

LOS HONGOS

A Film by Oscar Ruiz Navia

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Technical Information

Title: Los Hongos (The Fungi)
Director: Oscar Ruiz Navia
Screenplay by: Oscar Ruiz Navia
Nationality: Colombian
Genre: Drama
Shooting Format: S16 mm
Final Format: 35 mm
Length: 95 min.
Shooting location: Cali, Colombia

Production Companies in Colombia:
Contravia Films / Oscar Ruiz Navia
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Burning Blue / Diana Bustamante
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Arizona Films / Guillaume de Seille
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Director's Biography and Filmography

Oscar Ruiz Navia (Cali, Columbia 1982) graduated in Social Communications and Journalism from *Universidad del Valle* (2005). Coordinator (2005 – 2008) of the Movie-Club *Cinema d'Autor*. Founder (2006) of Contravia Films, producing several award-winning short films, and his long features projects. With *Los Hongos* (The Fungi), his second feature film, he received the 2010 Development Grant from Colombian Film Fund.

Main previous work :
El vuelco del cangrejo (Crab Trap) (Colombia/ France, 2009), 95 min

Fipresci Prize, Berlin Film Festival 2010 (Forum)
Best New Director, Las Palmas Film Festival 2010
Youth Prize, Fribourg Film Festival 2010
Decouverte Prize, Toulouse Film Festival 2010

Special Jury Prize First Film, Havana Film Festival 2009
Official Selection, Toronto Film Festival 2009 (Discovery)

Oscar Ruiz Navia

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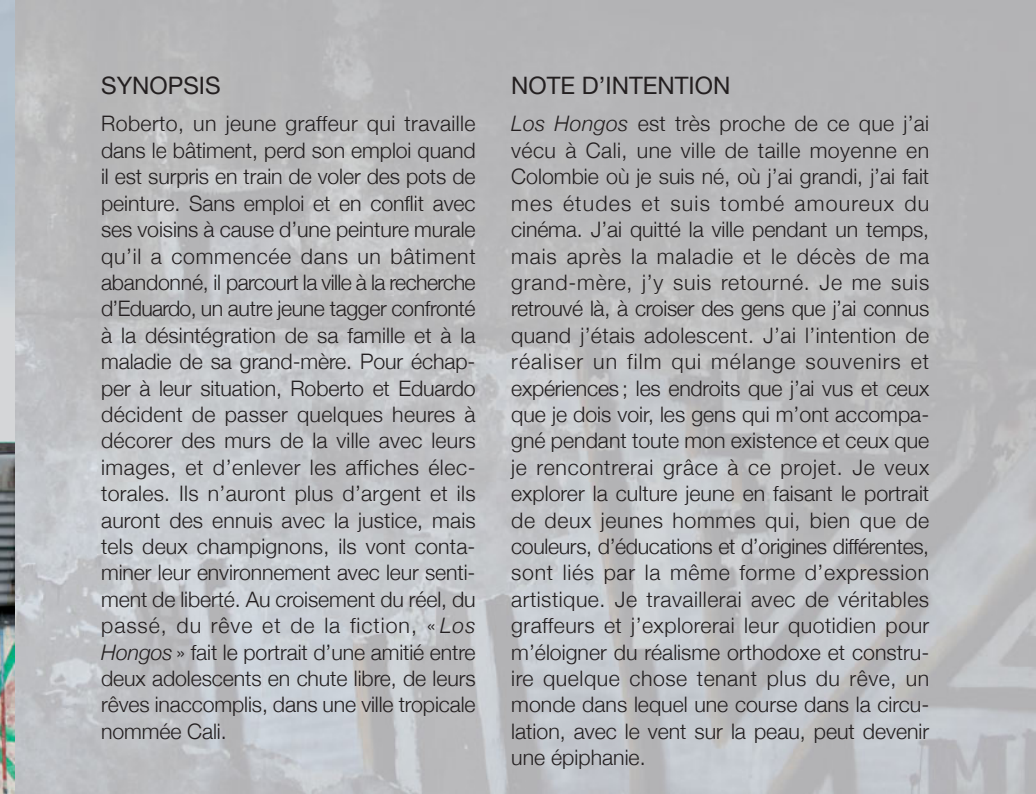
Since 2000, the Festival Residence has provided each year accommodation and support to twelve selected young directors in order to help them prepare their first or second feature film. A jury presided by a film director sits twice a year, selecting these young filmmakers on the basis of their short films, or even first

feature film, and the merits of their feature film project. During their 4-and-a-half-month stay in Paris, they work on the writing of their feature film project, have meetings with professionals and try, with the support of the Cannes Film Festival, to bring their project to co-production status.

