

(CIENCIAS NATURALES)

NATURAL SCIENCES

a film by Matias Lucchesi



Berlinale
 64th Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
Generation



short synopsis

There's nothing to keep Lila at her boarding school high up in the cold and foggy mountains. This 12 year-old girl does not know who her father is but wants to find him. She sets out on a complicated quest for the truth.

long synopsis

In a rural school in the middle of the mountains, a girl who is starting to become a woman feels the profound need to discover her true identity. She does not know who her father is and she is determined to find him, but her mother does not approve it. The hostility of winter in such a harsh place turns this desire into a real threat: freezing in the middle of nowhere. Going behind the backs of the school authorities and the girl's mother, her teacher decides to help her. They set off on this quest for truth, but it is not going to be an easy journey... Their only clue is a small, rusty plate.

director's statement

“Ciencias Naturales” sparked from an image: a woman and a girl, alone, sitting on the side of a mountain road in Cordoba, waiting for something in the middle of nowhere.

I had just finished writing “El Pampero”, which was scheduled for 2014. I had the time and a strong need to film, to tell a story. Since “El Pampero” was too far away, I decided to write a story based on that image that had stuck in my mind.

During my teenage years, I used to visit the mountains in Cordoba quite often, sleeping in shelters, and that’s how I got to know about the rural schools in the middle of the mountains, completely isolated from civilization. I learned about children who rode their horses for up to six hours to go to school.

The image I described initially and these memories were enough for me and Gonzalo Salaya to get started. We got together for 8 hours a day, everyday, and three months later I finally said: “This is it. I need to film it right away”.





about the director

Matías Lucchesi was born in Cordoba, Argentina in 1980. He took several courses in theatre, dramaturgy and cinema studies, mainly with José Martínez Suárez. In 2007 he shot the short film “Savana” and in 2009 “Distancias”, awarded Best Short Film at Biarritz Film Festival.

He also wrote scripts for feature films, including “Raiz”, fifth Opera Prima script 2010 INCAA, selected by Tropa and Rotterdam Lab.

He partnered with Gonzalo Salaya to write his last two scripts: “El Pampero”, to be filmed in November 2014, featuring Julio Chavez, and Ciencias Naturales, completed in 2013 and awarded “Primer Corte” in Ventana Sur.

cast

Paula Hertzog
Paola Barrientos
Alvin Astorga
Sergio Boris
Arturo
Eugenia Alonso
Vanesa Weinberg

Lila
Jimena
Puma
Soldador
Arturo Goetz
Marta
Rosa

crew

Director
Script
Producers
Cinematographer
Production Designer
Assistant Director
Production Manager
Costume Designer
Sound Director
Editor
Música
Produced By
Co-Produced By

Matias Lucchesi
Matias Lucchesi
Gonzalo Salaya
Matias Lucchesi
Juan Pablo Miller
Fabrice Lambot
Sebastian Ferrero
Adrian Suarez
Manlio Zoppi
Juan Maristany
Sol Muñoz
Martin Litmanovich
Lucas Fancin
Delfina Castagnino
Nacho Conde
Salta la Liebre & Tarea Fina
Metaluna Productions

Argentina - 2014 - 71' - 1.85 - 5.1

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