

Global Screen
presents

THE MEMORY OF WATER

Directed by
Matías Bize

Starring
Elena Anaya, Benjamín Vicuña

Produced by
Adrián Solar

Running Time:
88 min



Press Contact

Claudiatomassini+ associates
International Film Publicity
Claudia Tomassini
+39 3343075056
claudia@claudiatomassini.com

World Sales

Global Screen GmbH
+49 89 2441295 500
info@globalscreen.de
www.globalscreen.de

THE FILM

A tragic accident forces the young couple Javier and Amanda to question their lives and their relationship. When a second chance for both of them arises, they realize that the past they share should not be forgotten.

SYNOPSIS

A moment of inattention is all it took to change the lives of Javier and Amanda forever. Lives that are now divided between "before" and "after." How everything was and should have been... Even though it was an accident that neither of them could have prevented. The young couple know that it will take a long time to reach closure on the death of their four-year-old son.

At home, everything reminds them of their child; their loss has fractured their marriage. Especially Amanda is unable to bear the constant pain and takes the decision to leave Javier and plunge into her work as an interpreter. Javier continues to work as an architect, but begins a lonely descent into casual relationships, sex and work.

Amanda, meanwhile, returns to something like normality with Marcos, her ex-boyfriend. Yet Javier and Amanda never completely lose contact, and gradually realize that the past they share is one-of-a-kind, a precious memory that should not be forgotten...

Winding its way through the most intimate chambers of the heart, "The Memory of Water" takes an unflinching look at the gradual disintegration of a family – and ventures into a no-man's land of emotional turbulence. Leading the exceptional cast is Elena Anaya ("The Skin I Live In", "Sex and Lucía", "Hierro") as Amanda. "The Memory of Water" was directed by one of Latin America's most promising young filmmakers, Matías Bize, whose award-winning films include "Sábado", "In Bed", "About Crying" and "The Life of Fish".

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

"The Memory of Water" is a universal story. Any of us that have been in a relationship and those of us who carry a painful memory will be deeply touched by it.

The survival of Javier's and Amanda's relationship depends on their ability to overcome the tragedy and guilt that unites them, as they embrace their love for each other. Only in this way will they achieve true transcendence and redemption.

My vision was to convey the intense pain that the characters feel for the loss of their child with subtlety, simplicity and originality. In focusing on their profound emotions, I wanted to create a place for the audience to identify with the story and reflect on their own lives, losses and human relationships.

Javier and Amanda demonstrate the frailty of relationships, the inability to communicate openly, double standards, fear of commitment and the tendency to find refuge in the transitory. These are all situations that couples experience time and time again. They represent sexuality, love, and the inevitable destruction of couples all over the world. It transforms into an intimate kaleidoscope of human relationships, with all their beauty and loneliness. It embodies at times a real sense of optimism and at others a heartrending reality.

Matías Bize

DIRECTOR MATIAS BIZE

Matías Bize is a graduate from the Escuela de Cine de Chile. At the age of 23, he directed the film “Sábado” (Saturday, 2003), which premiered at the “Mannheim-Heidelberg International Film Festival”. The film obtained the “Rainer Werner Fassbinder” prize.

He then directed “En la cama” (In Bed, 2005). The film won the “Golden Spike” award, at the “Valladolid International Film Festival”, making Matías the youngest director to obtain the prize. This film has received more than 40 international awards and has been theatrically released worldwide.

In Barcelona he directed “Lo Bueno de Llorar” (About Crying, 2007) which world-premiered at the “Locarno International Film Festival”.

He later directed the film “La Vida de los Peces” (The Life of Fish, 2010) which premiered at the “Venice Days”. The film won the “Goya Award”, for Best Hispanic-American movie.

“La Memoria del Agua” (The Memory of Water, 2015), starring Elena Anaya and Benjamín Vicuña, is Matías’s most recent film.

Selected Filmography:

2015	THE MEMORY OF WATER	(director & writer)
2010	THE LIFE OF FISH	(director & writer)
	- Chilean Altazor Awards 2011: Best Director of a Motion Picture	
	- Goya Awards 2011: Best Spanish Language Foreign Film	
	- Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival 2011: Best Director	
2007	ABOUT CRYING	(director & writer)
	- Valdivia International Film Festival 2007: Special Mention, Critics Award	
2005	IN BED	(director)
	- Havana Film Festival 2005: Grand Coral - Third Prize, House of the Americas Award, Martin Luther King Memorial Center Award	
2003	SATURDAY	(director & producer)

ELENA ANAYA is AMANDA

Elena Anaya was born in Palencia, Spain, on July 17th, 1975. An active child, Elena excelled in karate and mountain climbing. By the time she was 17 Elena knew that she wanted to channel her energy into being an actress and enrolled in a drama course being given in her local town by actor Manuel Moron. More determined than ever, she then opted out of school, choosing instead to audition for the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in Madrid.

