

A young woman with curly hair is looking out from behind a white curtain. The background is dark and filled with rain, creating a somber and contemplative mood.

WHEN RAIN FALLS

Resistencia's mother comes back home. She yearns for her mother's love as she is left alone to parent her younger sisters, while her mother struggles to make money in a gold mine, in hopes of returning to her home country. They both will have to assume their role within the family to get ahead.

A Film by **Yanillys Pérez**___Drama Fiction, 90 minutos. // FONPROCINE Public fund for the production // Locarno Open Doors World Cinema Fund Award 2022 & Morelia:Sundance Script Lab 2021.

SINOPSIS

Resistencia (9) takes on her mother's role and parents her sisters, Esperanza (7) and Mía (5). She wants her single mother, Marta (30), to take care of them, but she spends most of her time laboring in a gold mine as a merchant. Through her vivid imagination, Resistencia relives Marta's dangerous adventures in the mines. Marta struggles to support her family and plans to return with them to her native country after earning enough money. She and Resistencia only understand each other when Marta smokes tobacco and teaches Resistencia to predict the future in the ashes. Marta's boyfriend, Pelo Lindo (38), mistreats her and barely survives an attempted hit by the vengeful mafia, only to fall prey to them later on. Marta's money is stolen, fed up of life, one night she intends to avenge her lover, but the spirits stay her hand. Seeing the unfortunate state of her life, Marta shuts down her business and arranges her family's return home.

LOCATIONS





MOODBOARD

CAMERA PLACEMENT AND LIGHT

LIGHT AT NIGHT





CAMERA PLACEMENT



MUSTANG
DIRECTOR DENIZ GAMZE ERGÜVEN ©2015
The sisters relationship, the treatment of the house and the human as a predator . Also the light .

VISUAL REFERENCES



NOBODY KNOWS
DIRECTOR HIROKAZU KOREEDA©2004

The immature adult and the child who behaves like an adult. The relationship of the sister and brother. The family bonds that prevail, even after the mistake of the past. The relationship of the mature kid with the other kids of his age and the loneliness waiting for their mother.

BEASTS OF THE SOUTHERN WILD
DIRECTOR BENH ZEITLIN©2012

The kid's imagination, how she transports the precarious to the magical realism. The child who behaves like an adult. The relationship of the father and daughter. The treatment of the beasts. Also the relationship between the characters and the hostile place with its own rules.



VISUAL REFERENCES



LOS LOBOS - SAMUEL KISHI ©2019
The Kids left alone at home.



WASP - DIRECTOR ANDREA ARNOLD ©2003
The immature single mother that want to live her young life and leave her daughter in charge of her responsibility, putting her kids in danger.



LA FORTALEZA
DIRECTOR JORGE THIELEN ARMAND
©2020
Atmosphere. Marta's way to the mines.

CHARACTERS



Actress idea (to be confirmed)

RESISTENCIA: The oldest of three sisters , she wants to have a normal life. She takes care of her little sisters while her mother, Marta, is absent. This situation has reversed family roles and so, she has to be in charge of her house at 9 years old, so she misses school a lot so she can do housework.

She has worries and preoccupations that no child her age should have. She needs her sisters to obey her so everything can be in control while their mother is not home. She fears of being abandoned by Marta or that her sisters have trouble because she's not taking proper care of them. Even though she's not even a teenager yet, she has had to go through some uncomfortable situations common for all women, like her first period or being aware that some men can take advantage of her. She's been involved in some dangerous situations so she can protect her sisters.

This uncommon upbringing has made her to give priority to the needs of others above her own. She's creative and has a great imagination, she has some talent for performing arts and dreams of becoming a teacher when she grows up.

Her best friend is a talking parrot to whom she tells all of her secrets. She has a brief love story with a kid her age, Miguelito, but life's hard reality turns it around and forces her to behave like an adult for survival.



