

PRESS KIT | *WINTER HOWL* 2023

WINTER HOWL is the first documentary by awarded Chilean director Matías Rojas Valencia, a hybrid film between documentary and fiction, which draws on the expanding cinematographic possibilities - narrative and aesthetic- to delve into the theme of memory.

The film was produced by Tomás Gerlach and Clara Larrain Zegers, a joint work between the Chilean production companies A Simple Vista and Clara Films. It was also co-produced by the Colombian company Centauro Comunicaciones, led by Françoise Nieto-Fong and the Argentinian company Maravillacine with Paula Zyngierman as an executive producer.

SYNOPSIS

An elderly couple, who survived decades of slavery inside a powerful enclave in the south of Chile, now lives in isolation in Patagonia. Their sole purpose is living, in the present, the past they never had, while fighting against their greatest fear: the oblivion of society.

This documentary story is intertwined with a fictional one linked to the darkest chapter of Chile's recent history and to the protagonist couple.

NOTE OF INTENTION

During the exhaustive research I conducted for my second fiction feature film “A Place Called Dignity”, I met two elderly people who escaped from a powerful enclave in southern Chile: Dignity Colony. Today - and still persecuted - they live isolated in Patagonia. They expressed to me their greatest concern: that their story was forgotten. This made me reflect on memory, wounds and scars, and prompted me to make a film that would expand the expressive, narrative and artistic possibilities by intertwining a documentary story with a fictional story; “a film within a film”.

“Winter Howl” has the intention of installing a place of reflection and delving into our recent history at an intimate, national and continental level.

TWO STORIES THAT COME TOGETHER

This film is made up of two stories, each with a different plot.

To express the difference between the two stories in formal terms, different optics and aspect ratios were used in their filming; A framing based on the super 8mm ratio for the documentary and anamorphic for the fiction part. Both stories are intertwined during the film presented as a memory exercise that seeks for redemption, opening the dramatic question: Can love overcome trauma?

Documentary part
4:3



Fiction part
2.35:1 Anamorphic



DOCUMENTARY
CHARACTERS



Franz Baar



Ingrid Zsurgelies

FICTION
ACTRESSES



Paulina García



Clara Larrain



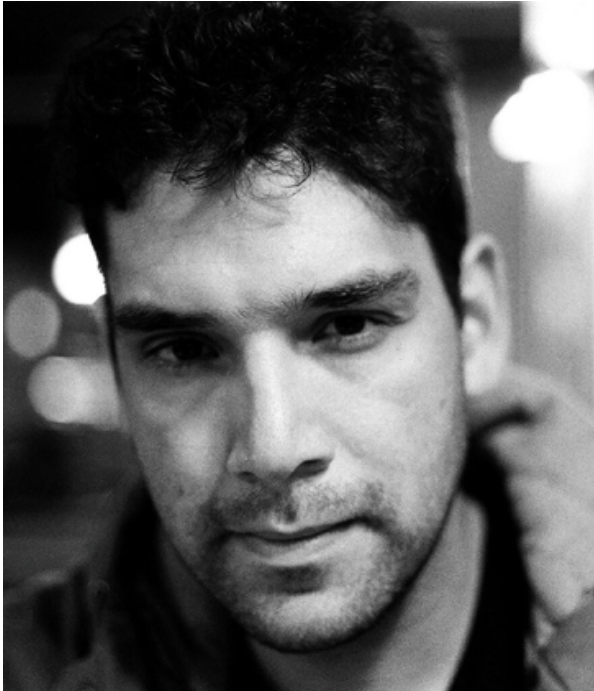
Amalia Kassai



Patricia Kuyul

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

Matías Rojas Valencia



Matías Rojas Valencia's first feature film "Root" (2013) premiered at San Sebastián international film festival, won the best Chilean film award at Valdivia film festival and was selected at diverse festivals in the international circuit such as: La Habana film festival, Cartagena de Indias film festival, BAFICI, Palm Springs film festival, Málaga, Pesaro film festival, Glasgow film festival and Miami, among others.

His short film "I Need to Know" was produced under the Cannes Factory scholarship and premiered worldwide at the Directors' Fortnight at the Cannes Film Festival in 2015.