Moron mentioned Elena's exceptional talent to his agent, who was looking for a young girl to star in the film, "Africa". Elena auditioned and the role was hers.

Elena was obliged to leave the Royal Academy when Fernando Leon de Aranoa called her to work in his comedy, "Familia". But, aware of the importance of studying, Elena continued learning at the Juan Carlos Corazza school of acting.

Following her feature debut in the 1996 drama, "África" (Alfonso Ungría) Anaya continued to impress with supporting roles in such features as "Black Tears" (Fernando Bauluz y Ricardo Franco, 1998), "Where the World Ends" (Xavier Villaverde, 1998), "Las Huellas borradas" (Enrique Gabriel, 1999) and the romantic drama "El Invierno de las Anjanas" (Pedro Telechea, 1999). In 2000, director Julio Medem cast her as the seductive baby sitter, Belen, in the erotic drama "Sex and Lucia". The explosive mixture of innocence and provocation earned her a Goya (Spanish Academy Award) nomination for Best Supporting Actress. She also received the Spanish Actors Union Award for Best Supporting Actress. That same year she was featured in the comedy "Don't Tempt Me" (Agustín Díaz Yanes, 2001) with Penelope Cruz and Victoria Abril.

As her star continued to rise thanks to roles in "Two Tough Guys" (Juan Martínez Moreno, 2003) and Pedro Almodóvar's "Talk to Her", it was only a matter of time before she caught the attention of international directors and she was offered the role of Dracula's most possessive bride in 2004's "Van Helsing" (Stephen Sommers). Then, in 2004, came the action comedy "Dead Fish" (Charley Stadler) with Gary Oldman, in 2005 the thriller "Fragile" (Jaume Balagueró), and the period adventure "Capitán Alatriste" (Agustín Díaz Yanes). In 2007 she starred in "Miguel & William" (Inés París) and "Savage Grace" (Tom Kalin) with Julianne Moore.

In 2008 she was introduced to French audiences in „Public Enemy No. 1“ (Jean-François Richet) with Vincent Cassel and Gerard Depardieu. She then travelled to Cairo to work in the romantic drama "Cairo Time" (Ruba Nadda). Agustín Díaz Yanes called her again for his film "I Only Want to Walk" and she then starred in Gabe Ibáñez's thriller "Hierro".

2009 brought Elena and Julio Medem together again to make "Room in Rome". The role of Alba earned her Best Actress nominations for both the Spanish Actors Guild and the Goya Awards. She then returned to France to shoot Fred Cavaye's "Point Blank".

In 2012 she received the honorary Málaga Sur Award at the yearly Film festival in Málaga.

This same year took Elena to Argentina to make "Pensé que iba haber fiesta" (Victoria Galardi). In 2013 she starred as Lupe in "Todos están muertos", directed by Beatriz Sanchis. This role won her six Best Actress nominations, the only actress to be nominated for all the awards in the 2015 Spanish Award season.

In 2013 Elena also starred in the Scottish film "Swung". In 2014 she shot Chilean director Matias Bize's "La memoria del agua" and has recently finished filming Imanol Uribe's "Lejos del mar".

Elena's next project is Brad Furman's "The Infiltrator" which she will film alongside Bryan Cranston and John Leguizamo.

Selected Filmography:

2015	THE MEMORY OF WATER	by Matías Bize
	SWUNG	by Colin Kennedy
2014	TODOS ESTAN MUERTOS	by Beatriz Sanchis
2013	PENSE QUE IBA A HABER FIESTA	by Victoria Galardi
2011	THE SKIN I LIVE IN	by Pedro Almodovar
2010	POINT BLANK	by Fred Cavayé
	A NIGHT IN ROME	by Julio Medem
2009	CAIRO TIME	by Ruba Nadda
	HIERRO	by Gabe Ibáñez
2008	PUBLIC ENEMY NO.1	by Jean-François Richet
2007	IN THE LAND OF WOMEN	by Jon Kasdan
	MIGUEL AND WILLIAM	by Inés París
2004	VAN HELSING	by Stephen Sommers
2002	TALK TO HER	by Pedro Almodovar
2001	SEX AND LUCIA	by Julio Medem

BENJAMIN VICUNA is JAVIER

Benjamín Vicuña is a cinema, theater, television actor and a Unicef Ambassador.

