

NUEVOS DIRECTORES



DONOSTIA ZINEMALDIA
FESTIVAL DE SAN SEBASTIAN
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

EL RAYO

ESCRITA Y DIRIGIDA POR
FRAN ARAÚJO Y ERNESTO DE NOVA

ALTUBE FILMEAK EN COPRODUCCIÓN CON MALAS COMPAÑÍAS, UKBAR FILMES, GESTAM Y DOS DE CATORCE PRESENTAN "EL RAYO" CON HASSAN BENOUDRA PRODUCCIÓN EJECUTIVA OIHANA OLEA
PRODUCTORES ANTONIO HENS, PANDORA DA CUNHA TELLES, PABLO IRAOLA, JULIO DÍEZ, JORGE BELTRÁN, GUILLERMO ROJAS DIRECTOR DE FOTOGRAFÍA DIEGO DUSSUEL
AYUDANTE DE DIRECCIÓN ÁBEL GARCÍA ROURE JEFE DE PRODUCCIÓN ALEJANDRO LÓPEZ RIESGO NURIA RICOTE MONTADOR PABLO GIL RITUERTO DIRECCIÓN DE ARTE MARÍA ZAPICO
SONIDO NACHO B. ARENAS JEFE DE ELÉCTRICOS YERKO LIRA AYUDANTE DE CÁMARA GIUSEPPE TRUPPI AUXILIARES DE CÁMARA JOSERRA ZABALETA





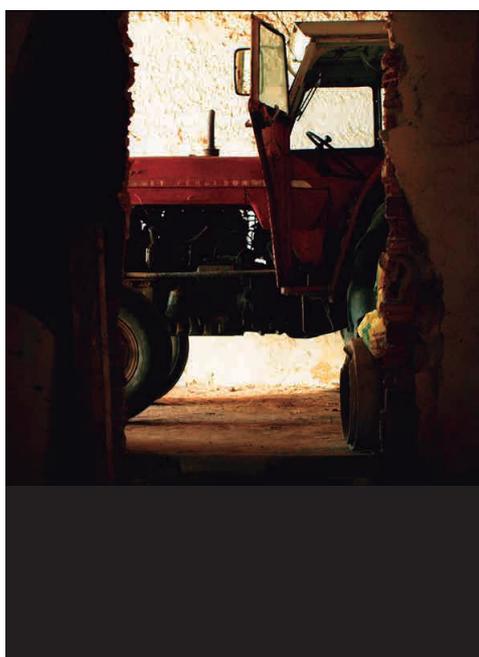
Synopsis

After thirteen years in Spain, Hassan cannot find work anymore and decides to approach his journey back home. He invests all of his savings in a second-hand tractor to earn himself a living in his home country and drives all the way down to Morocco. When Hassan got to Spain, he didn't have anything - now he returns with his only possession: EL RAYO.

Directors' note

This film is not based on true events, it actually is a true story. The main actor isn't an actor, he is an immigrant who came to Spain with nothing and now returns with his only possession - a tractor. When we heard about Hassan's story, it fascinated us and we decided to hit the road to Morocco with him and his Massey Ferguson that rarely reaches 30km/h. "El Rayo" is the result of this journey. A road movie on Spain's secondary roads where everything that happens is real and all characters appearing, interpret themselves.

A story about dignity; which shows the face of a fighter, a survivor that overcomes all of the obstacles that occur and who always maintains a positive tone during his peculiar odyssey. How do you eke out a living when you do not have anything? After living in four different countries and execute an uncountable number of jobs, Hassan has developed hundreds of strategies to get through the most difficult situations. Nothing and nobody can intervene his wish to get back home.



The direction's big challenge was harmonizing the formal and photographic strictness on the one hand and the liberty of filming in the streets, with real characters and a high level of improvisation. We wanted to keep the doors open to things that might happen along the way but at the same never loose sight of the story we were telling and above all, its leading character.

And maybe after all, that was the biggest commitment for us - being loyal to Hassan as a person and his own cinematic interpretation. From the first day, the film turned into a big negotiation between coincidence and necessities, reality and fiction, us, him and the circumstances of this particular shoot. At times it was hard, other times it was simply amazing.





We had to learn things the hard way and suffered the fear of not being able to return to port in various occasions. An experience that, we hope, will be transmitted through the different pictures of this film.

All the characters that appear in this film have opened the doors to their homes, to their jobs, to their everyday life for a couple of hours.