His second feature "A Place Called Dignity" (2021) was selected at Cannes L'Atelier Cinéfondation and premiered at the Main Competition of Tallinn Black Nights film festival. The film received the award for best director at the Huelva film festival and was presented at Göteborg film festival, Athens film festival and HOF, among others. "Winter Howl" is his first documentary.

PRODUCER'S FILMOGRAPHY

Tomás Gerlach



In 2012 he founded the company A Simple Vista, where he co-produced “El Vals de los Inútiles” by Edison Cajas Cajas (Nominated for Best Ibero-American Documentary at the 2015 Platino Awards, participated in Mar del Plata, American Documentary Film Festival, Biarritz, among others); and “Máquina Voladora” by Vicente Barros (FIDOCS). He worked on the development of “Visión nocturna” by Carolina Moscoso, winner of FidMarseille 2020. He is Producer of the hybrid documentary and fiction in distribution “Aullido de Invierno” by Matías Rojas Valencia, winner of the Audiovisual Fund 2022 and participates in the Be Co Production Market of the Tallinn Film Festival 2021. It is a co-production between Argentina (Maravilla Cine) and Colombia (Centaurio), starring and produced by Paulina García (Silver Bear winner for her performance in “Gloria”); and of “Los anillos de la Serpiente” by Edison Cajas of the production house Noto Films, winner of the Audiovisual Fund, selected in the competition of SANFIC 2020, in the Cinelatino Festival of Toulouse, Short Film Festival of São Paulo, Florianópolis Film Festival.

Since 2021 he has been executing the company’s “Film Adaptation Plan”, where he is working on the

projects under development by director and writer Matías Rojas Valencia: the feature film “Patatas de Perro”, which has a third screenplay version, adapted from the novel by writer Carlos Droguett, winner of the National Literature Award in 1970; and “Ecos”, by national writer Alex Saldías, a novel that won the 2015 Roberto Bolaños Award. He is also working on the development of the feature film “La muerte viene estilando” with writer and director Pelayo Lira, an adaptation of the book of the same name by writer Andrés Montero.

In 2022 he settled in the city of Valdivia where he collaborates with the national director Cristián Jiménez in the foundation of ALGA, a center for residencies, meetings and laboratories that promotes the crossover between art, science and the environment. And he works together with the prestigious Chilean producer Úrsula Budnik, partner and director of the company Horamágica, to create and raise high-impact audiovisual and cultural projects of different local disciplines. Between the three companies they form a collaborative group in order to position the city of Valdivia as a pole of development and production of culture and arts in Chile and the world.

PRODUCER'S FILMOGRAPHY

Clara Larraín



Clara Larrian Zegers is a Chilean actress - producer, awarded with the promising producer award by Marché du Film 2022 who specializes in international co-productions. She has been jury member of the official competition of the REC Tarragona Film Festival, selected for Berlinale Talents and Rotterdam Producer's Lab.

Clara is a Designer from PUC with an MA on Screen Acting at RCSSD, London who began her career producing and directing the web series "deDanza" (2014). Then she starred in feature films and TV shows mainly in Chile while funding Clara Films in 2018 in order to produce her own content.

Her first feature film as a producer "Winter Howl" by Matías Rojas Valencia is a Chile, Argentina, Colombia coproduction that will premiere at PÖFF 2023. Among her produced work is "White is for Virgins" (SLFF, FICME and UNOFEX best film Nominee), by Jacqueline Pepall, available on HBO Max, the US/Chile co-produced short film, "Atacama" (SANFIC 14 and Lebu, 2019), as well as the viral web series "HomoNova" (2018-2019 - 5 million views worldwide).

Clara is currently in post production of "What Was Left Unsaid" by Ricardo Valenzuela Pinilla, in pre production of "Behind the Sea" by Paula Romani, "You Tell Me" by Jacqueline Pepall and "La Hiedra" by Ana Cristina Barragán. She is also developing awarded film and TV projects by up and coming Iberoamerican talent with unique voices that deserve to be heard.

CO-PRODUCER'S FILMOGRAPHY

Françoise Nieto-Fong



Françoise Nieto-Fong has been a producer, writer and distributor of short films, series and feature films. Early in her career he oversaw the acquisitions and theatrical releases in Colombia of international hits such as Amores Perros, The Blair Witch Project, Raise the Red Lantern and Hana Bi, among others.

