

ENCUERA05

■ **A FILM BY ORLANDO BEDOLLA**

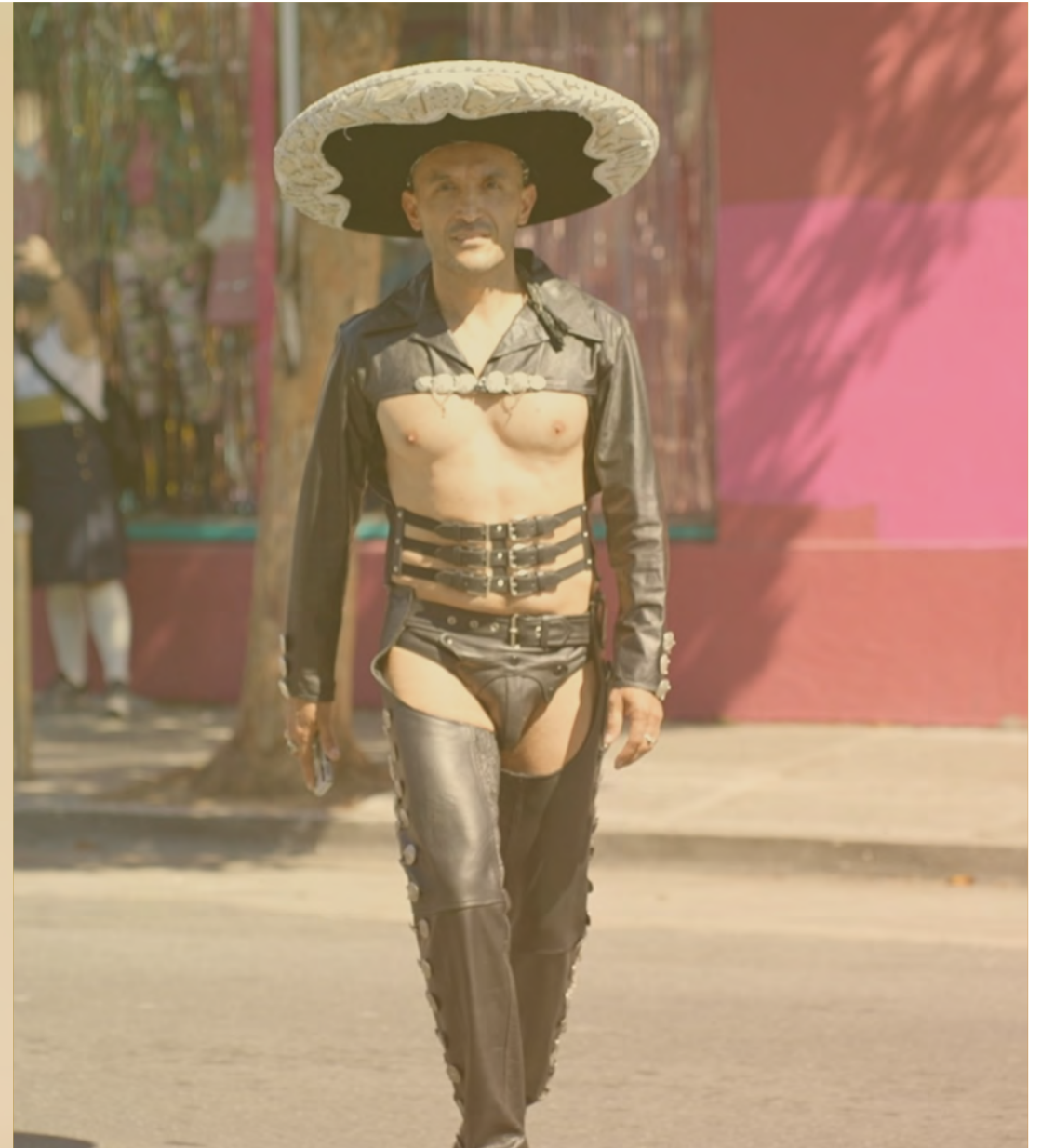
ABOUT THE FILM

When people hear “leather community,” what do they think? Something mysterious, usually negative, sometimes sinister. But what does leather really mean? Who are the people who practice and celebrate this unique subculture?

