

DÍA DE LAS CARPAS



AFI CONSERVATORY PRESENTS A RAPID BUS PRODUCTION

TONY GARCIA ISAAC ORDONEZ CAEL PETER CROSS CAMILA OLIVERA LIBBY CONNER HECTOR ATREYU RUIZ

CASTING BY ERIKA SABEL FLORES MUSIC BY CARLOS FELIPE SILVA EDITED BY YUFEI SKYLAR ZHANG PRODUCTION DESIGN BY BENJAMIN R. VOUTOUR

CINEMATOGRAPHY BY BETHANY MICHALSKI PRODUCED BY JERVIS LI WRITTEN BY MARINA KATO HOAG DIRECTED BY JOÃO DALL'STELLA

The Story

LOGLINE

A little girl escapes deportation by becoming a mermaid



SHORT SYNOPSIS

After an immigration raid in their apartment building, a group of boys help an undocumented girl get to the beach to reunite with her family, unaware of that their new friend has a magical secret that will change their lives forever.

LONG SYNOPSIS

Día de las Carpas is a fantasy-adventure film told from the point of view of JONATHAN, a young boy who starts the day just wanting to go to see a giant carp that's been caught at the pier. But after witnessing an immigration raid, Jonathan and his friends find their undocumented neighbor ESME hiding and decide to help her evade ICE agents to get to the beach where she'll reunite with her family.

However, Jonathan puts his fishing mentor, BIG SERG, who has promised to take the boys to the beach, in danger since Serg used to run the streets and doesn't want to get in trouble with authorities again. They all race towards the pier where Esme hides again, but this time inside the giant carp itself, which magically comes alive and jumps into the ocean. In a final miracle, Esme transforms into a mermaid and meets the rest of her mermaid family who have been waiting for her. By going on this journey, Jonathan also transforms himself from a hesitant boy into a young man willing to take a stand.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

As a child, I spent my most of time lost in my own imagination. I still remember thoughts of having my whole school submerged in water or creating imaginary friends out of pens and other random objects. It offered me an escape from the world I was living in. I didn't have many friends nor did I even knew how to make them. It was through dreaming, drawing and music that I could entertain myself and create my own world. Years later, I found that making films the way to share this vision to the world

Día De Las Carpas is a story that reminds me of my once untouchable innocence and the way I used to always "Observe" what was around me. The main character, Jonathan, is about to embark on a journey that will change his life forever. This film not only transports me back to the past but also addresses a very current issue, the separation of immigrant children from their parents as an inhumane consequence of the current political climate.

As a queer person from Brazil, I've been always searching where I belong and that's how I can relate to the characters in my films. The main character, Jonathan, is a version of myself during my childhood. *Día De Las Carpas* comes from my empathy towards other minorities that fight to find their place in the world.

This is a film about Freedom, Friends and Family. I welcome you to my imagination and hope you have a good time.

João Dall'Stella

Director



The Filmmakers



João Dall'Stella

Director

João Dall'Stella is full time daydreamer and just graduated as a directing fellow from the renowned American Film Institute Conservatory in Los Angeles.

Born in Sao Paulo, Brazil. His works explores personal themes, creating unique character based stories to translate his vision of the world to his audiences. His recent short film "Q-Therapy" was part of the official selection of OUTFEST 2019 and his short film "STALLS" is currently doing the festival circuit. His thesis film "DIA DE LAS CARPAS" has won the DGA Student Grand Short Film prize for Latino directors.



Marina Kato Hoag

Writer

Marina Kato Hoag is a 2019 graduate of the screenwriting program at the American Film Institute Conservatory where she received the Alfred P. Sloan scholarship for her script about the father of fractal geometry. She worked at Fox in International Film Production and also has worked in TV and market research, an online stiletto-of-the-month club, a book store and in housing during the mortgage crisis. She has a M.A. in Sociology from the University of Chicago and a B.A. in City Planning from UC-Berkeley. She was born in Berkeley and grew up in St. Louis and aspires to be the Bernie Sanders of screenwriting.



Jervis Jinkui Li

Producer

Jervis (Jinkui) Li is a 2019 graduate of the Producing program at the American Film Institute Conservatory. He is born and raised in Shenzhen, China. His family owns a production company in Beijing, China. He got his B.A. from Loyola Marymount University in Film Production Major and Film Study Minor in 2017. He worked in several award-winning shorts both in China and America and interned in Gran Via Productions.



