



LA CASITA ROSA

**AYUDA AL
MIGRANTE**

As a first generation Mexican American the immigration struggle is still fresh in my blood. The consciousness of the motherland stills echoes in my family's home, food, and traditions. Echos that remind me of where I came from and where to lead the next generation. My siblings and I are the embodiment of our parents courage and American dream.

DIRECTOR'S



STATEMENT

A dream that is carried by every immigrant wanting to enter the United States. This project not only challenged me as a director, but it also reminded me of those teenage thoughts that made me decide to become a filmmaker. A decision to set forth and tell the untold stories of my community. I am truly grateful to Las Patronas for opening their space and for allowing me to document their solidarity and incredible work - **Elvin Herrera**



SYNOPSIS

For the past thirty years, the people of Central America have endured the rising threat of organized crime, government corruption, and the ever-growing gap of economic inequality. These unfortunate developments in the region have triggered a mass exodus of Central Americans. Thousands have taken the risky decision to use the roofs of freight trains as a means of transportation. Their hopes are to reach the United States border and apply for political asylum.

This has resulted in dozens of charitable organizations and shelters to pop up across Mexico, each with the ultimate mission to help the immigrants. La Casita Rosa focuses on Las Patronas, a shelter operated entirely by women and situated in the small town of Guadalupe, Veracruz. The infamous migrant trains, as the locals call them, travel daily through Guadalupe. These brave women driven by faith donate their free time in assuring their immigrant brothers receive a meal. Many of whom they will never know by name or see again. La Casita Rosa explores the call of action and solidarity Las Patronas have created for the countless immigrants risking their lives.



LAS PATRONAS

Since the initiation of Las Patronas, Norma Romero (top photo) has held the responsibility of coordinating and facilitating the work that goes into the charitable organization. Her remarkable charisma to help others is the fuel that influences the surrounding community to become involved. Over the course of twenty years, the organization has gained national and international attention from other organizations that have sent generous donations of food, clothing, and aid. Her activism has brought national recognition from the Mexican government, who awarded her the National Prize of Human Rights, the most prestigious humanitarian award in Mexico.

The organization is mostly composed of women. They volunteer their free time and energy in cooking/bagging the food. The actual number of volunteers varies; but each of them has their individual story in why they chose to become a part of the organization.



THE FACTS

Between 2011 and 2016, the number of people from the Northern Triangle who have sought refuge in surrounding countries increased by **2,249%**. By the end of 2019, there are expected to be **539,500** people displaced from Central America. In 2018 alone, **49,000** children and adolescents in El Salvador dropped out of school. In Guatemala and Honduras, there are over **2 million** children out of school. Gang warfare and violence have transformed parts of Central America into some of the most dangerous places on earth. Asylum applications from Central America and Mexico made up about half of all applications to the United States. - *The UN Refugee Agency*





Director/ Producer **Elvin Herrera**

Editor/ Cinematographer **Elvin Herrera**

Sound **Maximino Hernandez Nava**

Gael Hernandez Hernandez

Production Assistant **Teodora Cuahutle**

Driver **Maximino Hernandez Cuahutle**

Las Patronas **Anahi Cristobal Reyes**

Norma Romero Vasquez

Ana Lilia Jimenez Alvizar

Rosa Romero Vasquez

Guadalupe Gonzalez Herrera

Julia Ramirez Rosas

Music **Zack David Music**

Pablo Mllolet

Timbilfed

CREDITS



TRAILER

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrPuArWtb2o>

www.elvinherrera.com

elvin.herrera.13@gmail.com

