

ANGOSTO

A film directed by

Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo

Synopsis

Pedro and Esteban are two cave experts who arrive in a mountainous area to investigate the discovery of a cave and see if it is of scientific interest. Gabi, Esteban's girlfriend, waits for them at the foot of the mountain. But when the experts come out of the cave, they find Gabi in a state of terror...

Cast

Esteban	CARMELO GÓMEZ
Gabi	JUDITH DIAKHATE
Amadeo	CELSO BUGALLO
Salesman	MANUEL MORÓN
Pedro	MARIANO ALAMEDA
Tomás	VICENTE ROMERO
Amós	WALTER VIDARTE
Cecilio	CESÁREO ESTÉBANEZ
Beni	FERNANDO SÁNCHEZ-CABEZUDO
Marta	PETRA MARTÍNEZ
Raquel	NURIA MENCÍA
Julián	ENRIQUE MARTÍNEZ
Rovira	MARIANO PEÑA
Rosa	AMALIA HORNERO

Crew

Screenplay Writer and Director	JORGE SÁNCHEZ-CABEZUDO
Producer	ENRIQUE GONZÁLEZ MACHO
Co-Producers	LUIS GALVÃO TELES (for FADO FILMES, Portugal) MICHAEL GENTILE (for THE FILM, France)
Executive Producer	BELÉN BERNUY
Director of Photography	ÁNGEL IGUACEL
Art Directors	DIEGO MODINO ALBERTO SÁNCHEZ-CABEZUDO
Costume Designer	SILVIA GARCÍA-BRAVO
Editor	PEDRO RIBEIRO
Sound	VASCO PEDROSO
Make-up	LOLA LÓPEZ
Hair Stylist	ITZIAR ARRIETA
Production Manager	SANDRA HERMIDA

TECHNICAL DATA

Color - 35 mm
Screen Ratio: 1:1.85
Sound: Dolby Digital
Length in meters: 3,450 m
Production Year: 2006
Nationality: Spain
Running Time: 2 h 3 min
Language: Spanish

An ALTA PRODUCCIÓN, SL Production

Co-produced with FADO FILMES/STOP LINE (Portugal) - THE FILM (France) - ARTE FRANCE CINÉMA (France)

With support from ICAA - JUNTA DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN - ICAM - IBERMEDIA - MEDIA PROGRAMME

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ALTA CLASSICS GRUPO ALTA FILMS
Cuesta de San Vicente, 4
28008 Madrid
Tel.: +34 915422702
Fax: +34 915428777
altaclassics@altafilms.es
www.altafilms.com

International Sales

FILMS DISTRIBUTION
20, rue Saint Augustin
75002 Paris
Tel.: +33 1 53103399
Fax: +33 1 53103398
info@filmsdistribution.com
www.filmsdistribution.com

Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo

(*Screenplay Writer and Director*)

Bio-filmography

Screenplay writer and director of the 35 mm short film *La gotera* (1996), starring Dominique Pinon (*Delicatessen*). Nominated for Best Fiction Short Film at the XI Goya Awards (1997), it took part in the Official Section at over thirty national and international film festivals. They included Sitges, Hamptons (New York), Tampere, Toronto, London, Comicità (Rome), Geneva, Alcalá de Henares, Huesta, l'Alternativa de Barcelona, Experimentary Film Festival of Madrid, Fantastic Film Festival of Brussels or Huston, where it won five major awards.

Screenplay writer, director and actor in the 35 mm short film *Mustek* (1996). It also took part in several national and international festivals in 1997 and 1998 (Charleston, Houston, Madrid, etc.) where it won four prizes.

Screenplay writer for Boca Boca's series for Telecinco titled *Al salir de clase* (1999-2001).

Author of its screenplay, *THE NIGHT OF THE SUNFLOWERS* is his debut as the director of a feature film.