Bethany Michalski

Cinematographer



Bethany Michalski is a 2019 cinematography graduate of the American Film Institute Conservatory. Hailing from Baltimore, MD Bethany's instincts from street photography with the classical training she received from AFI has distinguished her style; mixing bold compositions, and a moving camera, Bethany is interested in creating vibrant and energized imagery that captures the authenticity of those she photographs. She splits her time between narrative and documentary feature work- most notably shooting a multi-format documentary for U2 and upcoming films with MTV docs. You can find more of her work at bethanymichalski.com

Skylar Yufei Zhang

Editor

Skylar Yufei Zhang is a 2019 graduate of the editing program at the American Film Institute Conservatory in Los Angeles. After moving to Los Angeles at the age of 18, Skylar has been living the dream in the world of filmmaking. With a BFA in Film Production, Skylar worked as a writer/director and producer on shorts, music videos, and feature films before jumping into editing. In 2015, she directed the official music video "Get Loud (the sounds)" for "Spero," a San Diego-based rock band. Before attending AFI, she has been working as an associate programmer and editor at Cinema at the Edge Film Festival. In 2016, Skylar co-founded the LA-based production company TWO DUDES, LLC in 2016 with her partner Arndt Werling.

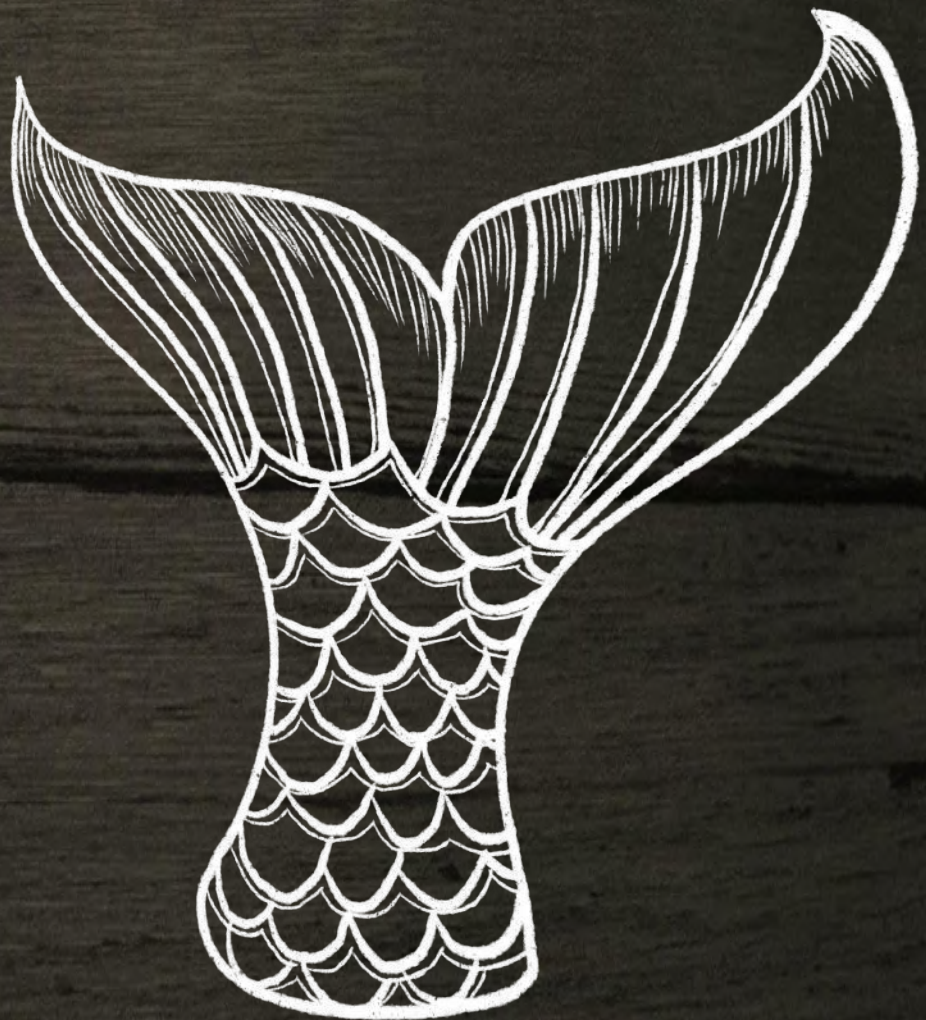


Benjamin R. Voutour

Production Designer



Born in Canada, Ben graduated from the Colorado University with a BFA in Fine Arts. He moved to LA to become a Production Designer. He loves to build the worlds where his characters live in. He has his own company "Pirate Pistol Productions" where he works as a Production Designer and Art Director for multiple commercial shoots and feature films. He was Art Director on the feature film "Dead Ant".



