



#### Technical Information

**Working title:** The Parable of the Blind Christ  
**Director:** Christopher Murray  
**Screenplay by:** Christopher Murray  
**Nationality:** Chile  
**Genre:** Drama  
**Format:** 35 mm  
**Length:** 80 min.  
**Shooting location:** Chilean Desert

**Production Company:** Jirafa  
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#### Director's Filmography

Christopher Murray (Santiago de Chile, 1985) holds a degree on Social Communication with the title of *Audiovisual Director* from the Catholic University of Chile. Right out of college, he shot his first feature film: *Manuel de Ribera*, which premièred in Rotterdam 2010, kick-starting a tour around several film festivals including Viennale, Bafici, München, Toulouse, Calgary and Göteborg. Murray now develops his second feature film with the support of the *Chilean Audiovisual Foment Fund* and *Cinéfondation*.

*Manuel de Ribera* (2010), *Best National Film* – Santiago International Film Festival (Chile); *Special Jury Prize* – Split International Film Festival (Croatia), *Best Actor* – Festival de Cine B (Chile).

*El Monte de Gabriel* (2009, short), *Best Short Film* – Digital International Film Festival (Chile)

*Quedar* (2007, short), *Fokus Dialog Prize* – Sehsüchte International Student Film Festival (Germany)

## THE PARABLE OF THE BLIND CHRIST

A Film by Christopher Murray



FESTIVAL DE CANNES

#### Christopher Murray

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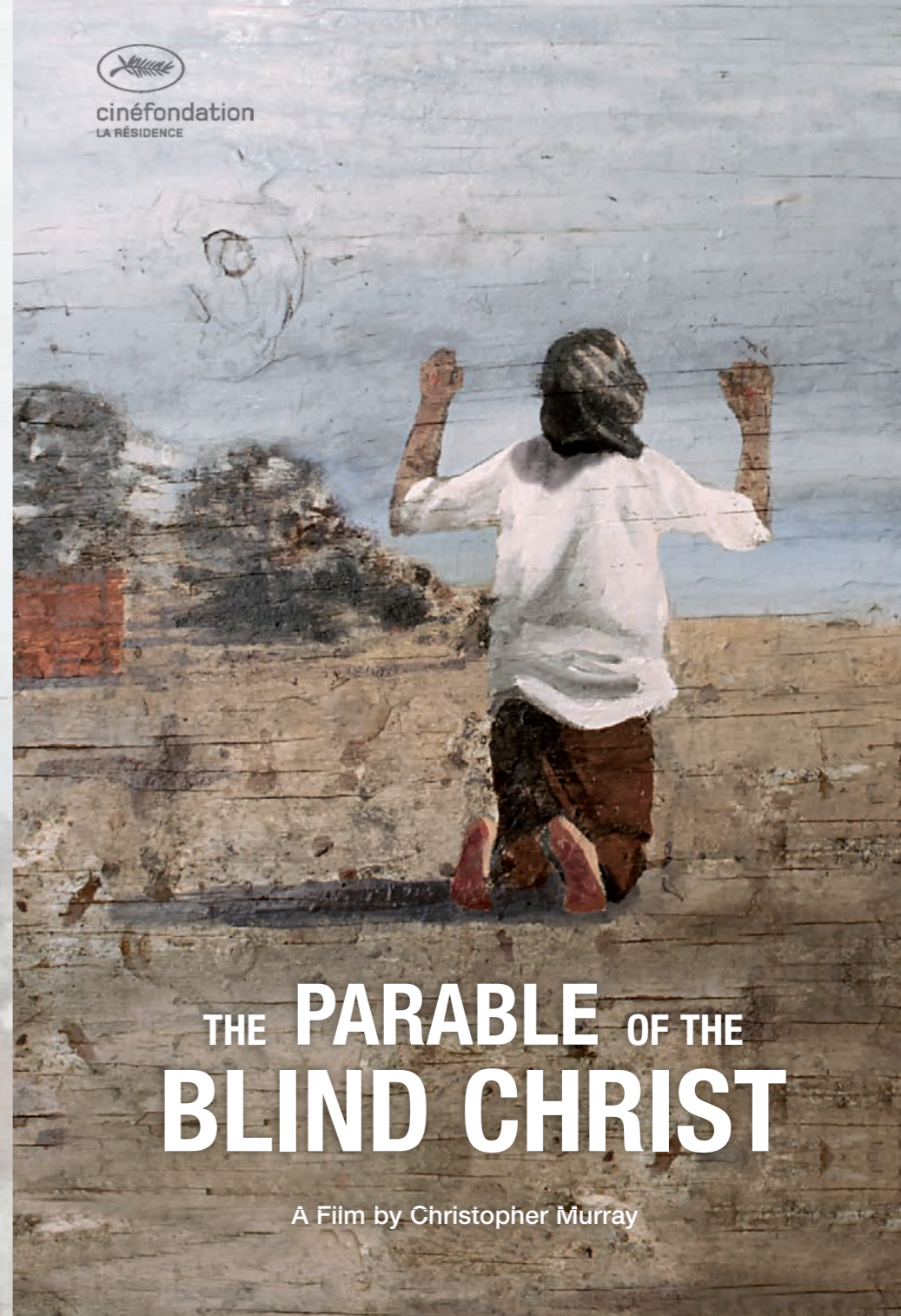
Since 2000, the Festival Residence has provided each year accommodation and support to twelve selected young directors in order to help them prepare their first or second feature film. A jury presided by a film director sits twice a year, selecting these young filmmakers on the basis of their short films,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



