



CENECA
PRODUCCIONES

la vida de los peces

the life of fish a film by Matías Bize



Andres has been living in Germany for 10 years. He returns to Chile to bring closure on his past before settling for good in Berlin. During his visit, he attends a friend's birthday party where he rediscovers the world he had left behind, including his long-time love Beatriz. This reunion could change Andres' life forever.

SYNOPSIS

Andres (33) has been living in Germany for 10 years and is a journalist for a travel magazine. He is constantly traveling and visiting amazing places. However, he leads a lonely life and with no ties to any particular place.

Andres returns to his native Chile to solve pending affairs from his past before starting a new life in Berlin. During his stay, he attends a friend's birthday party and rediscovers the past he has chosen to forget.

The story develops entirely at this party as he is saying goodbye to his friends. We see him interact with his childhood friends, their children, the maid of the house, and with the love of his life, Beatriz, with whom he has unfinished affairs with.

Andres tries to relate to his friends that once were an important part of his life. However, he finds little in common with them now.

The film reflects on relationships, fear of commitment, double standards, and how relationships can often be transitional, this a metaphor of how we relate in today's transitory world.

The reunion of Andres and Beatriz causes them to reassess the life decisions they have taken and how their lives may have turned out had they acted differently. Andres and Beatriz speak of decision, of reencounters, and second chances. They make us question our own lives, how we relate, and what we want to build for the future.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"The Life of Fish" is a movie that takes place in 'real time'. The film is about Andrés, the protagonist, who spends 83 minutes confronting his past and his present. And this may well decide the outcome of his future.

Andrés feels like a tourist in his own country and with his own friends. The audience will experience the film through Andrés' eyes, through the eyes of this tourist who will eventually become part of his scenery.

"The Life of Fish" is a drama that talks about 'lost opportunities', 'old friends', 'the second greatest lost opportunities', and 'the great love of our life'. The film takes place in a single night at a party. It is a story that occurs in one location, and in a sole narrative period. The audience will follow Andrés, as a voyeur, as he leaves the party.

My idea was to tell the story as simply as possible and follow Andrés through his process.

I wanted to tell the story in an emotional way; using the camera to penetrate deeply into the characters. The dialogue is very important in this film, but in some cases, what is not said: the silences, the looks, are even more important.

'The goodbyes' is another important concept that I was interested in working with. It is here where the most important moments in the relationships happen. We don't know if we will ever see these people again in our lives. The entire film then happens as Andrés leaves the party and says bye.

This is my most personal project, a love story that I feel of most magnitude, and also of most complexity. This movie is a reflection of my evolution as a director and is the one who represents me the best.

CREDITS

Production Company

CENECA PRODUCCIONES With the participation from ARTE FRANCE and TELEVISIÓN NACIONAL DE CHILE

Cast list

Andrés	Santiago Cabrera
Beatriz	Blanca Lewin
Mariana	Antonia Zegers
Pablo	Víctor Montero
Ignacio	Sebastián Layseca
Roberto	Juan Pablo Miranda
Guille	Luz Jiménez
Caro	María Gracia Omegna
Daniela	Alicia Rodríguez
Maca	Francisca Cárdenas
Jorge	Diego Fontecilla

Technical credits

Director	MATIAS BIZE
Producer	ADRIAN SOLAR
Writer	JULIO ROJAS/MATIAS BIZE
Cinematographer	BARBARA ALVAREZ
Art director	NICOLE BLANC
Editing	JAVIER ESTEVEZ
Music	DIEGO FONTECILLA
Associated Producer	PAULO DE CARVALHO KLARA BEVERLY NATHALIE TRAFFORD
Genre	DRAMA
Format	35mm/Colour
Running time	83 minutes
Language	Spanish
Production country	Chile

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BIOGRAPHIES

Director Matías Bize

At the age of 23, he directed the film "Sabado" (Saturday) (2003), premiering worldwide in the Official Selection section of the "International Film Festival Mannheim-Heidelberg". The film obtained 4 awards, including the "Rainer Werner Fassbinder" award. The film went on to participate in various film festivals obtaining multiple awards and excellent reviews.

He later directed the film "En la Cama" (In Bed) (2005), a Chilean-German co-production, premiering worldwide at the "Locarno International Film Festival". It won the "Golden Spike" award, at the Valladolid International Film Festival, converting Matias in the youngest director to obtain the prize. This film has more than 36 international prizes and has been showing commercially worldwide. The specialized magazine "Cahiers du Cinéma", described Matias as "the most promising filmmaker of Chilean cinema".

In Barcelona he directed "Lo Bueno de Llorar" (About Crying) (2007) a Spanish-Chilean co-production premiering worldwide in the "Locarno International Film Festival". The film has obtained many awards at several other international festivals.