The Talent



Tony Garcia
as
Jonathan

Tony starting acting at four years old and has been on projects including *How To Get Away with Murder* and a short film called *Fenced*. He has also done modeling for *Access Hollywood Live*, won first place in a Bollywood dance competition and is a magician.

Camila Olivera

as
Esme

Camila is 8 years old and this is her first film. When she's not working as an actress, Camila's favorite activities are making TikTok videos and taking Bollywood dance and gymnastics classes. She comes from a family with roots in the film industry, since sister Kimberly is also an actress and her father has worked in set construction.





Cael Cross

as
Beto

Cael was born in Hollywood, CA, to actress Arely Araniva and musician Mark Cross. With both parents being artists, Cael has been exposed to the arts since birth. His younger brother, Esai is also an actor. Cael is part of Inglewood Park and Recreation theater and sports program. He has acted in several TV commercials and independent films. Cael is currently developing his own original characters, and focusing on his passion for basketball.

Isaac Ordóñez

as
Hector

Isaac is 10 years old. He has worked on short films such as Jude, Psycho Sally and was recently cast in another short film. He has appeared in commercials and print ads. In his free time, he enjoys dancing, reading and playing Fortnite.



Hector Atreyu Ruiz

as
Big Serg



Hector is an American-born actor of Tarahumaran Indian, Mexican, and Spanish extraction, who co-stars as Guero Moncada in the FX series *Justified* episode "Cut Ties." He has also appeared in *24*, *Prison Break*, *Wanted*, *CSI* and *Boomtown*. He came of age on the streets of Los Angeles, selling oranges and collecting cans with his Mother. Gang violence led him to incarceration but he decided to become an actor, eventually enrolling at USC.

Libby Conner

as
Agent Kathrine

Libby has been cast in recurring roles on various series including *Brat's Chicken Girls* and Disney's *Midnight Moms* and most recently appeared in the Season 2 series premiere of *Investigation Discovery's Dark Waters*. She's appeared in festival award winning films such as *Nina Saiza*, *The Cabining*, and *Household Weapons*. She's trained in the respected studios of Margie Haber, Lesly Kahn, Brian Reise, Alice Carter, UCB, and Groundlings. Libby credits her attention to character nuances to her mentor, the late Eden Bernardy.



Stills



















Behind the Scenes



Tony gets
ready for his
close-up

The cast
listens to
director
João





Director João
talks to actors
Camila and
Tony.

Production Designer
Ben,
Cinematographer
Beth and Director
João discuss camera
angles with a giant
carp that is ready
for it's close-up.





producer Jervis
unloads the giant
prop carp from the
truck.

Cinematographer
Beth and
Screenwriter
Marina measure
the distance from
the mermaid tail
to the camera for
VFX.





Our Actors relaxing
on set.





Work can be fun sometimes!





The cast rehearses the scene





Mermaid time!

Credits

AFI Conservatory Presents

A Rapid BUS Production

Día De Las Carpas

directed by
João Dall'Stella

written by
Marina Kato Hoag

produced by
Jervis Li

cinematography by
Bethany Michalski

production design by
Benjamin R Voutour

edited by
Skylar Yufei Zhang

cast

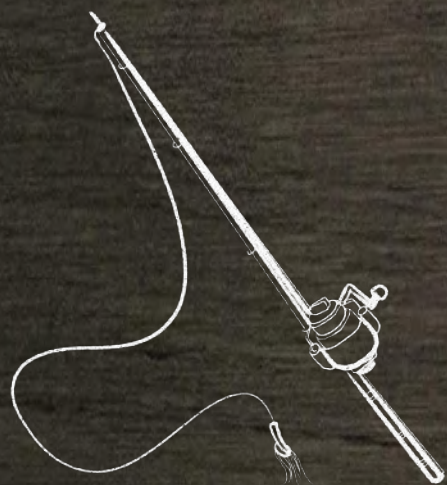
Jonathan	Tony Garcia
Esme	Isaac Ordonez
Beto	Cael Peter Cross
Hector	Camila Olivera
Big Serg	Hector Atreyu Ruiz
Agent Kathrine	Libby Conner
Ice Agent A	Tony Noto
Ice Agent B	Kevin Gance
Abuela	Gloria Sandoval
Mr. Gomez	Ray Huizar
Homeless lady	Elizabeth Lamboy - Wilson
Passing old lady	Adrienne Bratton
Esme's sister	Adrienne Wilson
Esme's mother	Joanna DeLane
Stand -in Agent Katherine	Chloe Kiskiras
Stand -in Hector	Dylan Pacheco
Stand - in Ice agent A	Christopher Scott Conley
Stand - in Ice agent B	Keith Weber