We are deeply grateful for this. Hassan and the people who got involved in this special journey have been a great gift. Counting on all of them, as individuals and as a community has been the best choice we have made as directors of this film.



Fact Sheet

HASSAN BENOUDRA

Script & Direction

Fran Araújo
Ernesto de Nova

Executive Production

Oihana Olea

Producer

Antonio Hens
Pandora da Cunha Telles
Pablo Iraola
Julio Díez
Jorge Beltrán
Guillermo Rojas

Director of photography

Diego Dussuel

Direction Assistant

Abel García Roure

Production Manager

Alejandro López Riesgo
Nuria Ricote

Editing

Pablo Gil Rituerto

Art Director

María Zapico

Sound

Nacho R. Arenas

Music

Ana Villa
Juanjo Valmorisco

Technical Manager

Yerko Lira

Camera Assistant

Giuseppe Truppi

Camera Hands

Joserra Zabaleta
Alejo Sabugo
Carlos Novoa

Art Director Assistant

Maite Camisón

Colourist

Marco Amaral

Graphic Design

RIFLE





HASSAN AND EL RAYO (MAIN CHARACTERS' BIO)

Hassan



El Hassan Ben Oudra was born in Beni Mellal on July 1st 1970. Being the second one of three brothers, Hassan decided to migrate to Spain before turning thirty years. Since he has left his country, Hassan has been doing all types of work: picking grapes, welding, cutting wood, working in construction, selling clothes at a flea market, setting up a fruit stall... Married and with four children, Hassan is a survivor, a bon viveur, a person who knows how to move on in any situation. Has done the impossible to get to Spain and now he will do the same to make the contrary journey together with his tractor.

El Rayo



The tractor Hassan is travelling in is a Massey Ferguson 165 from 1970, the same year his owner was born. It is the preferred tractor of the Moroccans because, since there are many of the in their country, it is easy to find spare parts.





DIRECTORS' BIO

Fran Araújo



Born in Vigo in 1980, “El Rayo” is his first movie as director of the film. His career started as scriptwriter at a TV series called “Periodistas”. Since then he has written and directed various documentaries (Marineros en la Tierra, Proteger bajo el Fuego, El Desafío de Garamba) and short films (5 días de septiembre, Quid pro Quo, Una segunda posguerra), prize winners at festivals like ALCINE, Medina del Campo or Almería en corto. Currently Fran Araújo is working on three film projects for Tele5 Cinema and gives lessons at the Factoría del Guión.

Ernesto de Nova



From the city of Elche, born in 1980, he started studying medicine which he gave up after two years to study Audio Visual Communication. “El Rayo” is his first film and first incursion into directing a film. He has worked in television in different positions as production, editing or direction (Amar en tiempos revueltos, Igual-es, Euskadi Comantxe...) as well as in advertising spots (such as Nike, El Corte Inglés, Coca Cola...) with editing being the part he developed most. His passion is the world of documentaries and cinema, where he had the opportunity to participate in different projects (“En la línea azul”, “El canto del loco. La película”, “Orgullo. Duo kie”...). He is currently working in a fiction TV series and at the same time developing a new cinematic project.





PRODUCERS' BIO

Altube Filmeak

altubefilmeak

Pedro Olea Retolaza founded Altube Filmeak in 1985 to produce his own films as director (EL BOSQUE DEL LOBO, LA CASA SIN FRONTERAS, MORIRÁS EN CHAFARINAS, AKELARRE, EL MAESTRO DE ESGRIMA, etc.).

In 2000 Oihana Olea is being incorporated in the production team and starts the production of short films like "ERAMOS POCOS" which was nominated for the HOLLYWOOD OSCAR, TV programmes ("HABITART", GINCANA TIVI SHOW, EUSKADI COMANCHE, etc.) and films from other directors ("LOS NOVIOS BÚLGAROS" by Eloy de la Iglesia and "LOS MANAGERS" by Fernando Guillén Cuervo). In 2013 she finished "ELIO BERHANYER, MAESTRO DEL DISEÑO" directed by Diego Galán for TVE and "EL RAYO" directed by Fran Araújo and Ernesto de Nova, selected at the Festival de Cine de San Sebastián (Category New Directors).

