



# SUEÑO

press kit

Written and Directed by Raul Martin Romero

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Genre: Drama

Runtime: 25 minutes 43 seconds

Completion Date: January 31, 2024

Country of Origin: United States & Spain

Country of Filming: Mexico, Spain

Languages: English & Spanish (with subtitles)

Shooting Format: RED Komodo 6k

Aspect Ratio: 2.35

Film Color: Color

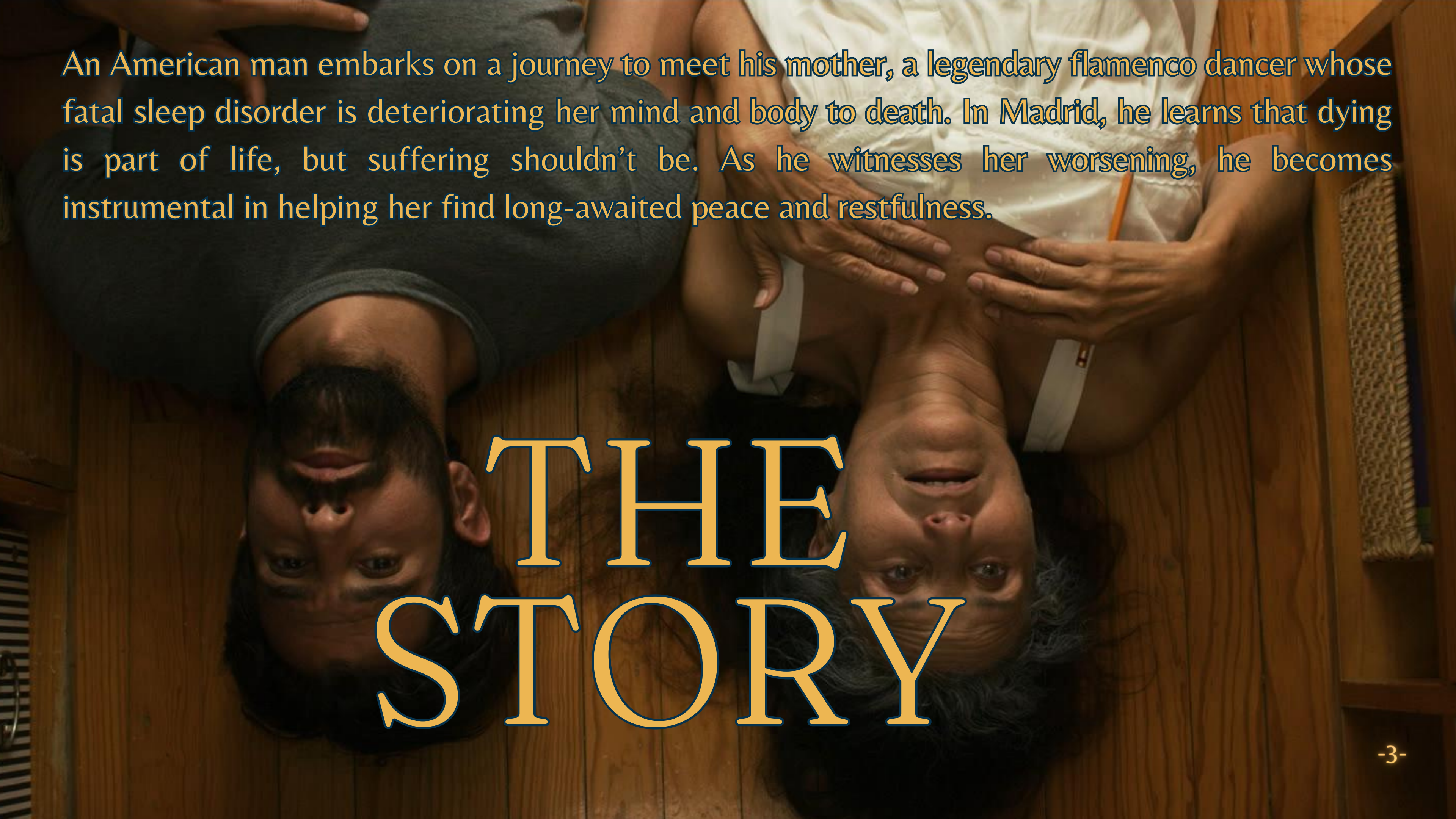
# SUEÑO • /'sweno/

The state of being sleepy, tired, and wanting to sleep.

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A man and a woman are lying on their backs on a wooden floor. The man, on the left, is wearing a dark grey t-shirt and has dark hair and a beard. The woman, on the right, is wearing a white shirt and has dark hair. Both are looking directly at the camera with neutral expressions. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

An American man embarks on a journey to meet his mother, a legendary flamenco dancer whose fatal sleep disorder is deteriorating her mind and body to death. In Madrid, he learns that dying is part of life, but suffering shouldn't be. As he witnesses her worsening, he becomes instrumental in helping her find long-awaited peace and restfulness.

