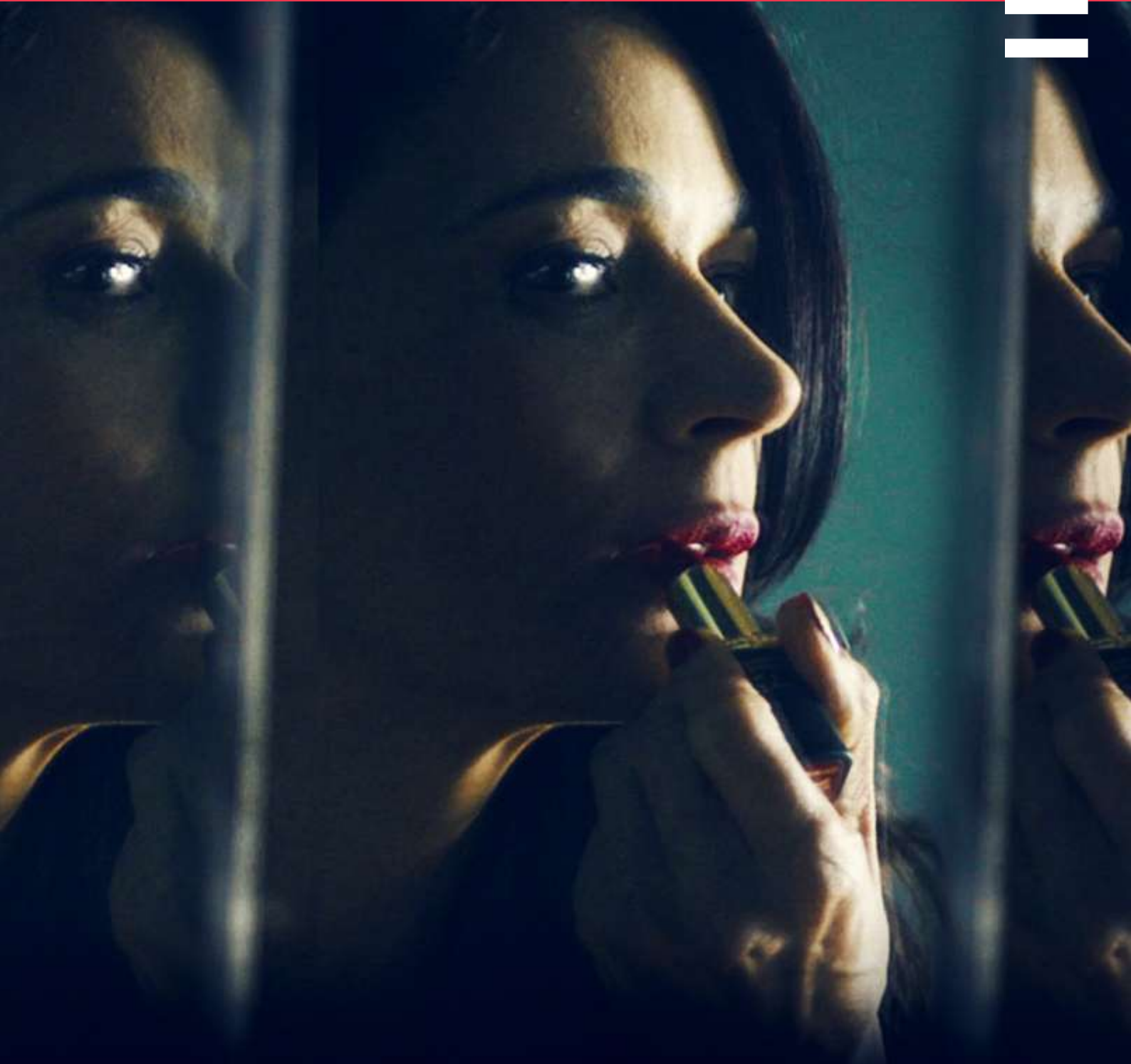


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LA MALA NOCHE

 *The Longest Night*

NÖELLE SCHÖNWALD • CRISTIAN MERCADO • JAIME TAMARIZ



**SHE IS THE PERFECT WOMAN
UNTIL SHE DECIDES TO BE FREE**

**SHE IS THE PERFECT WOMAN
UNTIL SHE DECIDES TO BE FREE**





SYNOPSIS

A beautiful woman turns to prostitution. She must surrender her income to the leader of a human trafficking ring, but her daughter's illness and a drug addiction prevent her from delivering her usual share. An unexpected event will give her the opportunity to stop obeying and take justice into her own hands.

A film by Gabriela Calvache



STATEMENT OF INTENT

Background

I was invited to show my short film "En Espera" to a group of teenage girls who were living in a foundation's shelter. When I met them, I discovered that all of these girls had been deceived, torn from their homes and forced into prostitution in brothels or private homes, until they were rescued.

After this encounter I decided to do some research, and this is how I met adult women who had managed to escape human trafficking.

Escaping human trafficking is difficult; girls who manage to escape, end up in

shelters, but for adults, there are no shelters or public policies that protect, liberate and integrate them back into society. This is why many women who have been enslaved resort to suicide; others take solace in the drugs that they taught them to use in order to get through the day; some get used to prostitution