Malas Compañías

MALAS COMPAÑÍAS

Malas Compañías PC SL is being founded in 2002 parting from two previous film companies whose catalogue they incorporated. The company has produced the short films Donde Nadie Nos Ve (Salvador Perpiñá, 2004), Maldito Conejo (Rafa Carmona and Luis Gimeno, 2005), the documentary Seres extravagantes (Manuel Zayas, 2005) and the films El Rayo (Fran Araújo and Ernesto de Nova, 2013), Clandestinos (Antonio Hens, 2007), Boleto al paraíso (Gerardo Chijona, 2010), Verde, Verde (Enrique Pineda, 2011), Azul... y no tan rosa (Miguel Ferrari, 2012), Cuidado con lo que sueñas (Geyka Urdaneta, 2013), La Partida (2013) with which they have raised prizes at the main festivals.





PRODUCERS' BIO

Ukbar Filmes



UKBAR Filmes is a production house based in Lisbon, Portugal. Pandora da Cunha Telles is, together with her Argentinian associate Pablo Iraola, the soul of Ukbar Filmes. Since the “Producer on the Move” in Cannes 2004 they have produced 12 films, the majority being international co-production settlements. Amongst others worth mentioning “En la ciudad vacía” with Francia and

Angola; “Tierra sonámbula” with Mozambique and ARTE-ZDF, which has been sold in 17 territories; “Misterios de la carretera a Sintra” with Brasil; “Ilusiones Ópticas” from the Chilean director Christian Jimenez with Chile and France; picturization of Agustina Bessa-Luis’ novel “Tierra del Norte”, directed by Joao Botelho; “América” by Joao Nuno Pinto, a story about immigrants in co-production with Russia, Spain and Brazil, starring Chulpan Khamatova and “Bonsai” also by Christian Jimenez, awardee in Un Certain Regard.

“Florabela” by Vicente Alves do Ó and “Virgen Margarita” from the Mozambican director Licinio de Acevedo are the last two fiction productions by Ukbar Filmes. They have made their way internationally to more than 20 festivals apart from a very good acceptance among the audience. In the category documentaries, Ukbar Filmes has produced 9 movies, each one with its corresponding TV version, mainly in co-production.





PRODUCERS' BIO

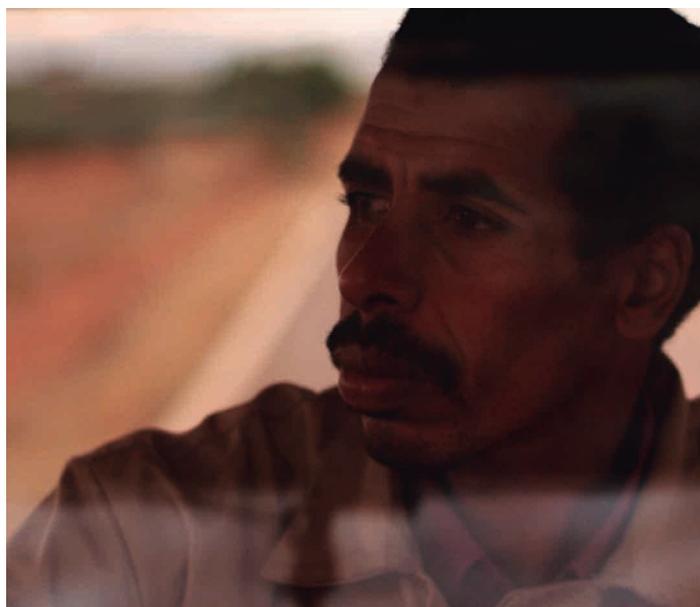
Dosde Catorce



An audio-visual production company founded in 2003 and dedicated to cinema and television with great experience in the world of short films, documentaries, video clips, advertising spots and promotion videos and of cinematic character. Their productions have been broadcasted on television on a federal state and international level and taken part in worldwide film festivals, winning more than

50 international prizes including pre-selections for the Goya awards.

Since 2007 they work in the programming, production and consulting at the Festival de Cine Iberoamericano de Huelva and was awarded with the Premio Córdoba Joven to the most dedicated company in the category of media and communication in 2009 from the "Institute of Andalusian Youth" (Instituto Andaluz de la Juventud). Standing out from their filmography: El Rayo (film 2013), Coque Malla, the documentary (2013); Elio Berhanyer, master of design (2013); Tchang (short film, 2011); Penumbra 3D (short film, 2011); La patrulla perdida (short film, 2009); En la otra camilla (short film, 2008); Milicianos andaluces, defenders of the liberty (documentary, 2006) and PieNegro (short film, 2006).



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