# THE STORY



A photograph of two men standing in a doorway at night. The interior of the building is brightly lit with a strong red light, creating a high-contrast scene. The man on the left is wearing a dark jacket and light-colored pants, while the man on the right is wearing a dark tank top, shorts, and a backpack. They are facing each other as if in conversation. The doorway is framed by a dark metal grid. To the right of the doorway, the number '507' is visible on the wall. The text 'LOOK, TONE & WORLD' is overlaid in a large, yellow, serif font across the center of the image.

# LOOK, TONE & WORLD



Sueño takes place in Madrid, Spain, home to the matriarch in our story. Bold and captivating, in shades of blue, green, and purple, our character-driven story looks raw and painful, like a winter in Madrid... but it feels comforting, the kind of comfort you only feel when you finally get home.



We filmed in August 2023 in Mexico City, at an iconic house in Chapultepec that felt magical to all of us. Other locations include The Foro Shakespeare Theater in Mexico City, and Madrid, Spain.



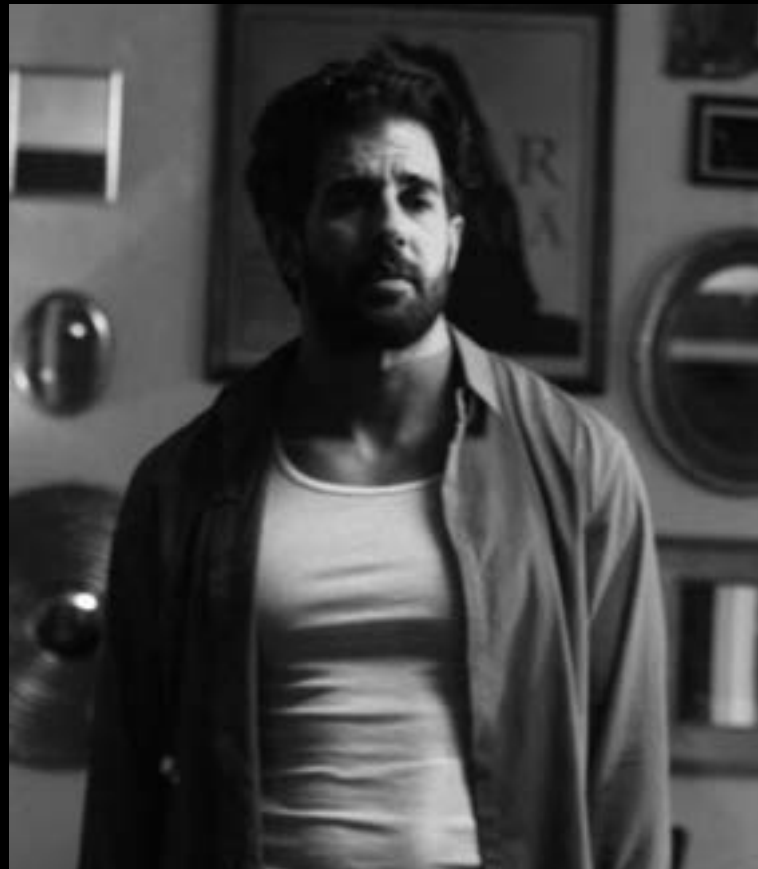
# CHARACTERS & THEMES



## DANIEL

Lost. Erratic. Ever the quiet type. Daniel is a charming young man who spent his life trying to find himself... and in doing so, he finds his mother, a Spanish flamenco dancer who agrees to meet him in person right when she is in the last stages of her life. Daniel embarks on a journey, both physical and emotional, as he fights to find some purpose and identity.

Themes: Abandonment, loss, forgiveness, queerness...



## TISCAR

A larger-than-life retired dancer. Complex. Narcissistic. She was diagnosed with an illness that affects her sleeping patterns, deteriorating her mind and body to death. Her body, her most precious tool to create her art, is failing her. She reconnects with the son she had while in a residency in New York, and his arrival in Madrid is crucial in the last stages of her life.

Themes: Death, illness, restfulness, motherhood, sleepwalking through life.



## MARIO

A caretaker who has worked with Tiscar for years, back when he was a fan of the dancer. She needs the help, and Mario is genuinely a good boy, just a little caught up in his delusions. He's pure queer joy, and he is interested in Daniel, but the timing is just not right for each of these three characters.

Themes: Queerness, family, belonging...