Actress idea (to be confirmed)

MARTA: She's from the Dominican Republic, she knows how to read omens in tobacco ashes, communicate with spirits and a lot about naturist medicine. Resistencia and her get along very well when she teaches her how to read tobacco, like her own mother did before her. Her closest friend is the neighbor, who's also Resistencia's godmother and thanks to her, she had her first approach to the mines. At first, she sells products and food to the miners, then she will open a modest motel there. She has gone through some toxic relationships, like the one she currently has with Pelo Lindo. She's scared of being all by herself and her deepest wish is to have a stable and happy family so her children can live in peace, but she happens to believe that she needs a man to have that so he can provide for her and her children. She cannot realize that what she actually needs is self-confidence to start a new life without a partner. However, since she doesn't spend a lot of time with her kids, her attitude towards them is not appropriate of a mother, she's very permissive and a little immature, Resistencia tends to call her attention a lot of times because of that. She's a hard worker and entrepreneur. She does anything that's on her hands to provide for her family, even though what her kids need the most is to be with her. She wants to go back to the Dominican Republic.



ESPERANZA (7):

She's the middle sister, she understands family void more than Mia, but doesn't have responsibilities like Resistencia. She argues with Resistencia a lot because she doesn't see her as an authority figure. She wants a consistent maternal figure. Just like her big sister, she's also creative and imaginative but what she aspires to is to get to know a lot of people, travel the world and become a sophisticated and glamorous woman. She likes make-up and carries her mother's lipstick as it was a treasure and also an amulet that gives her strength. She spends a lot of time with their neighbor, Amanda, who's a transwoman who teaches her how to do her make-up, how to dress and how to dance like she did in the cabaret she used to work. Resistencia doesn't approve of this. Esperanza admires Amanda, trying to fill the void her mother left, not realizing that she needs protection, rules, stability and love.



Actress idea (to be confirmed)



MÍA (5): She's the youngest sister, she likes to play all day and doesn't listen to Resistencia, because she doesn't see an authority figure in her either. She prefers when Marta is home because she allows her to do as she pleases. She's undisciplined, energetic and witty. She likes to play outside with other kids and tends to get dirt or get hurt in play. Her irreverence and antics are her way to exteriorise her need for attention. She needs protection, rules, stability and love. Due to her age, she's not able to understand how bad their situation is.



THE PARROT: He's Resistencia's best friend, her therapist and counselor. Even though he's actually the Godmother's pet, he spends more time at Marta's with the girls. He knows how to speak and repeats the words that he hears, getting Resistencia in trouble.

THE GODMOTHER (45): She is the owner of the parrot and she is also a supporter of Chavismo.

She's Marta's best friend and Resistencia's godmother, she's the one who took Marta to the mines to work. She always listens to Marta's problems when she comes back from the mines. She has a husband, Ruben, who's a jewelry maker, they have a Little daughter called Rio. It is implied she's not happy at her marriage. She watches over the girls when Marta is gone and administers money for the house's expenses. She sometimes helps Resistencia, but she doesn't really take care of them.

AMANDA (45): She's a transwoman and former sex worker. She's got AIDS and is visibly deteriorated for this illness. She takes care of Esperanza and tries to help her out so she's not sad because of her mother's absence. Amanda uses tons of makeup, jewelry, perfume and extravagant clothing. She tries to hide her bad health. She's generally nice to others and has fun when Esperanza comes over. Esperanza loves her. She's a very lonely person and neighbors don't understand her, but there's sadness around when she dies.

PELO LINDO (38): He has sun-tanned skin, abundant light brown and straight hair, brown eyes and is very tall and strong. He's a miner that meets Marta when she sells products at the mines. They start a sexual relationship, he love bombs her and makes promises he can't keep. They argue a lot and he makes Marta doubt herself. Her kids don't trust him. He has a high sex drive and expects Marta to always be available for him. He's very seductive and a womanizer. He's murdered by the lame. His death is what aims Marta to leave the mines and start a new life by herself.

