

VIENNA SHORTS

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2024

























Logline:

After having sex for the first time, Alba, a 16 year old, searches for a strength she had never exercised before.

Sinopsis:

After having sex for the first time, Alba tells her friend Ania about the experience, and that she hasn't gotten her period. From that moment onwards Alba ponders what it means to make a decision that will forever alter the course of her life while trying to get a hold of Alexis who ghosted her.

Director Statement:

Punta Salinas is a coming of age where Alba, a 16-year-old, after having sex for the first time, starts questioning her power. I wrote this story while reflecting on the experience of growing up in a culture where women are confused with bodies: bodies for sexual consumption, bodies that carry babies, bodies as trophies. In this film, the moment Alba has sex for the first time, she unwillingly becomes a body. While the main story unfolds, the subterranean current of Punta Salinas explores the poetics of such weight.

Writer/Director: María del Mar Rosario

Producer: Krizia Belén Monserrate

DoP: Pablo Ascanio Orro

Art Direction: Migdalia Luz Barens-Vera

Editor: Juliano Castro and Maria del Mar Rosario

Music: Xenia Rubinos

Gaffer: Marién Vélez

Wardrobe: Rebekah Carrucini

Sound Design: Angel Alonso Sarmiento

Starring: Katia Pacheco

Secondary Cast: Natalia Berrios, Sergio Cora, Mia Echevarria, Mariela Candelario

- 16 minutes
- 1080 X 1920
- Digital
- Spanish with English Subtitles

María del Mar Rosario is a filmmaker from Toa Baja, Puerto Rico, navigating both narrative and nonfiction. Her stories question notions of the Caribbean, search for honesty, and stylistically explore the perspective of the body.

Her work has screened at Third Horizon, HotDocs, IDFA, Metrograph NYC, and the Cinémathèque Française in Paris among other festival accolades.

With a BA in Creative Nonfiction and Film Studies from Columbia University, she later completed her postgraduate studies in Documentary Directing at the School of Film and Television in San Antonio de los Baños, Cuba (EICTV).

Maria del Mar was awarded the LALIFF/NETFLIX Inclusion Fellowship to write and direct the narrative short, *Punta Salinas*. The short obtained Jury Award for best short at New Orleans Film Festival, and is Oscar qualified for 2026.

Her documentary short *Escambrón, Playa* is now streaming at PBS. Recently, she was part of Firelight Media's Homegrown and Groundwork Fellowships. She is currently transitioning into feature length with her debut film *Mar a Luz*.



TRAILER

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