Director's Comments

THE NIGHT OF THE SUNFLOWERS is *cine noir* in a mountainous rural setting and also a film focused on its characters. Half thriller, half drama, it is about sudden changes in the fortunes of its eight main characters due to a dramatic event that gets increasingly complicated as they each progressively get involved in it. Attention has been paid to both the suspenseful plot throughout the film and the development of the characters, so we understand their reactions to the dilemmas they face.

The film has six parts: "The Man at the Motel", "The Cave Experts", "The Man on the Road", "The Proper Authorities", "Amos the Madman", and "The Alligator". A suspenseful plot connects all six parts with a final resolution that brings closure to each section. Each part is told from the point of view of one or two main characters, who play supporting roles in the other sections. This way, we learn about the characters' personal lives before they get caught up in the main plot, so we have a better understanding of their backgrounds and motivations. This is not a film with one lead and several supporting roles or a film about a group. Instead, this story has a set of protagonists who take turns telling their stories, like runners in a relay race. Their choices and reactions make the film take unexpected, inevitable sudden turns.

These are ordinary characters faced with extreme situations and perhaps one of the film's main aims is to explore how ordinary people create such a complex, dramatic situation. How do their circumstances and personal psychological and emotional mechanisms explain their behavior and, above all, allow them to justify what they do and go on living? This is not a film about good guys and bad guys. It's about very human characters with strengths and weaknesses. It is about how some of them believe they are highly principled but end up excusing despicable behavior. The film does not seek to justify or judge them; it is not moralistic. It describes a certain moral climate, a certain state of things, and gives no answers or lectures but does ask us to think a little.

The film is also about violence, the kind that arises from our most basic instincts or is caused by an inability to communicate or see things from others' points of view. This senseless type of violence is portrayed very roughly. It cannot be excused as revenge or as a rewarding sight for the audience. It becomes an event with very unpleasant, dramatic consequences that permanently alter the lives of all the characters.

The film is also about loneliness, about the isolation of abandonment, and the unhappiness caused by longing for a different life. It is about our indifference to the slow, painful death of the rural way of life. About our false hopes that money from leisure activities and tourism will preserve it. But they cannot prevent the irretrievable loss of this way of life.

Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo

The Actors

Carmelo Gómez

(*Esteban*)

FILMOGRAPHY

- 1992 *Vacas*, by Julio Medem
1993 *Después del sueño*, by Mario Camus
La ardilla roja, by Julio Medem
1994 *Entre rojas*, by Azucena Rodríguez
Canción de cuna, by José Luis Garci
El detective y la muerte, by Gonzalo Suárez
Días contados, by Imanol Uribe
1995 *El perro del hortelano*, by Pilar Miró
1996 *Tierra*, by Julio Medem
Tu nombre envenena mis sueños, by Pilar Miró
Secretos del corazón, by Montxo Armendáriz
1997 *Territorio comanche*, by Gerardo Herrero
1998 *Mararía*, by Antonio José Betancor
Extraños, by Imanol Uribe
1999 *El portero*, by Gonzalo Suárez
2000 *La gran vida*, by Antonio Cuadri
La playa de los galgos, by Mario Camus
2002 *Nos miran*, by Norberto López Amado
El viaje de Carol, by Imanol Uribe
2003 *Grimm*, by Alex van Warmerdam
¡Hay motivo!, by several directors
2004 *El método Grönholm*, by Marcelo Piñeyro
2006 THE NIGHT OF THE SUNFLOWERS, by Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo

Judith Diakhate

(*Gabi*)

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2000 *Segunda piel*, by Gerardo Vera
Kastring, by Mónica Gómez Berrendo (short film)
2001 *Germinal*, by Pedro Ferrer (short film)
2002 *Whipped*, by Cibrán Isasi
2003 *El niño que jugaba con trenes*, by Jorge Blas (short film)
2004 *Pamela*, by Mikel Aguió (short film)
2006 THE NIGHT OF THE SUNFLOWERS, by Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo

Celso Bugallo

(*Amadeo*)