He has filmed more than 15 movies in Chile, Spain and Argentina, premiering three during 2015: "The Memory of Water" with Spanish actress Elena Anya by the GOYA winner Matías Bize; "El Bosque de Karadima", a film based on the events of abuse of an important Chilean catholic priest; and "Baires", with Sabrina Garciarena, a gripping police story.

In theater, he has participated in more than 20 plays, including "La Gaviota" by Eric Lacascade, presented in Chile and France, "Hechos Consumados" (National Theater, Chile and Spain), "Proof" (Chilean Catholic University Theater). As Founding Partner, Cultural Manager and director of the Cultural Center Mori, inaugurated in 2005, he produced and starred in Chile and Argentina the play "La Celebración" (Festen). He is also a member of the directory of the Municipal Theater of Santiago.

In television we can see him starring in "Sitiados" - a historical miniseries for FOX Latin America, and in "Entre Caníbales", an Argentinian series directed by Oscar-winner, Juan Campanella. Among his last works are "Los Hombres de Paco", "Los Archivos del Cardenal" (Chile), "Prófugos" (HBO Latin America and the United States), award-winning "Farsantes" (Argentina) and the documentaries "Chile, Imágenes Prohibidas", about the human rights abuses during the Chilean dictatorship, and "Haití, Niños de la Latinoamérica".

During his career he has received four APES (Show Journalists Association) awards as “Best Theater and Television Actor”, “Best Actor” in the Malaga and Trieste Film Festival, and as “Best Secondary Actor” by the Association of Latin Entertainment Critics of New York ACE.

Selected Filmography:

Cinema

2015	THE MEMORY OF WATER	by Matías Bize
2015	CARADIMA	by Matías Lira
2009	DRAMA SUPER	by Matías Lira by Felipe del Río
2008	MUNECA	by Sebastián Arrau
2006	FUGA	by Pablo Larraín
2005	JUEGO DE VERANO	by Fernanda Aljaro y Matías Bize

TV

2013	FARSANTES
2011/12	HEREDEROS DE UNA VENGANZA

SCREENWRITER JULIO ROJAS

Julio Rojas is a writer and screenwriter who has written screenplays and materials for feature films and television series. His work has received prestigious international awards. Between them are the movie "Sábado" ("Saturday"), that received the "Rainer Werner Fassbinder best movie award" at the 2003 Mannheim film festival, "Mi mejor enemigo", nominated for "Mejor Película Iberomericana" at Goya (2006), "En la cama" ("In Bed") winner of "Espiga de Oro" for best movie at Valladolid film festival and nominated for "Mejor Película Iberomericana" at Goya (2007), "La vida de los peces" ("The Life of Fish") winner of the "Colón de Plata" to best original screenplay at the Huelva Film Festival (2010) and winner of "Mejor Película Iberomericana" at Goya (2011). "El verano de los peces Voladores" ("The Summer of Flying Fish"), who was selected in the quinzaine-realisateurs Cannes 2014.

Selected Filmography:

2015	THE MEMORY OF WATER	by Matías Bize
2014	THE SUMMER OF FLYING FISH	by Marcela Sai
2010	THE LIFE OF FISH	by Matías Bize
2005	IN BED	by Matías Bize
2005	MI MEJOR ENEMIGO	by Alex Bowen
2003	SATURDAY	by Matías Bize

COMPOSER DIEGO FONTECILLA

Diego Fontecilla was born in Santiago, Chile, in 1976. He trained as a musician and an actor. In 1999 he completed his studies in Violin and Composition, and in 2003 he graduated from Drama school. From 2005 until 2011 he joined the cast of TeatroCinema, an internationally acclaimed theatre company from Chile, authors of the awarded plays "Gemelos" and "Sin Sangre" which were shown at more than fifteen countries in the Americas, Asia and Europe. Since 2004 until today, Diego has been composing applied music for cinema, video-dance, theatre, television and commercial ads. He has gained international praise for the film soundtracks of "In Bed" (Matías Bize, 2005), "Thursday till Saturday" (Dominga Sotomayor, 2012), "A Memoria que me Contam" (Lúcia Murat, 2012) and "The Life of Fish" (Matías Bize, 2010).

He has collaborated with many musicians and orchestras around the globe, including Valentino Corvino and musicians of the Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Levine Andrade and The London Telefilmnic Orchestra, David Hernando Rico and The Bratislava Symphony Orchestra, Alexander Balanescu, Enrica Sciandrone, Alessandro Sanguineti, among others. In 2014 he composed and recorded an album for the distinguished company De Wolf Music in London. He currently lives and works in London, UK.