themselves, and others choose to stop being the victims and collaborate with the mobs and recruit new women. Only a minority succeeds in liberating themselves. This movie is an attempt to tell one of those stories - that of a grown woman, seemingly free, but actually enslaved by a mob that has taken her will. However, her rebellious instinct resurfaces when she meets a girl that might end up in her same situation.

The script

I started writing and researching this movie in 2012. I wrote seven versions from scratch and seven new versions of the script I decided to continue working. At first, I tried to tell everything about Dana - explain her past and the reasons for her enslavement -, but then I understood that it would be more suggestive to tell it in present tense; raise questions, link her with a detached mother and daughter, see only fragments of her day-to-day with the clients, make her vaguely fall for one of them, get her scared of her pimp, but deal with her conflicts almost mechanically. I wanted to write a script in which Dana lived in isolation, timelessness, and apathy until something drove her to recover her freedom, her identity, her strength. A story that turned from submission to rebellion, to an ending from which there is no return.

The context

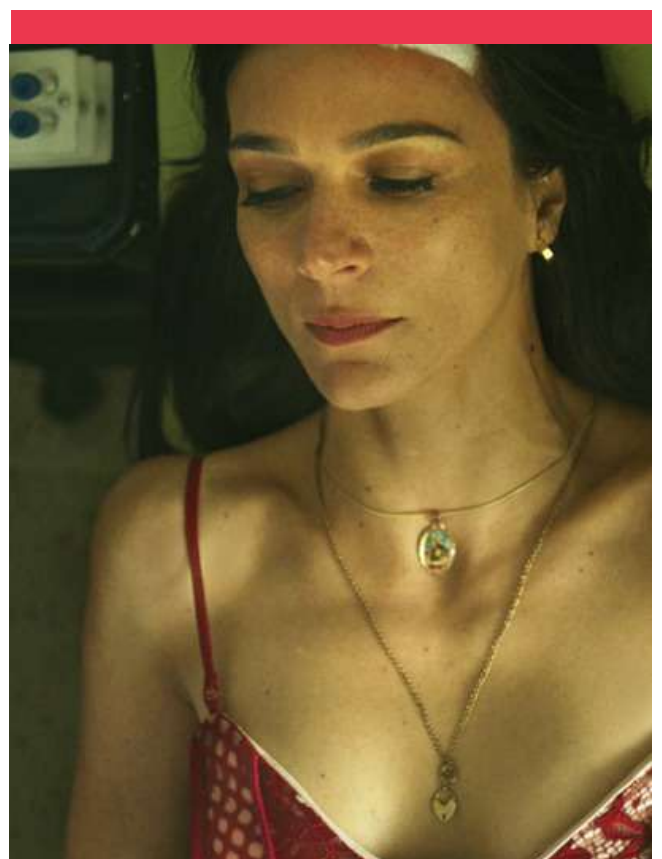
Nowadays, there are approximately twenty-one million people who are the victim of human trafficking worldwide, which is to say that there are more slaves today than ever before in the history of humanity.

