

PICTURE TREE INTERNATIONAL
PRESENTS

GO YOUTH!

A FILM BY
CARLOS ARMELLA

 PICTURE TREE
INTERNATIONAL



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Original Title	¡Ánimo Juventud!
International Title	Go Youth!
Production company	B Positivo Producciones
Coproducers	Caponeto Cine CTT Exp. And rentals Óxido
Funders	IMCINE Development EFICINE PROCINE
Sales Agent	Picture Tree International
Country of production	Mexico
Length	105 min
Genre	Drama / Comedy
Language	Spanish
Locations	Mexico City
Development support	Torino Film Lab (2015/2018) Impulso Morelia (2016/2018) L'Atelier of the Cinéfondation (2017)

CREDIT SUMMARY

Screenwriter and director **Carlos Armella**
Producers **Marion d'Ornano, Yadira Aedo, Diego Martínez Ulanosky**
Executive producers **Marion d'Ornano, Yadira Aedo, Jesús Muñoz**
Coproducers **María de Jesús García, Jacqueline Hernández,
Marco Rodríguez**
Associate producers **David Thion, Philippe Martin, Alexander de Graaf,
Paula Astorga, Gabriel Stavenhagen**
Director of photography **Ximena Amann**
Sound **Pablo Tamez**
Sound designer **Omar Juárez**
Original score **The Morck Project**
Editor **Carlos Armella**
Production design **Connie Martínez and Christian Galindo**
Wardrobe designer **Ximena Gúzman**
Makeup designer **Connie Calderon**
Casting director **Viridiana Olvera**
Post-producer **Marco Rodríguez**

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

Martin

is madly in love with a girl he barely knows. He wants to scream his love out to a world that does not seem to care.

Daniel

is a musician turned taxi driver after having impregnated his teenage girlfriend. The day he decides to become a responsible grown up will not turn out as he had hoped.

Dulce

is an aggressive girl and bully in high school, but secretly fragile with the innermost desire to be loved. By now she's ready to lose her virginity to anyone willing to take it.

Pedro

is disappointed with the adult world, which he has retreated from by speaking his own language.

GO YOUTH

connects their passions and fears with their common obstacle in life – Adults.





Go Youth! is a sarcastic comedy about teenagers that takes place in present day Mexico City. The stories of the 4 main characters: Martin, Daniel, Dulce and Pedro; develop and intertwine, revolving around the problems and the absurdities of being young in the modern world.

Martin is a 17-year-old, amateur graffiti artist, who walks into a middle class neighborhood and starts painting on the wall of a house. The graffiti says: CRIS I LOVE YOU.

Martin gets caught by the owner of the wall, Hector, who ties him up to a lamppost with his shoelaces, while his daughter, Dulce, calls the police from inside the house. But as the waiting for the police becomes long and boring, Hector tries to talk to Martin. Through their clumsy and absurd conversation we realize that Martin does not really know much about Cristina (Cris), the girl he claims to love, and she is completely unaware of Martin's existence.

After a long wait, Hector goes to work, but instead of releasing Martin, he leaves Dulce in charge of the arrest. Dulce is a tough teenager who, through her aggressive behavior, makes Martin realize that to get a girl to love him, he first needs to love himself.

Martin will get to kiss Dulce, he will get Cris's phone number, and finally, he will be released just seconds before the police arrives.

But as he escapes free, he will cross paths with

the character of Daniel and with an unfortunate situation that will make him lose the possibility of seeing his beloved Cris again. However, the experience leads Martin to recognize his value as a person.

Daniel is an honest and humble 18-year-old taxi driver who's given a crash-course in adulthood when he finds out he's about to become a father. However, his girlfriend, Graciela, doesn't want him involved in the paternity of the baby. On a regular day, after taking his taxi out of the car pound (because it was stolen some days earlier, and recently recovered), Daniel takes it to the car wash, where the employees discover a severed human finger under the driver's seat. Daniel seeks out the police to turn in the finger, and he comes across police officers Marco and Rene, who turn against him, accusing him of being a kidnapper who mutilated one of his victims. They extort and threaten Daniel with making an arrest, and take not only his money, but also an engagement ring they find in his jacket. In spite of her disdain, Daniel must seek for Graciela's complicity to Discouraged, penniless and without the ring he bought for Graciela, Daniel has two choices: to go home and cry for his loss, or to man-up and claim back what was taken from him.

He chooses the latter, but he will need an accomplice to steal back from the police. He realizes his best option is his own family: Graciela and their unborn child.

