptwriter from “Centro de Experimentación de Cine del Instituto Nacional de Cine y Artes Audiovisuales” (Cinematographic Experimentation Center at the National Institute of Cinema and Audiovisual Arts).

He studied performing arts and play writing at the “Escuela Municipal de Artes de la Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires” (Municipal School of Arts of Buenos Aires City).

He now holds theatrical writing workshops in many events and institutions in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay.

In 2016 he was invited to be Jury at Cinefondation of Cannes Film Festival.

FILMOGRAPHY

2014 - **SI JE SUIS PERDU, C'EST PAS GRAVE (Toulouse Film Festival)**

2014 - **DOCE CASAS. HISTORIAS DE MUJERES DEVOTAS** (TV Mini- Serie- 12 episodes)

2013 - **LA PAZ** -<https://vimeo.com/82625946> Password: airlines)

2010 - **LOS LABIOS** -<https://vimeo.com/49925216> Password: lozafund)

2009 - **LA INVENCION DE LA CARNE**

2009 - **ROSA PATRIA** (Documentary)

2008 - **ARTICO**

2005 - **CUATRO MUJERES DESCALZAS**

2003 - **EXTRAÑO**

1999 - **HISTORIAS BREVES 3**

1999 - **HISTORIAS BREVES III: LARA Y LOS TRENES (short)**

AWARDS

His films have been shown on national and international festivals like Cannes, Locarno, Berlin, San Sebastián, London, Pusán, among others.

KONEX Prize in Literature, Theater category, 2014.

AFSCA Prize to “Best Fiction on TV” to the TV series DOCE CASAS HISTORIA DE MUJERES DEVOTAS 2014

LOLA MORA Prize to the TV series DOCE CASAS, HISTORIA DE MUJERES DEVOTAS BAFICI 2013, Best Movie Award, to the film LA PAZ

Un Certain Regard Award for Best Performance to the three actresses , film LOS LABIOS . CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2010.

BAFICI Best Director Award to the film LOS LABIOS 2011

Special Mention at BAFICI 2010 to ROSA PATRIA

Nominated to best original script and best photography awards on the Argentinian Cinema Academy for CUATRO MUJERES DESCALZAS 2007.

Best actress, shared among all the cast CUATRO MUJERES DESCALZAS, Gramado Festival

Best photography award to CUATRO MUJERES DESCALZAS Guadalajara Festival
Residence from Cannes Film Festival to develop the script of CUATRO MUJERES DESCALZAS

Best Film Award on Rotterdam Festival to EXTRAÑO

Best Film Award on Open Doeken Festival in Belgica to EXTRAÑO

Best Opera Prima Award on Lima Festival to EXTRAÑO

Second Place Award on Guadalajara Festival to EXTRAÑO

Audience Award on Paris Festival to EXTRAÑO

Best Film Award on Infinity Festival, Alba Italy, to EXTRAÑO

Best Film Award on the Three continents Festival in Marruecos to EXTRAÑO

“Lo nuevo de lo nuevo” prize at BAFICI for EXTRAÑO

Hubers Bals Fund (Netherlands) Post-production Award, to the film EXTRAÑO
EXTRAÑO was selected for the section “Cinema in construction” of the Tolouse (France) and San Sebastián (Spain) Festivals, to have it finished. 2002

BRIEF STORY FROM THE GREEN PLANET

by Santiago Loza

How would you define the film?

BRIEF STORY FROM THE GREEN PLANET is a film about the strength the weak have when they are united by a cause. It is a film about friendship, about those indispensable bonds that let us go through the darkness of the woods. It is a journey, a road, an evocation, a dream. And, as in dreams, logic is transformed and spaces become blurred.

It has a strange, discrete sense of humour, could you define it?

This is a film with a melancholic, martian sense of humour, where three beings try to understand what they are doing on earth, their transition: if they are meant for a mission that will lead them to the extraordinary, if being alive is a reality or a fleeting fantasy. Will we be remembered by anyone? Who will tell our stories in the future? Will it be necessary to create new fairy tales for the kids to come?

Would you also call it a “transgender” film?

Yes, **BRIEF STORY FROM THE GREEN PLANET** has an alien being who has no gender, it is a queer alien. The characters who help it are transforming as well. They have changed of sex, city, fashion and they will keep changing. The world is not a favourable place, that is why we have to transform. To become. To be aware of the own alien we all have inside ourselves.

BRIEF STORY FROM THE GREEN PLANET combines pop, queer and vintage with a contemporary imaginary. Humour with drama, magical elements. It is a poetic and enchanting object. The fantastic elements from the films we loved when we were kids and our adult point of view fuse into **BRIEF STORY FROM THE GREEN PLANET**.

What could you say about the main characters from the film?

BRIEF STORY FROM THE GREEN PLANET is about the loving power those who do not triumph have. The sad, the hurt. The film relies on elements from the three characters, I wrote for them, to meet their needs. The leading role had to be played by a transexual actress. In the fantasy the film creates, bodies matter, the marks on them narrate their own stories.

The film has very special aesthetics, including how the character relate with the landscape. Did you look for that effect?

Yes, the film develops in an imaginary place. But it was shot in Tierra del Fuego, an island in the end of the world. The strange adventure the characters experience is emphasized by the environment. The film is an evocation, sort of a buoyancy, an illusion, it is made of that energy; the images that are created by our most beloved memories, those shared by the company of the other.