Human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation is, at the time, the most widespread form. However, every year human trafficking, with other purposes, increases.

The victims of human trafficking are, for the most part, poor women and children from developing countries, such as in Latin America.

Given this context, I feel that it is important to talk about the subject, hopefully from every possible viewpoint, from every filmmaker, and from every continent.

Jahida Salvochl.





DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Gabriela Calvache

Gabriela Calvache was born in Ambato, a small city in the Ecuadorean Andes. Her short film **"En espera"** (On Hold) premiered at International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR, 2011) and earned awards in festivals in Japan, France, Chile, Ecuador, Argentina and Brazil. It was included in the Native section of the Berlin Film Festival (2015) and International Short Film Festival Oberhausen (2011), among others. Her short film **"Hay cosas que no se dicen"** (Things You Never Say) premiered at the Mar del Plata Film

Festival (Argentina) and got selected at several festivals such as Guadalajara (Mexico), Cinema Jove (Spain), and São Paulo (Brazil), among others. It was also shown in the Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington DC, USA (2007).

"LA MALA NOCHE" (The Longest Night) is her debut film. This project was selected at the Europe - Latin America Coproduction Forum in the 2013 San Sebastian Film Festival, among others.

Calvache wrote the script of the movie **"Impulso"** (Impulse), winner of the Gran Premio Flechazo 2009 award of the Toulouse Latin America Film Festival.

She produced the documentary **"Asier y yo"** (Asier and I), winner of the Irizar award at the 2013 San Sebastian Film

Festival; co-produced the documentary **"Después de la neblina"** (When Clouds Clear), winner of the Social Justice Award at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival, and was the producer of the documentaries **"El comité"** (The Committee), winner of the George de Beaugregard award at FIDMarseille 2006, and **"Con mi corazón en Yambo"** (With My Heart in Yambo), premiered at IDFA 2011.

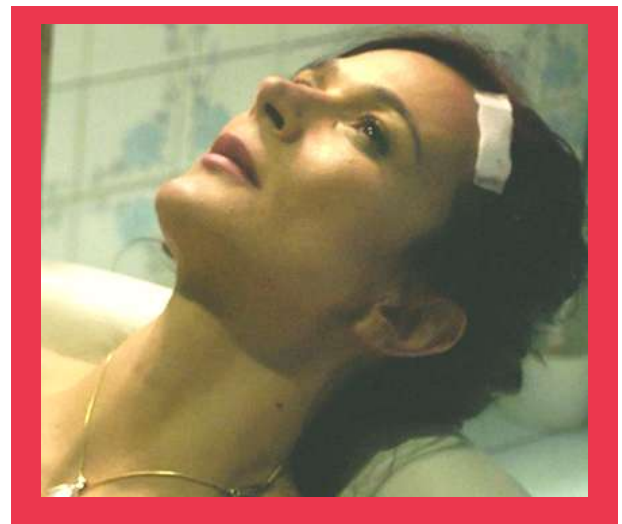
DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

- **"Labranza oculta"** (The Silent Walls). Documentary, 55 minutes (2010)
- **"En espera"** (On Hold). Fiction short film, 15 minutes (2010)
- **"Carta para mi alma"** (Letter to My Soul). Experimental short film, 25 minutes (2007)
- **"Hay cosas que no se dicen"** (Things You Never Say). Fiction short film, 12 minutes (2006)
- **"Alerta naranja"** (Orange Alert). Documentary short film, 12 minutes (2001)