Selected Filmography:

2015	THE MEMORY OF WATER	by Matías Bize
2012	A MEMORIA QUE ME CONTAM THURSDAY TILL SATURDAY	by Lúcia Murat by Dominga Sotomayor
2010	THE LIFE OF FISH NAO SE PODE VIVER SEM AMOR	by Matías Bize by Jorge Durán
2007	LO BUENO DE LLORAR	by Matías Bize
2005	IN BED	by Matías Bize

PRODUCER'S NOTE

"The Memory of Water" is the third production that I carried out alongside Matías Bize, after the successful and critically acclaimed "In Bed" (2005) and "The Life of Fish"(2010).

Both productions were excellent experiences because of both the quality of the final product and the working relationship between the director and the production staff. In these two years we have reviewed several projects that seemed interesting, but none managed to captivate us as "The Memory of Water" did. This is certainly a project that, on one hand, respects the sensitivity of Matías Bize to treat human conflicts, and on the other, represents a challenge and a major leap in the deployment of production and in Matías Bize's way of telling a story. It is also a project that requires outstanding performances and it is precisely there where the talent of the director stands out to work with actors and make the best of their performances.

I'm happy that given the career and prestige of Matías Bize, our production capacity and the excellent relationship of trust we have built with other international producers and television stations, we have been able to successfully produce "The Memory of Water" and I am proud to contribute to our country's cinematography with a high-quality artistic film production.

ABOUT CENECA PRODUCCIONES

The company CENECA PRODUCCIONES has been on the audiovisual market for over 19 years and has carried out a vast production of feature and documentary films. CENECA has produced and managed international co-productions with several media companies for fictional feature films, documentaries and TV programs.

Selected Filmography:

Documentaries

2004	UNA RELACION DE COLEGAS LA MAMA DE MI ABUELA LE CONTO A MI ABUELA	by Ignacio Agüero in co-production with Ignacio Agüero
2001	LA ULTIMA HUELLA	by Paola Castillo
1997	RAUL SILVA HENRIQUEZ – CARDENAL	by Ricardo Larraín

(both winners of international awards, screened in several festivals and aired on both national and international TV)

Feature Films

2015	THE MEMORY OF WATER Argentina-Germany co-production)	by Matías Bize (Spain-
2013	ROMANCE POLICIAL production with Brazil)	by Jorge Durán (co-
2012	THE MEMORY THEY TELL ME	by Lucia Murat
2012	DOG FLESH (Chile-France-Germany co-production), in Official Selection at the San Sebastian Film Festival (New Directors), Winner of the First Price.	by Fernando Guzzoni
2010	NOT SO MODERN TIMES	by Simón Franco
2009/2010	THE LIFE OF FISH the Chilean Film Fund 2008, with participation of the TV channel ARTE FRANCIA and Televisión Nacional de Chile. Official Selection at the Venice Days, Winner of the GOYA Award 2011 for “Best Iberoamerican Film”	by Matías Bize, winner of
2005/2006	FORBIDDEN TO FORBID	by Jorge Durán
2005	IN BED	by Matías Bize
	THE GUEST	by Coke Hidalgo
2004/2005	TWO BROTHERS	by Lucia Murat

2003/2004 LOST IN A DIRTY NIGHT

by José Joffily

FILM CREDITS

DIRECTED BY

Matías Bize

WRITTEN BY

Julio Rojas, Matías Bize

CAST

Elena Anaya
Benjamín Vicuña
Nestor Cantillana
Sergio Hernandez
Silvia Marty
Antonia Zegers
Pablo Cerda

PRODUCED BY

Adrián Solar

CO-PRODUCED BY

Carlo D'Ursi
Ignacio Rey
Nicole Gerhards

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Diego Valenzuela

EDITED BY

Valeria Hernández

CINEMATOGRAPHY

Arnaldo Rodríguez

SOUND BY

Martin Grignaschi

COMPOSED BY

Diego Fontecilla

PRODUCTION DESIGN

Sebastian Olivari

A CENCA PRODUCCIONES PRODUCTION

CO-PRODUCED WITH

Potenza Producciones
Sudestada Cine
NiKo Film

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF

TVE
ARTE

WITH THE SUPPORT OF

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INCAA
ICAA
Ibermedia

A CHILE – SPAIN – ARGENTINA - GERMANY CO-PRODUCTION

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