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2000 *La lengua de las mariposas*, by José Luis Cuerda
2002 *Los lunes al sol*, by Fernando León de Aranoa
2003 *La vida que te espera*, by Manuel Gutiérrez Aragón
2004 *Mar adentro*, by Alejandro Amenábar
2006 *Salvador*, by Manuel Huerga
THE NIGHT OF THE SUNFLOWERS, by Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo

Manuel Morón

(*Salesman*)

FILMOGRAPHY

(a selection)

- 1992 *Dime una mentira*, by Juan Sebastián Bollaín
1994 *Belmonte*, by Juan Sebastián Bollaín
1995 *África*, by Alfonso Ungría
1997 *Campeones*, by Antonio Conesa (short film)
1999 *Todo sobre mi madre*, by Pedro Almodóvar
Los lobos de Washington, by Mariano Barroso
Nadie conoce a nadie, by Mateo Gil
Yoyes, by Helena Taberna
2000 *Plenilunio*, by Imanol Uribe
El Bola, by Achero Mañas
Aunque tú no lo sepas, by Juan Vicente Córdoba
2001 *Salvajes*, by Carlos Molinero
2002 *El traje*, by Alberto Rodríguez
Canícula, by Álvaro García-Capelo
Smoking Room, by Roger Gual and Julio D. Wallovits
2003 *El principio de Arquímedes*, by Gerardo Herrero
2004 *Amor en defensa propia*, by Rafa Russo
Incautos, by Miguel Bardem
2005 *Belhorizon*, by Inés Rabadán
2006 *Amor en defensa propia*, by Rafa Russo
Azul Oscuro Casi Negro, by Daniel Sánchez Arévalo
Salvador, by Manuel Huerga
THE NIGHT OF THE SUNFLOWERS, by Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo

Mariano Alameda

(Pedro)

FILMOGRAPHY

- 1996 *La gotera*, by Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo (short film)
2002 *Welcome 2 Ibiza*, by David Winters
2006 THE NIGHT OF THE SUNFLOWERS, by Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo

TELEVISION

- 1997 *Al salir de clase*
2001 *La verdad de Laura*
2003 *La malquerida*
2004 *Aquí no hay quien viva*

The Production Company

Alta Producción, SL

Alta Producción, SL was founded by Enrique González Macho in August of 1998 to carry out the business of film production that Grupo Alta Films had begun previously.

The company has taken part in the following co-productions:

1995	<i>Guantanamera</i> , directed by Tomás Gutiérrez Alea and Juan Carlos Tabío
1996	<i>El ángel de la guarda</i> , directed by Santiago Matallana
1998	<i>La canción de Carla (Carla's Song)</i> , directed by Ken Loach
1999	<i>Mi nombre es Joe (My Name Is Joe)</i> , directed by Ken Loach <i>Sí, quiero</i> , directed by Eneko Olasagasti and Carlos Zabala <i>Flores de otro mundo</i> , directed by Iciar Bollain <i>A por todas (Saltwater)</i> , directed by Conor McPherson
2000	<i>Marta y alrededores</i> , directed by Jesús Ruiz and Nacho Pérez de la Paz <i>Divertimento</i> , directed by José García Hernández
2001	<i>Felices dieciséis (Sweet Sixteen)</i> , directed by Ken Loach
2002	<i>Rencor</i> , directed by Miguel Albaladejo
2003	<i>Te doy mis ojos</i> , directed by Iciar Bollain
2004	<i>La noche del hermano</i> , by Santiago García de Leániz
2006	<i>Aislados</i> , directed by David Marqués <i>THE NIGHT OF THE SUNFLOWERS</i> , directed by Jorge Sánchez-Cabezudo

Currently, the company has two feature films in post-production: *Fuerte Apache* (co-produced with Mediapro) and *Dotcom* (co-produced with Fado Filmes, Ipso Facto, Zanzíbar and Videofilmes); one now shooting: *El romance de Astrea y Celadón* (co-produced with Rezo Films); and several projects at the development stage, including drama and comedy: *La azotea*, *Bienvenido a los Ventura* (co-produced with Atmósfera Producciones), *El debut* and *Separados*.