



CUANDO SUENA EL CLARIN

WHEN THE TRUMPET SOUNDS

In the Colombian city of Medellin, 16 year-old Alejandro is determined to one day become an international bullfighting star. Working as a stable boy at the central bullfighting plaza and training on his time off, Alejandro watches from the sidelines as his Matador idols engage in this traditional and controversial dance with death.

Alejandro is from Medellin's majority working poor, and he has little means to participate in the exclusive, glamorous world of professional bullfighting. The plaza's glory is only intended for a select few. Matadors are born, not bred; most Matadors emerge from wealthy, landowning families. Draped

in old-world glamour, the bullfighting culture is rife with colonial imagery and symbols of Spanish conquistadors.

But like the bulls that die at their sword, the matadors are themselves a dying breed. The sport is considered by many to be bloody, ruthless and barbaric. The culture of bullfighting becomes ever more isolated, extreme, flamboyant, and tantalizing.

This film explores the personal struggle of our passionate and driven character to break into the elitist world of bullfighting, against the historical/social reality of Post-Colonial Latin America.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKER

Born in Medellin, Colombia, Pablo Alvarez-Mesa studied Design Engineering and Photography before moving to Canada to pursue his post secondary education in Film Production. Since finishing his BFA, he has produced and directed various short films that have played at international film festivals throughout the world including Hot Docs, Sheffield, and Silverdocs. His most recent documentary, Jelena's Song, was awarded with the Pierre and Yolanda Perrault award at the RVCQ in Montreal. His interest in documentary lies in the relationship between fact and fiction; between what is recalled and what is inevitably constructed. His short films all touch in one way or another issues of displacement, history and collective memory.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION COMPANY

In 2010, Parabola Films produced the feature documentary film 'St-Henri, the 26th of August', an innovative one-day exploration of a Montreal neighbourhood shot by sixteen directors; and the music video 'The Lamb' for breakthrough artist Little Scream. Parabola Films was founded by Sarah Spring, producer of the award-winning feature documentaries 'Roadsworth: Crossing the Line' (Hot Docs, SXSW) and 'H2Oil' (Best Documentary, Festival de Portneuf). In addition to her work at Parabola Films, Producer Selin Murat wrote and directed 'Ginseng Empire' (Big Sky Documentary Festival) and curated the 2009 Film Pop International Film Festival.



PARABOLA FILMS

SARAH SPRING • SARAH@PARABOLAFILMS.CA • 1 514 961 7026