In 2004, her first feature-length documentary Los Archivos Privados de Pablo Escobar was acquired by HBO and premiered in theaters in the USA and Colombia. She established her own production company in Colombia developing and producing content broadcast by MTV Networks, National Geographic, Fox Latin America Channels, BBC, Telesur, Disney, Smithsonian Channel, HBO and Netflix among others. Her ecological short films have been shown in Cinemark Colombia theaters.

Her recent credits include the hybrid documentary feature “Aullido de Invierno” a co-production between Chile, Colombia and Argentina and consulting on the writing of the documentary “Who Am I Not” premiered at SXSW 2023.

CO-PRODUCER'S FILMOGRAPHY

Paulina Zyngierman



Paula Zyngierman is a highly experienced anthropologist, producer, and professor in the field of film and television production, boasting three decades of expertise. She has been involved in various prestigious Argentinian production companies, including K&S, Historias Cinematográficas, Lita Stantic Producciones, Patagonik, Utópica, Ideas del Sur, and Polka, among others.

Throughout her career, Zyngierman has contributed to the production of numerous notable films, such as “Gatica el Mono” by Leonardo Favio, “Buenos Aires Viceversa” by Alejandro Agresti (Cannes 1997), “Foolish Heart” by Héctor Babenco (Cannes 1998), “Son of the Bride” by Juan José Campanella (Academy Award nomination 2001), and “Torrente 3” by Santiago Segura. She has also worked as an executive producer on films like “Chronicle of an Escape” by I. A. Caetano (Cannes 2006) and “The Fish Child” by Lucía Puenzo (Berlinale 2009).

In 2016, Zyngierman co-founded MARAVILLACINE with Leandro Listorti, aiming to develop and produce cinema aligned with their creative vision. Notable productions from MARAVILLACINE in-

clude “Herbaria” by Leandro Listorti and “Wanderer” by Adriana Lestido.

She is currently engaged in various projects, including documentaries like “Our Demand” by Daniela Seggiaro, “The Villain” by Luis Ziembrowski, “Criminal Body” by Martín Boluocq, and “Winter Howl” by Matías Rojas Valencia. Zyngierman is also involved in producing Juanjo Pereira’s debut film, “Under the Flags, the Sun,” and Valentina Llorens’ documentary, “The Aunts.”

Apart from her production work, Zyngierman is a teacher at several academic institutions, including UNTREF, UCA, Instituto de Cine-ENERC, and the University of Belgrano. She conducts production courses and consultancies in cultural platforms and institutions, contributing to the development of the next generation of filmmakers.

Furthermore, Zyngierman is active in research, with a project titled “Shadows in the Frame- Argentine Unfinished Films” in collaboration with Leandro Listorti, along with the preparation of a book on the subject. She is also directing her first documentary feature film, “Mother’s Daughter.”

KEY CAST BIOFILMOGRAPHY

Paulina García



Chilean actress, director and screenwriter. She was an acting coach at Catholic University of Chile, Fernando González's Drama School, Uniacc, Universidad del Desarrollo and University Finis Terrae.

Paulina has been awarded numerous times during her long career, both for her work on the big screen and on stage. She is a well-known actress in Chile, with credits in films such as *Verano en Brooklyn* (2016), *Nothing has happened here* (2016), *La Novia del Desierto* (2017), *Gloria* (2013), a role that earned her a Silver Bear, among many other projects.

She was nominated for the Altazor Awards 2003 as Best Actress in a Motion Picture for her performance in *Tres Noches de un Sábado* (2002) and later in 2008 won Best Actress in Television for her performance in *Cárcel de Mujeres* (2007).

PRODUCTION COMPANY

Clara Films

CLARA FILMS

Chilean Production Company focused on international co-production, that develops auteur driven film and TV projects, constantly looking for creators and stories that challenge the audiovisual language.

Genre and format agnostics, feminist hard workers who believe in combining different backgrounds with the highest creativity and cinematographic excellence to bring bold and compelling stories to the audience.

Clara Films titles have been selected and awarded on the main industry events of the world such as Marché du Film, PÖFF, FICG, Conecta Fiction, Bolivia Lab and SANFIC among others.