LONG SYNOPSIS

Dulce is part of a group of 16-year-old bully-girls who spend their time at school humiliating the weakest students. However, Dulce participates in the “bullying” because she has done it for years and has a reputation to uphold, instead of really enjoying it. Among her victims is the pretty-blond-girl-at-school, called Cristina (the same Cris, from Martin’s story). After a frustrated attack on Cristina in the school toilets, Dulce secretly confesses to her victim that she wants to be her friend. Her inner motives for befriending Cristina, is in the hopes that some of her sex-appeal might rub on her, too. Since her mother passed away years before, she has no role-model and absolutely no social skills to deal, and her father, Hector is completely unconcerned with her feelings and needs. In a clumsy attempt to look more attractive, Dulce tries to transform herself by dressing

up and acting more effeminate, forcefully trying to get some attention from the boys. But on the day of her school’s Speech Contest, her tough attitude gets her in trouble again, and she is punished by the Principal, who forces her to wash the bathrooms, with the help of the school young, somewhat-attractive janitor, Ricardo. This will put them in a close, tense, and amusing situation that might bring Dulce to lose her virginity.

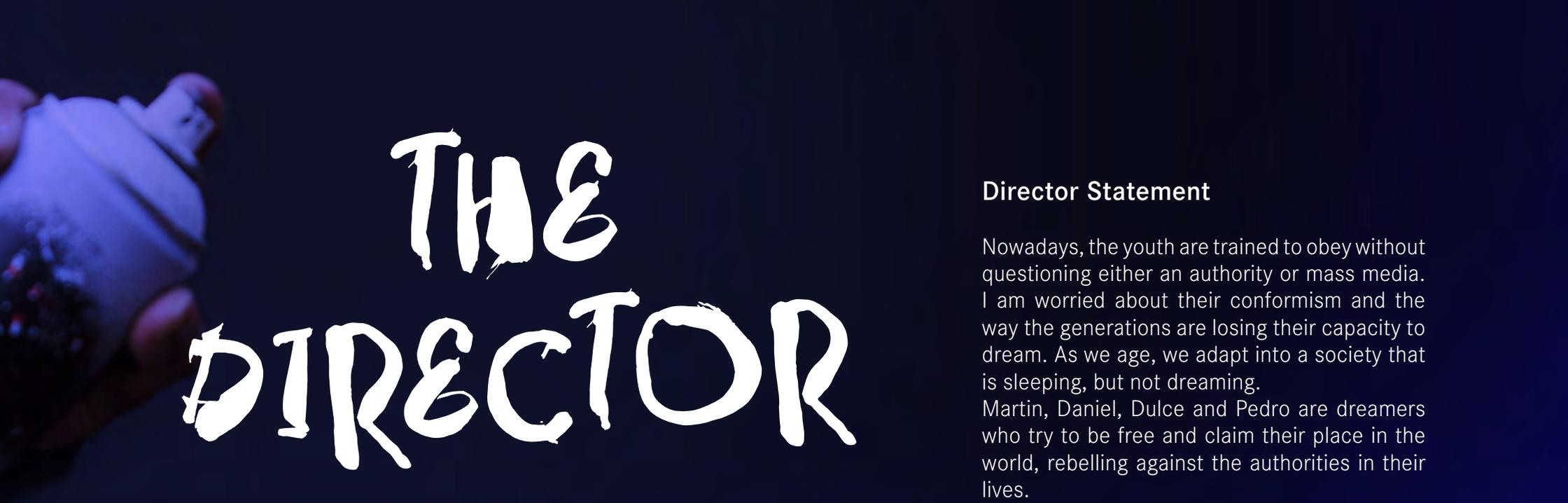
Pedro is a 14-year-old kid, who one day is subjected to a check-up by the School Nurse, after his teachers and Principal realize that Pedro has been acting weird. For some unknown reason, Pedro has stopped talking like a normal person. Instead, he speaks his own, personal language, that nobody else understands. The Principal tells Pedro’s mother that he is not

willing to tolerate his change, and threatens to ban Pedro from the Speech Contest, that he’s been expecting so much, and to even expel him from school if he does not correct his indiscipline within a week. Pedro tries to defend himself, but whatever he says is not understood. At home, Pedro’s father, Ramon, is pretty intolerant, too, as well as his older sister, Cristina (yes, the same Cris). But whatever punishments or threats he receives, he sticks to his own language. The only person who seems to understand him, and actually respects and admires him, is his younger sister: “When I grow up I want to speak many languages, like you”, she says.

Cristina’s aggressiveness towards Pedro, mirroring the bullying she receives at school brings them to fight, and Pedro will end up banging his head. After waking up in the emergency room with stitches on his head, Pedro stops talking completely. He doesn’t utter a word, in any language, which the adults around him see as an improvement to his condition. This allows Pedro to be accepted back at school, and tolerated by his teachers and the director.

Sorry for mistreating her brother, Cristina now becomes his ally and accomplice, and will help him carry out a large-scale and unusual act of rebellion that Pedro is ready to unleash during the school Speech Contest, and that will bring a whole generation of teenagers to rise against the adults.