DIRECTOR'S

STATEMENT





One day, I left my family and my home behind, and now they are 6,000 miles away... they have been for almost 12 years. As a result, I started exploring the concept of loss and grieving without physically losing a person, but then a number of my loved ones actually left.

Death is weird. I learned that the grieving process was still devastating (ask my therapist if you don't believe me!), but then I began to love writing stories about it. Now grief lingers in almost everything I write.

In sueño, I wanted my character to find a very strong woman with a very complex personality who is caring and fascinating. That woman is based on my mother and my two grandmas, Paula and Tiscar.

I also had to tell my story, the story of a queer man who, for years, has grieved for things he never had. And that's how Daniel came to life; I wanted to tell the reverse of my story. In the same way that I left home and a family behind, I wanted my character to find one as if I were both me and that American man who is about to find the answers he always searched for.

...RAUL MARTIN ROMERO



# FULL CREDITS



Written and Directed by Raúl Martín Romero	Edited by JoAnne Yarrow, A.C.E.	1st Assistant Director Raúl Galindo	Background Actors Coordinator Eli Jauregui
Produced by Andrea Porras Madero	Original Score by Kyle Laporte	Art Directors Carlos Cancino Geo Martinez	Background Actors David Osorio Rodriguez David Uriel Becerril Arriola Deiky Santiesteban Chirino Diego Diez Edith Olmos Eduardo Rendon Campos Itzel Zoaurinm Martínez Reséndiz Juan Carlos Rosales López Mauricio Cervera Barrios Pedro Camacho Susana Miranda Hernandez
Mexico Unit Producer Caro Arochi	Costume Designer Kori Hulse	Hair and Makeup Paulina Haro	
Executive Producers Andrea Boudewijn Tanya Saracho	With Adrián González María Bermúdez Javier Espejo	Production Sound Raúl Cortés	
Director of Photography Eduardo Fierro, S.V.C.	Casting by Conrad Woolfe, C.S.A. Leigh Ann Smith, C.S.A.	Sound Designer & Mixer Kai Scheer	
Production Designer Marissa Leguizamon		Mexico Casting Andoni Batiz	Associate Producers Eduardo Fierro Emmanuel Navarrete



Choreographer María Bermúdez	Data Manager & BTS Photo David Osorio Rodriguez	Picture Car Sandra Esnaurrizar	Post-Production Supervisor Andrea Porras Madero
Script Supervisor Majo Mora	Boom Operator Mariana Rebollo Vázquez	Catering Marifer Mendez	Assistant Editor Ananda Ferrari Ossani
Head of Camera Cristian Solano	Transpo Gabriela Perarla	Set Operations Eduardo Barrera Miriam Sánchez	Color and Finishing Bunte Farben
1st Assistant Camera Christian Sánchez	Swings Alejandro Valdés Sánchez Michel Luciano Razo	Driver José Manuel Arias Monroy	Senior Colorist Stephen Latty
Best Boy Victor Melo	Props Geomtz Props	Foro Shakespeare Carlos España Don Alex Mike Velázquez	Conform Artist Timothy Montoya
Gaffer Salvador Palomino			DI Producer Sandra Stadler



## SPECIAL THANKS

Jason Davis • Familia Martín Romero • Familia Lorente Mendoza • Abe Zapata Jr. • Adriana Martínez Barrón • Alejandro Lee • Alessandra Jara Del Castillo • Alvaro Medrano • Annelise Dekker-Hernandez • Bob M • Carlton Daniel • Cassandra Horn • Christina Nieves • Christopher Castillo • Claire Finucane • Corbin Mehl • Dana Irwin • Deena Fisk • Duncan Lewis • Edgar Garcia Plazola • Edith Rodriguez • Edwin Gomez • Elliott Feliciano • Estavan Quintero • Estephani Garcia • Fernando Molina • Francisco Cabrera-Feo • Frank Broccolo • Genesis Henriquez • Greg Adamczak • Ignacio Vazquez Cano • Ilana Peña • Jeane Phan Wong • Jerveris Von Allen Floyd • Johana Calderon-Dakin • Jorge Caro • Jose Galan • Joshua Skidmore • Karen Sours • Leslie Morrow • Lindsey Villareal • Luis Bordonada • Mackenzie Dohr • Mando Alvarado • Maria Mealla • Marissa Diaz • Mica Coburn • Michael Starrbury • Michael-Leon Wooley • Miguel Melo • Molly Breeskin • Morgan Lawrence • Nancy Pino • Nick Sanchez • Olivia Krasnick • Phoebe Stanton • Richard Villegas • Ricky Mar • Robert Castle • Rod Carrillo-Lundgren • Ruben Mendieve • Sabian Davon • Samantha Boscarino • Shane Harper • Stephanie Perez • Stephen Chang • Walter Fernandez



THE END