MIGUELITO (9): He's Resistencia's first love, an oasis in the desert of Resistencia's reality. Even when their time together is cut short, it is magical enough so she remembers him forever. Unlike Marta, Resistencia doesn't need a man to be happy, that's why their separation is a sad moment but not as unbearable as when her mother leaves home.

THE GOLD MINE

Reference Photos





BIO/FILMOGRAPHY

Yanillys Pérez is a Venezuelan/Dominican Director, Writer and Producer.

Her first documentary feature film JEFFREY, won the Discovery Filmmaker Award, at the Toronto International film Festival in 2016, Later she also won Best Picture at Cleveland International Film Festival, Best Documentary in Trinidad and Tobago, Best Film Human condition at Belize int Film Festival and other international and national awards.

She recently won Best Short Film at Locarno Film Festival in the section Open Doors 2022, where she received the Junior Jury Award for Techos Rotos. Her previous short films have received several international and national awards.

Her film in development WHEN RAIN FALLS Won the Audience Strategy by the World Cinema Fund, al LOCARNO Film Festival, Open Doors co-production lab 2022.

MOODVIDEO

Click Here: <https://www.yprfilms.com/ccll-video-english>

When Rain Falls



IN THE NEWS



Winner of the World Cinema Fund Audience Strategy award for "Cuando Cae La Lluvia," in Locarno Film Festival, Open Doors 2022.



TECHOS ROTOS de Yanillys Pérez
Mejor cortometraje
Open Doors
JUNIOR JURY AWARD



Director Yanillys Pérez receives the Dropbox Discovery Program Filmmakers Award for 'Jeffrey' at the 2016 TIFF Awards Ceremony at TIFF Bell Lightbox on September 18, 2016 in Toronto, Canada.

SCREENDAILY

NEWS

Locarno unveils first Open Doors selection from Latin America, Caribbean

BY MICHAEL ROSSER | 2 JUNE 2022

TIFF award-winning filmmaker Yanillys Pérez and up-and-coming Ecuadorian director Ana Cristina Barragán are among those set to present projects at this year's edition of the Locarno Film Festival's Open Doors programme.

VARIETY

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Locarno Festival's Open Doors Highlights Latin America, the Caribbean

Of the 24 directors featured at this year's edition, 15 identify as female or gender non conforming, led by Ecuador's Ana Cristina Barragán whose 2016 debut "Alba" won nods at Rotterdam and San Sebastián and Yanillys Pérez whose documentary "Jeffrey" scooped a Discovery Awards at the Toronto Festival.

Yanillys Pérez
Director, Producer

Edition
Berlin 2022

Country
Dominican Republik



YPR Films is an independent Film Company created in 2010 in the Dominican Republic by Yanilys Pérez and Thibaud Billiard. In 2013, Miss Siddhartha MATA joined the Company as a producer.

The purpose of the Company is to produce Art house Narrative Feature Films, Documentaries and Short Films with a feminine gaze, in the Dominican Republic with International co-productions.

YPR Films started with the production of short films with French co-production, before turning to the production of feature films. Our first feature film is our documentary JEFFREY awarded at Toronto International Film Festival in 2016 with the Discovery Filmmaker Award and Best Film at Cleveland International Film Festival, Best Documentary in Trinidad and Tobago, Best film at Human Condition at Belize Int Film Festival and other awards. We recently won Best Short Film at Locarno Film Festival in the section Open Doors 2022, where we received the Junior Jury Award for Techos Rotos.

Our current project is When Rain Falls a feature film project in development, which has been at MORELIA SUNDANCE Screenplay Lab in 2021 and at LOCARNO Open DOORS 2022 where it won the WORLD CINEMA FUND Audience Strategy award. The project has also been selected to be part of PUENTES EAVE 2022 LATIN AMERICA EUROPE CO PRODUCTION workshop with 2 labs in Italy and Uruguay. The project recently won the public Dominican fund FONPROCINE for its development.

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