# THE PARABLE OF THE BLIND CHRIST

A Film by Christopher Murray

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### SYNOPSIS

Rafael lives in a small village in the Chilean desert. As a child a divine revelation left a mark on him and ever since he believes himself to be a Christ; some take him for a saint, the majority for a pagan. His town's lack of faith is wearing him out. One day he finds out his childhood friend Victor is dying far away. Rafael feels the call to perform his first miracle, so he decides to leave everything to go save his first believer.

### NOTE OF INTENTION

Along with the religious quest, I am attracted to the underlying personal conflict. Rafael looks forward to becoming a Christ, but slowly unveils his fragility. He's a man trying to build a life story in order to understand himself. It's a story in which the search to save others becomes a way to save oneself.

I will begin this journey in the Northern desert. The film is set in majestic timeless surroundings which relate to the archaic myths and associated imagery from the north of Chile and the faces of its people. It's a place men explore without roads, where silence prevails and where everyone seems left to themselves waiting for a myth to believe in.

The film intends to reflect on how men appropriate religious tradition and make it their own in order to give their daily life some meaning. All this told via the character of Rafael, a man trying to construct his own myth, but also trying to believe his own story.

### SYNOPSIS

Rafael vit dans un petit village au nord du désert chilien. Marqué par une révélation divine lorsqu'il était enfant, il est depuis persuadé d'être le Christ. Certains le prennent pour un Saint, mais la plupart pour un païen. Étant lassé du manque de foi que lui manifeste son village, il découvre loin de celui-ci son ami d'enfance, Victor, à l'agonie. Rafael ressent l'appel à accomplir son premier miracle et décide de tout abandonner pour sauver la première personne qui a foi en lui.

### NOTE D'INTENTION

Je suis attiré par la quête religieuse et son conflit personnel sous-jacent. Rafael espère devenir un Christ mais sa fragilité se révèle peu à peu. On découvre un homme qui essaye de construire une histoire afin de se comprendre lui-même. Une histoire dans laquelle la quête pour sauver les autres devient une façon de se sauver soi-même.

Je débuterai le voyage dans le désert du Nord. Le film se déroule dans un cadre majestueux, hors du temps, qui renvoie aux mythes archaïques et à l'imaginaire du Nord du Chili et aux visages de son peuple. C'est une région sans routes où le silence domine et où chacun semble abandonné à lui-même, attendant un mythe auquel se raccrocher.

Je voudrais que ce film reflète la façon dont les hommes s'approprient les traditions religieuses, comme si elles leur appartenaient, afin de donner un sens à leur vie. Le récit est conté par Rafael, un homme qui essaye de faire de sa propre personne un mythe, mais qui humainement s'efforce de croire à sa propre histoire.