PRODUCTION COMPANY

A Simple Vista



A Simple Vista co-produced “El Vals de los Inútiles” (The waltz) by Edison Cajas Cajas (Nominated for Best Ibero-American Documentary at the 2015 Platino Awards, participated in Mar del Plata, American Documentary Film Festival, Biarritz, among others); and “Máquina Voladora” (Flying Machine) by Vicente Barros (FIDOCS). He worked on the development of “Visión Nocturna” (Night Vision) by Carolina Moscoso, winner of FidMarseille 2020. He is Producer of the hybrid documentary and fiction in distribution “Aullido de Invierno” (Winter Howl) by Matías Rojas Valencia, winner of the Audiovisual Fund 2022 and participates in the Be Co Production Market of the Tallinn Film Festival 2021. It is a co-production between Argentina (Maravilla Cine) and Colombia (Centauro), starring and produced by Paulina García (Silver Bear winner for her performance in “Gloria”); and of “Los anillos de la Serpiente” by Edison Cajas of the production house Noto Films,

winner of the Audiovisual Fund, selected in the competition of SANFIC 2020, in the Cinelatino Festival of Toulouse, Short Film Festival of São Paulo, Florianópolis Film Festival.

Since 2021 it has been executing the company’s “Film Adaptation Plan”, where he is working on the projects under development by director and writer Matías Rojas Valencia: the feature film “Patas de Perro”, which has a third screenplay version, adapted from the novel by writer Carlos Droguett, winner of the National Literature Award in 1970; and “Ecos”, by national writer Alex Saldías, a novel that won the 2015 Roberto Bolaños Award. He is also working on the development of the feature film “La muerte viene estilando” with writer and director Pelayo Lira, an adaptation of the book of the same name by writer Andrés Montero.

CO-PRODUCTION COMPANY

Centauro Comunicaciones



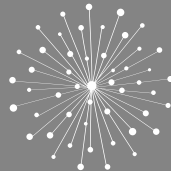
Founded over 50 years ago by veteran filmmaker Gustavo Nieto Roa, who having directed and produced the some of the highest grossing films in Colombia is an icon in the Colombian film industry. Besides a production house, Centauro has established itself as one of the premiere localization and sound-postproduction enterprises in the Americas. With studios in Bogotá, Miami and São Paulo, Centauro has one of the few Dolby Atmos theatrical mixing studios in Latin America.

Centauro's first film was produced in 1973 and since then it has continued until now working not only on feature films, documentaries, TV series and shorts that have successfully been sold around the world.

Centauro's mandate is to work with creative voices in Spanish, Portuguese and aboriginal languages present in the continent in order to expand our storytelling universe.

CO-PRODUCTION COMPANY

Maravilla Cine



MARAVILLACINE

Argentine production company created in 2016 by Paula Zyngierman and Leandro Listorti, who have extensive experience in the areas of film and TV production, as well as archiving and film programming, respectively.

The company's primary focus is on developing, producing, and co-producing author-driven and risk-taking feature films and documentaries, characterized by their high artistic value and visually cinematic style. MaravillaCine places a strong emphasis on international co-productions and has shown a particular preference for debut films and female directors.

Their films have been showcased and their projects presented at prestigious festivals and markets such as Cannes, Berlinale, San Sebastián, Rotterdam, Visions du Réel, Viennale, FidMarseille, Zinebi, BAFICI, Mar del Plata, RIDM, Jeonju, and Dok Leipzig, among others.

PRINCIPAL CAST AND CREDITS

Title
Winter Howl

Genre
Hybrid Documentary

Running time
83 minutes

Countries
Chile, Colombia, Argentina

Production Companies Chile
A Simple vista and Clara Films

Co-Production Company Colombia
Centauro Comunicaciones

Co-Production Company Argentina
Maravillacine

Produced by
Tomás Gerlach Mora
Clara Larrain Zegers
Matías Rojas Valencia

Coproduced by
Françoise Nieto-Fong
Paula Zyngierman

Executive Production Chile
Tomás Gerlach Mora
Clara Larrain Zegers
Paulina García