With the support of HP. Printed on an HP Indigo Digital Press.



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LA RÉSIDENCE



SYNOPSIS

Roberto, a young graffiti artist who earns a living as a construction worker, is fired from his job when he is discovered stealing several jars of paint. Out of work and in trouble with his neighbors because of the large mural painting he is doing in an abandoned lot, he decides to journey across the city in search of Eduardo, another young tagger, who, at that time, is facing the difficult disintegration of his family and the illness of his grandmother. Bored with where their lives are going, Roberto and Eduardo decide to spend some frenzied hours decorating various city walls with their images, and removing the advertising posters of political campaigns. They eventually will run out of money and have trouble with the law but, like a couple of fungi, they will contaminate their environment with their immense freedom. A mixture of the real, the past, dream and fiction, "Los Hongos" portrays the friendship of two teenagers in freefall, with their unfulfilled dreams, in a tropical city called: Cali.

NOTE OF INTENTION

Los Hongos has a lot to do with my life in Cali, the medium-sized city in Colombia where I was born, raised, studied and fell in love with cinema. For a while I went away, but after the illness and subsequent death of my grandmother, I decided to return. That is how I'm back on the streets, seeing people I knew as an adolescent. My intention is to make a film that mixes my memories with my new experiences; the places I've been with those I have yet to see, people who have accompanied me throughout my life with those ones that will come with this experience. I'd like to dig deep into youth culture, to portray the friendship of two young guys who, although they have a different racial and educational background, are linked by the same form of artistic expression. I'll be working with real graffiti artists, exploring their daily lives in order to build something far removed from orthodox realism, more akin to a dream state; a world in which a high-speed race through traffic, while the wind touches the skin, may become an epiphany.

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SYNOPSIS

Roberto, un jeune graffeur qui travaille dans le bâtiment, perd son emploi quand il est surpris en train de voler des pots de peinture. Sans emploi et en conflit avec ses voisins à cause d'une peinture murale qu'il a commencée dans un bâtiment abandonné, il parcourt la ville à la recherche d'Eduardo, un autre jeune tagger confronté à la désintégration de sa famille et à la maladie de sa grand-mère. Pour échapper à leur situation, Roberto et Eduardo décident de passer quelques heures à décorer des murs de la ville avec leurs images, et d'enlever les affiches électorales. Ils n'auront plus d'argent et ils auront des ennuis avec la justice, mais tels deux champignons, ils vont contaminer leur environnement avec leur sentiment de liberté. Au croisement du réel, du passé, du rêve et de la fiction, « *Los Hongos* » fait le portrait d'une amitié entre deux adolescents en chute libre, de leurs rêves inaccomplis, dans une ville tropicale nommée Cali.

NOTE D'INTENTION

Los Hongos est très proche de ce que j'ai vécu à Cali, une ville de taille moyenne en Colombie où je suis né, où j'ai grandi, j'ai fait mes études et suis tombé amoureux du cinéma. J'ai quitté la ville pendant un temps, mais après la maladie et le décès de ma grand-mère, j'y suis retourné. Je me suis retrouvé là, à croiser des gens que j'ai connus quand j'étais adolescent. J'ai l'intention de réaliser un film qui mélange souvenirs et expériences; les endroits que j'ai vus et ceux que je dois voir, les gens qui m'ont accompagné pendant toute mon existence et ceux que je rencontrerai grâce à ce projet. Je veux explorer la culture jeune en faisant le portrait de deux jeunes hommes qui, bien que de couleurs, d'éducatons et d'origines différentes, sont liés par la même forme d'expression artistique. Je travaillerai avec de véritables graffeurs et j'explorerai leur quotidien pour m'éloigner du réalisme orthodoxe et construire quelque chose tenant plus du rêve, un monde dans lequel une course dans la circulation, avec le vent sur la peau, peut devenir une épiphanie.