Encuerados is a documentary that pulls away the stereotype and reveals the honest and inspiring true stories – of people who build community, who make safe places for those who have been unsafe, who give to and celebrate life.

Central to these stories is the role of Latinos -- both in the leather community and the LGBTQ+ movement since its inception. **Encuerados** means two things, to be naked and to be leather-clad; this stark ambiguity is the core of this story of Latinos who are making a powerful impact in advancing representation and breaking down stereotypes.

[Encuerados Teaser](#)



ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Orlando Bedolla is a Los Angeles-based filmmaker and LGBTQ+ activist working to illustrate the diversity of the LGBTQ+ experience. He has produced and directed two short documentaries, *Preserving LGBT History*, a history of the ONE Archives, and *Coming Out: The LGBT Cultural Revolution Before Stonewall*, which told the stories of participants from the early days of activism in Los Angeles. His films have been selected and featured at Cinema Diverse: The Palm Springs LGBT Film Festival, Out on Film: Atlanta's LGBT Film Festival, and Pride Film Festival Chicago. He is also a production manager, having worked on numerous network and digital productions.

Links to previous work:

[Coming Out, The LGBT Cultural Revolution Before Stonewall](#)
[Preserving LGBT History](#)



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SYNOPSIS:

Encuerados is a documentary highlighting the underground subculture of the Los Angeles Latino LGBTQ+ Leather community. Since its inception, the LGBTQ+ leather scene has been dominated by documentaries that detail the intimate practices of the White LGBTQ+ community, and rarely do these narratives underscore the critical roles Latinos played towards advancing the leather community. Recently, a shift in the growth of Latinos within the leather community has called for the necessity to document and pay tribute to the various contributions and historical involvement of LGBTQ+ Latinos in the leather scene. **Encuerados** is a love letter to the Latino leather scene, and a call to action for better visibility for a community that has been undermined and overlooked.

Encuerados chronicles the year-long involvement of nine Latino men in the leather scene, primarily focusing on the historical attainment of the first Latino man winning the title of Mr. Los Angeles Leather, Leo Iriarte. By showcasing the legacy of Leo, **Encuerados** takes a deep dive into the leadership of nine trailblazers, empowered to create representation in leather competitions and events, such as Up Your Alley, Folsom, MAL, and Pride.

Through this documentary, a call to action is made to destigmatize preconceived notions of Latino machismo, kink & fetishes, all while building community and representation for the leather Latino community to thrive.



LOS ENCUERADOS



Alan Gabriel



Angel Rincon



Christian Medina



Esteban Bartholo



Francisco Perales



Jonny Lopes



Leo Iriarte



Romyn LéMuerte



Yair Lopez

FILMMAKER BIOS



DP/PRODUCER:

Yuliana Franco is an emerging Latina filmmaker born and raised in Toluca, Mexico, and based in Los Angeles. As a recent graduate of California State University, Long Beach, her attention is focused on nonfiction filmmaking. She has worked on multiple documentary projects that will be streaming on Netflix. As an aspiring Latina filmmaker, she is seeking to create documentaries that bring awareness to Mexico's extensive culture and give a voice and exposure to its communities. Her co-directed thesis short-documentary film *The Home I Never Had* is currently broadcasting on KCETV and LinkTV.



PRODUCER:

David Mosqueda is a writer and filmmaker born and raised in Long Beach, CA. He is currently working with community organizations to help latinx folks gain free access to hiv prevention medications. David is currently a published novelist on Amazon with his debut novel "Butterfly" and has written stage plays and short stories to be released in the next year. His projects center around queer joy and queer healing, with dramatic themes.

STILLS