Executive Production Colombia
Françoise Nieto-Fong

Executive Production Argentina
Paula Zyngierman

Cast Documentary
Ingrid Zsurgelies
Franz Bäar

Main Cast Fiction
Mónica: Paulina García
Alejandra: Amalia Kassai
Mujer del bosque: Patricia Cuyul
Escaladora: Clara Larrain

Written and directed by
Matías Rojas Valencia

Director of Photography
Andrés Underesu Cárdenas

Art Director
Sebastián Torrico

Editor
Matías Rojas Valencia

Original Music
Pierre Novi

Direct Sound
Elizaveta Bystrova

Sound Director
Diego Amaya

Chilean film “**Winter Howl**” first hybrid documentary
by *Matías Rojas Valencia* to Premiere at A-Class Film
Festival Tallinn Black Nights 2023.

The highly anticipated Chilean documentary, “Winter Howl,” directed by the talented filmmaker Matías Rojas Valencia – produced by Tomás Gerlach from A Simple Vista and Clara Larraín Zegers from Clara Films (Chile), co producer by Paula Zyngierman from Maravillacine (Argentina) and Françoise Nieto-Fong from Centauro Comunicaciones (Colombia), with executive production by actress Paulina García– is set to have its world premiere at the esteemed Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival in November 2023. This powerful documentary delves deep into themes of memory, survival, and the enduring impact of human rights violations, offering an intimate and poignant exploration of Chile’s recent history.

“Winter Howl” confronts the ghosts of the past as it unravels the untold documentary story of an elderly couple who survived 40 dark years of human rights violations in Dignity Colony, intertwined with a fictional story of an ex-agent of dictatorship who suffers Alzheimer’s and looks for redemption before forgetting it all. Through compelling scenes of the

present life of the survivors, archival footage, and evocative cinematography that mixes genres, formats, color treatment and camera movement, Matías Rojas Valencia crafts a moving narrative that explores the resilience of the human spirit in the face of adversity.

The documentary’s inclusion in the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival, renowned for its commitment to showcasing thought-provoking and socially relevant films, reflects the significance of “Winter Howl” in shedding light on a period of Chilean history that has left an indelible mark on the nation’s collective memory.

“We are honored and humbled to have ‘Winter Howl’ premiering at the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival,” said Matías Rojas Valencia. “This festival’s reputation for championing impactful storytelling aligns perfectly with the message we aim to convey through our documentary.

We hope that ‘Winter Howl’ serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of remembering and confronting our past to build a better future.” The Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival, also known as PÖFF (Pimedate Ööde Filmifestival), has a rich history of presenting exceptional films that tackle complex societal issues such as Rojas Valencia’s previous fiction feature film “A Place Called Dignity” that premiered at PÖFF in 2021.

“Tallinn is renowned for its commitment to discovering and celebrating diverse voices in the world of cinema, and we are very pleased to keep a close relationship with the festival since they were the first to believe in our film by awarding it on the BE Coproduction Market at 2021 and now offering it a place to be shown to the world”, said Tomas Gerlach and Clara Larraín Zegers, both Chilean Producers of the film.

The premiere of “Winter Howl” at the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival is a momentous occasion for both the filmmaker and the Chilean film industry. It not only highlights the growing influence of Chilean cinema on the global stage but also It underscores the global relevance of stories that delve into the consequences of human rights violations and how they wish to be remembered.

Audiences can anticipate an emotionally charged and thought-provoking experience when “Winter Howl” makes its debut at the Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. This event promises to be an extraordinary opportunity to engage with a documentary that speaks to the resilience of the human spirit and the importance of memory in healing.

For more information about
“*Winter Howl*” please contact:

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WINTER HOWL

A film by
Matías Rojas Valencia

♦ WRITTEN & DIRECTED (by) *Matías Rojas Valencia* ♦ PRODUCED (by) *Tomás Gerlach, Clara Larrain Zegers y Matías Rojas Valencia* ♦
CO-PRODUCED (by) *Francoise Nieto-Fong y Paula Zyngierman* ♦ PHOTOGRAPHY DIRECTION (by) *Andrés Underesu Cárdenas* ♦
ART DIRECTION (by) *Sebastián Torrico* ♦ EDITION (by) *Matías Rojas Valencia* ♦ ORIGINAL MUSIC (by) *Pierre Novi* ♦



CLARA FILMS