Currently Matias is working on the promotion of his new film "La Vida de los Peces" (The Life of Fish) (2010).

Producer Adrián Solar

Since 1984 he has been the executive producer of over twenty-five films in Germany, Argentina, Brasil and Chile. He works as Executive Producer of his own company CENECA Producciones. He had produced the following films: "Mi mejor enemigo" (My best enemy), (2004 directed by Alex Bowen, co-production with Argentina), "El Huesped" (The guest) (2005, directed by Coke Hidalgo), "En la cama" (2005, In Bed) (directed by Matias Bize), "La Vida de los Peces" (The life of fish) (2010, directed by Matias Bize).

He is also coproducer of the films:

- "Dois perdidos numa noite suja" ("Lost in a Dirty Night". Brasil/Chile, 2002, directed by José Joffly)
- "Cuase dois hermanos" ("Two Brothers". Brasil/Chile, 2004, directed by Lucia Murat)
- "Prohibido Prohibir" ("Forbidden to Forbid". Brasil/Chile 2007, directed by Jorge Durán)

In 2007, he is given the Luis Buñuel award of the Federation of Iberoamerican Producers (Federación Iberoamericana de Productores) for the production of: En La Cama (In Bed)

Cinematographer Barbara Alvarez

Feature Films (as Cinematographer and Camera Operator):

- "25 watts" Uruguay, 2000. Dir. Pablo Stoll, Juan Pablo Rebella
- "El Viaje hacia el Mar" Uruguay, 2002. Dir. Guillermo Casanova
- "Whisky"- Uruguay, 2003. Dir. Pablo Stoll, Juan Pablo Rebella
- "El Custodio" Argentina, 2005. Dir. Rodrigo Moreno
- "Acné" Uruguay, 2007. Dir. Federico Veiroj
- "La Mujer sin Cabeza" Argentina, 2007. Dir. Lucrecia Martel
- "Rompecabezas" Argentina, 2009. Dir. Natalia Smirnoff
- "La Vida de los Peces" Chile, 2010. Dir. Matías Bize

Cast Santiago Cabrera

Santiago Cabrera is currently filming the historic epic CRISTIADA alongside Andy Garcia and Peter O'Toole. He was most recently seen in Steven Soderbergh's film CHE opposite Benicio del Toro, where he won critical acclaim for his portrayal of legendary Cuban guerrilla commander Camilo Cienfuegos.

Santiago trained at London's prestigious Drama Centre under renowned instructors Yat Malgrem and Christopher Fettes, whose students include many great actors, among them Sir Sean Connery and Sir Anthony Hopkins.

Cabrera starred in the films LOVE AND OTHER DISASTERS opposite Brittany Murphy and HAVEN opposite Orlando Bloom and Bill Paxton before making his first appearance on American television in the lead role of Octavius in ABC's epic mini series EMPIRE. Most notably, he is known for his breakthrough role in the highly successful first season of NBC's ensemble drama series HEROES. He played Isaac Mendez, a heroin-addicted artist whose dark, violent and apocalyptic paintings are premonitions of future events.

Santiago can soon be seen in the romantic comedy MEANT TO BE, alongside Kelly Reilly and Mia Maestro.

LA VIDA DE LOS PECES is Cabrera's first work in his home country Chile.

Blanca Lewin

Her Filmography includes (all in leading roles), "Angel Negro" (1999) and "Sangre Eterna" (Eternal Blood, 2002), both directed by Jorge Olguín. "Sábado" (2003), "En la Cama" (In Bed, 2005) and "La Vida de los Peces (2010), all of them directed by Matías Bize.

Outside of Chile, also in leading roles, "Íntimos y Extraños" (Ruben Alonso, Spain, 2008) and "New Brooklyn" (Chris Cannucciari, U.S.A. 2009).

For "Sábado" she earned a "Special Mention for Best Acting Performance" at the 52nd Mannheim International Film Festival (Mannheim-Heidelberg, Germany, November 2003) and the "Best Female Actor" at the Down Under International Film Festival (Australia, 2004).

Outside of Chile, also for "En la Cama" in 2006 she earned a Best Actress award at the 10th "El Cine" Lima International Film Festival (Peru). Later in 2007, the "Silver Afrodita" for Best Female Acting at the 2nd Cyprus International Film Festival (Greece) and the FIPRESCI Award to the Best Female Acting in a Foreign Language at the 18th Annual Palm Springs Festival (U.S.A)

Screenwriter Julio Rojas

Julio Rojas is a Chilean author and screenwriter. Among his writings are the feature film Sábado (Award "Rainer Werner Fassbinder" Best Film Festival Mannheim), "Mi mejor enemigo" and "En la Cama", the latter two, nominated for the Goya, best foreign film.

CENECA PRODUCCIONES ARTE Francia



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