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Geminiano Pineda

Geminiano Pineda is the executive director of Cine CANÍBAL and executive producer of **"Voy a explotar"** (I'm Gonna Explode) by Gerardo Naranjo (selected to represent Mexico at the Oscar and Goya awards); **"Miss Bala"** by Gerardo Naranjo (selected to represent Mexico at the Oscar and Goya awards); **"Abel"** by Diego Luna; **"Jean Gentil"** by Laura Guzmán and Israel Cárdenas; **"Walking Vengeance"** (Solo quiero caminar), by Agustín Yanez; and **"Post Mortem"** by Pablo Larraín. He produced **"The Amazing Catfish"** (Los insólitos peces gato) the first feature film by Claudia Sainte-Luce, winner of several international awards and with sales in 32 countries; **"Leading Actor"** (El actor principal) by Paula Markovitch and **"The Longest Night"** (La Mala Noche) by Gabriela Calvache.





THE LONGEST NIGHT was developed with the assistance provided by the **Cannes Attendance Support** of the Marché du Film Cannes Film Festival Market. It was selected at the **Europe-Latin America Co-Production Forum** of the **San Sebastian Film Festival** and the **International Producer's Meeting** at the **Cartagena de Indias Festival**. The script was developed at the **Orquídea workshop** of producer **Bertha Navarro** and in **Bolivia Lab**.

It was also selected at the **Pitching Forum** of the 2017 **Portugal New Directors/New Films Festival** and 2018 **SANFIC NET** in Santiago de Chile.

This film earned the support of the Consejo Nacional de Cine del Ecuador (National Council of Cinematography of Ecuador) – now the Instituto de Cine y el Audiovisual –, the Co-Production fund of the Ibermedia Program, and the Fiscal Stimulus of the IMCINE: EFICINE and FOPROCINE Mexican funds.





CAST AND CREW

Starring **Noëlle Schönwald**, from Colombia (Love in the Time of Cholera); **Cristian Mercado** from Bolivia (Undertow); and **Jaime Tamariz**, Ecuadorean playwright and actor.

Written and Directed by Gabriela Calvache

Produced by Geminiano Pineda and Gabriela Calvache

Production Companies: Cineática Films (Ecuador), Cine Caníbal (Mexico)

Executive Producers: Geminiano Pineda, Gabriela Calvache, Daniela Fuentes Moncada

Associate Producers: Hernán Barahona, David Ruf, Mauricio T. Valle

Cinematographer: Gris Jordana

Direct Sound: Juan José Luzuriaga

Sound Designer: Gabriel Reyna

THX sound mix: Jaime Baksht and Michelle Coutolenc

Music: Quincas Moreira

Edited by: Andrea Chignoli

Production Design: Roberto Frisone Art

Director: Claudia Hidalgo

Set Decorator: Camilo Suárez Bango (†)

Costume Designer: Ana Poveda Make-up

Artist: Lucía Da Silva

Casting Director: Alejandra Coral Color

Grading: Lisa Tillinger

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Spanish Title: LA MALA NOCHE

English Title: The Longest Night
(Opera Prima)

Production Companies: Cineática Films
and Cine Caníbal

Genre: Fiction

Sub-genre: Drama

Age Rating: B15

Sound Format: Dolby Digital

Projection Format: DCP

Aspect Ratio: Cinemascope

Color / Black & White: color

Country: Mexico/Ecuador

Year of Production: 2017

©Year: 2019 (January)

Running Time: 95 min

Dialogue Language: Spanish

Subtitles: English

Camera: Alexa Mini

Lens (type and brand): Cooke S3, 25
mm, 35 mm and 50 mm, Lens Baby Sweet
35 mm.

Aspect Ratio: 2.35

TEASER

<https://vimeo.com/282880701/8421b1871>
fpassword: enjoythefilm



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