extras

Construction Worker
Apartment Building Residents

Armando Rivera
Saalika Khan
Pedro Juarez
Tiffany C. Smith
Tay Zaidan
Elisabeth Kirstein
Andrew Morrison
Ronnie Galan
Marina Kato Hoag





Ice Agents

Murdock M.P
Oscar O'Reilly
Giovanni Valdez
Juan Felipe

Pier Visitors

Dallas Schaefer
Abe El-Raheb
Arely Araniva
Rex Reyes II
Gabrielle Cordero
Celia Fogel
Paisley Kinghore
Angelina Huerta
Anthony Ojeda
CJ Hwang

crew

Unit production Manager
First Assistant Director
Second Assistant Director

Ryan Binse
Cara Lawson
Celia Fogel

Composer

Carlos Felipe Silva

Casting

Erika Sabel Flores

Camera Operator

Tom Meredith
Bethany Michalski
Drew Allen Weaver
Riley Shen
Darrell Hamm
Christo Mercado
Kendall Edwards

Steady Cam Operator
ACAM First Assistant Camera
ACAM Second Assistant Camera
BCAM First Assistant Camera
BCAM Second Assistant Camera

DIT
Still Photographer
Video Assist

Amanda Ferasse
Saalika Khan
Cody Cook

Script Supervisor
Production Coordinator

Sam Beasley
Paul Fishback

Gaffer
Best Boy Electric
Electricians

Gemma Doll-Grossman
Leo Purman
Adam Lee

Key Grip
Best Boy Grip
Dolly Grip
Grips

Matt Kleppner
Celine Layous
Ben Long
Erique DuBoise
Evan Parquette
Delaney O'Brien
Erin G. Wesley

Swing

2nd Second Assistant Director
Assistant Editor

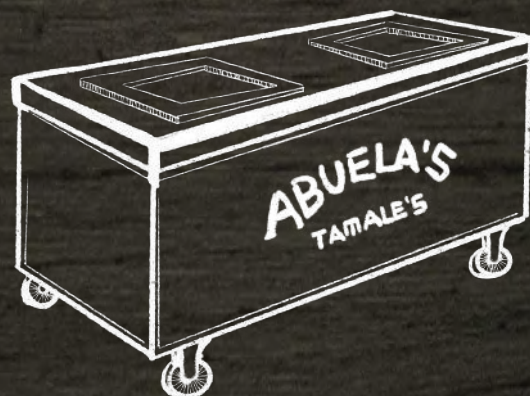
Ricky Goncalves
Minjae Kang
Travis Stuart
Christian Lainez
Russel Schofield
Adam Borel

Production Sound Mixer
Boom Operators

Art Director
Set Decorator
Property Master
Set Dressers

Kevin Reyes
Forrest Chirras
Angel Rameirez
Brenna Waugh
Kam King
Dee Jay

Graffiti Artist



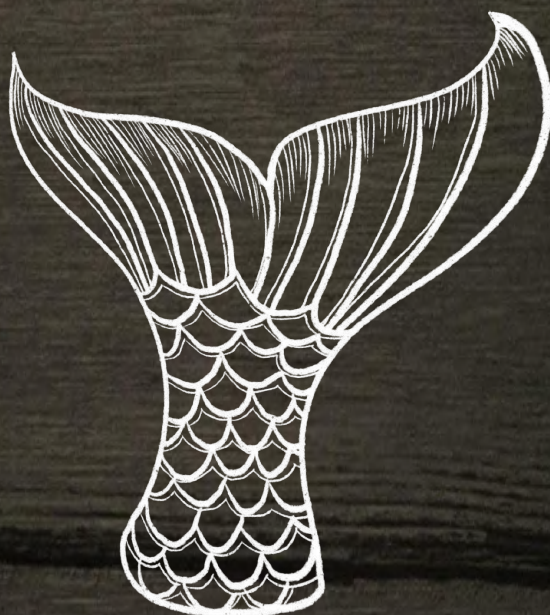
Assistant Production Coordinator
Key Set PA
Production Assistants

Timur Khanachet
Murdock M.P
Marina Kato Hoag
Oscar O'Reilly
Augustine Escalera
Rex Reyes II
Abe El-Raheb
Gabrielle Cordero

Studio Teachers

Catering
Security

Eileen Sterling
Rosemary Avila
B&G Catering
Jonathan Pacheco
Allan Corrales



additional photography unit

First Assistant Directors

Darius Dawson

Haohao Yan

Justin Daering

Second Assistant Director

Nicole Vanden Broeck

First Assistants Camera

RJ Ong

Adam Lee

Second Assistant Camera

Maud Laurent

Production Coordinators

Siyi Ren

Gabrielle Cordero

Gaffers

Jan Rischbieth

Mélisse Riahi

Best Boy Electrics

Eriq Duboise

Vaugh C Greve

Electricians

Guido Raimondo

Ingrid Sanchez

Michael Romero

Key Grips

Kishan Patel

Veronica Bouza

Grips

Ryan Kerr

Production Sound Mixer

Michael Crumley

Production Designer

Dream Solutions Martin Blanken

Art Director

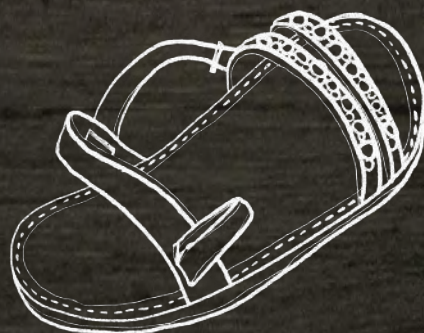
Ari Ward

Set Decorator

Wynne Reneau

Property Master

CJ Hwang



Make-up

Alex Pahl Skinner

Production Assistants

Anthony Ojeda
Augustine Escalera
Kimberly Moore
Rex Reyes II

Life Guard
Set Medic

Shane Hermanson
Cindy Giles

Song Title: Mad Reggaeton
Written by: R. Rodriguez, A. Wilson, J. Sterchi
Performed by: Rodrigo Rodriguez
Courtesy of: FIRSTCOM music



the filmmaker wish to thank

Associate Producers

Alex Bae
Patrick Mieritz
Rumi Kato Price

Sponsors

Deborah Ahalt
David Aloï
Miriam Anawate
Ruy & Marstela Marco
Antonio
Screen Engine ASI
Graciano Avalos
Raffaella Bignardi
Jill Blum
Adrienne Bratton
Christopher Camey
Jorge Coque Carreon
Giovanni & Luciana Cerri
Briana Chmielewski
Gabriel & Maria Cury
Marlus & Lucia Dall'Stella
Paula Dall'Stella
Fabiola W C Lombardi De
Barros
Astrid de Pellegars
Abe El-Raheb
Leonel Escobar
Rafael Gluz



Rob Goldinger
Joshua Greene
Emily Heyne
David Hill
Eliseo Cabrera Iribar
Martha Jimenez
Shelly Johnson, ASC
Pedro Juarez
Jason Karpman
Rei Kato
Tiegen Kosiak
Gaby Kurnia
Linda Kupidlowski
Paul Le Blanc
Menglei Lei
Bob Levin
Alex Liebensfeld
Guilherme Cortes Luz
Luam Melake
Andrea Michalski
Daniel Mieritz

Miguel & Carin Mofarrej
Priya Nayak
Abdi Nazemian
Casey Neal
Moussa Nemer
Alessandro Pederzoli
Zack Peng T
Tyler Peterson
Raymond Arturo Perez
Federico Piccinini
Hector Atreyu Ruiz
Rosana Saad, CPA
Abdul Rahman Sakr
Carla Settanni
Dan Shaked
Paola Villegas Sorroco
Gabriela Srur
Monty Suwunnukul
Weipeng Wu

Carp Fishing Consultants

Sergio Talavera
Eddie Salmeron
CA Ghetto Carping Club



Avid



FOTOKEM



Edited on Avid Media Composer
Camera equipment courtesy of Red

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Produced at the AFI Conservatory in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Fine Arts Degree or Certificate of Completion.

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Marina Kato Hoag, AFI Screenwriting Fellow
Jinkui Li, AFI Producing Fellow
Bethany Jynean Michalski, AFI Cinematography Fellow
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