THE DIRECTOR

Carlos Armella

Carlos studied at the Film Training Center (Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica) and at The London Film School. His short film LAND AND BREAD (2008) won more than 15 international awards, including the *Golden Lion* at Venice Film Festival, where his two other short films: POEM (2003) and THE CLEAN HANDS (2012) were also selected. In 2005 he co-directed the feature-length documentary BLACK BULL (TORO NEGRO) which won awards in San Sebastian, Morelia and Havana. Since 2007 he has directed various TV commercials and documentaries. His debut feature THE LAND OF SILENCE (EN LA ESTANCIA, 2014) premiered at the Rotterdam International Film Festival and won awards around the world. Carlos directed several episodes of TV series CLUB DE CUERVOS (2015/2016) as well as the controversial documentary series THE DAY I MET EL CHAPO for Netflix. GO YOUTH is Carlos' second feature film as a director

Director Statement

Nowadays, the youth are trained to obey without questioning either an authority or mass media. I am worried about their conformism and the way the generations are losing their capacity to dream. As we age, we adapt into a society that is sleeping, but not dreaming.

Martin, Daniel, Dulce and Pedro are dreamers who try to be free and claim their place in the world, rebelling against the authorities in their lives.

When we gaze into the world of teenagers, their conflicts seem small and insignificant, or at least we assume they are; but if we try to adopt their own perspective, these conflicts reach a much larger and appalling size. I want to portray that age full of frustrations, illusions, joy and sorrow, and many other contradictions that, at that age, seemed highly dramatic, but are now endearing. GO YOUTH! has a teenage freshness to it. The continuous discovery of who we are and the experience of doing everything for the first time is very important, like when you look at something, then breathe in deeply and watch again in more detail.

GO YOUTH! aims to be a visually appealing film without becoming overly stylized. It's a film that reflects the Mexico of today, but withdrawn from all negative stereotypes, and instead representing the youth that faces adversities and tries to set its generation in motion.



THE PRODUCERS

Yadira Aedo

Yadira graduated with a degree in Communication Sciences and studied acting at Casa Azul workshops. In 2010 she participated the film production workshop, tutored by Amores Perros-producer, Tita Lombardo. Yadira began her career in radio and advertising and worked for seven years at *Disney Latin America* as dubbing coordinator and producer. From 2010 Yadira worked independently and produced Carlos Armella's short films, *LAND AND BREAD* (2008), *29* (2010) and *THE CLEAN HANDS* (2012) as well as his debut feature *THE LAND OF SILENCE (EN LA ESTANCIA)*, (2014) and in 2015 founded the production company *B Positivo Producciones* together with Carlos Armella.

Diego Martínez Ulanosky

Diego Martínez Ulanosky is a producer, director and writer based in Mexico. He is the founder of *Caponeto*, a production company dedicated to develop, produce and license TV shows, feature films and branded content. He has created on more than 20 TV series, worked as a creative director in advertising and director of new content for *MTV*, where he worked with major international bands. He was showrunner of Mexican dramedy series *SOY TU FAN*, and the new *Netflix* original series *DES-ENFRENADAS*, which he wrote, directed and produced. He co-produced Rodrigo Sepúlveda's film *TENGO MIEDO TORERO (MY TENDER MATADOR)* and is on the producing team Carlos Amella's *GO YOUTH!*

Marion d'Ornano

Marion started her career as a production assistant and coordinator for several features in France and in Mexico. Her debuts as a producer are the feature documentary *LA SEÑORA (JESÚS MUÑOZ; 2018)* as all as the feature *SANCTORUM (JOSHUA GIL, 2019)*, which premiered as closing film at the *Venice Critics Week 2019* and received the awards for best director and the press award at the *Morelia IFF*. In 2018 she created *Telegrama Audiovisual* with partners Cathia Cuevas and Enrique M. Rizo, with who she is developing the feature documentary *A PLACE CALLED MUSIC* about the contemporary composer Philip Glass. In coproduction with *Pimienta Films, Telegrama* is also developing the TV series *MONSTRUOS PERFECTOS* which received the *Federation Prize* at the *Cannes Series* in 2019. *GO YOUTH!* Directed by Carlos Armella participated in the *Torino Film Lab, L'Atelier de Ciné-fondation* in Cannes as well as *Impulso Morelia* and is Marion's second feature film as a producer.



PRODUCTION COMPANIES



BPositivo Producciones

B Positivo Producciones

Carlos Armella and Yadira Aedo founded *B Positivo Producciones* as a production company for film and television in 2015 following years of collaboration on various projects. Marion d'Ornano joined them the same year to jointly develop and produce Carlo's feature film *GO YOUTH!* as well as his next feature project *LA SUERTE DE JUAN*. That same year, Marion d'Ornano joined the team to develop *GO YOUTH!*, and subsequently *LA SUERTE DE JUAN*, two feature films directed by Carlos Armella.



Caponeto Cine

Caponeto Cine is a production company focused on developing, producing and licensing film and television content and has a track record of collaborating with international networks such as *Netflix*, *MTV*, *E!*, *History*, *Once TV* and *Discovery* on scripted and non-scripted formats. *Caponeto* also specializes in branded content, with award-winning works for *Netflix*, *Google*, *Nivea*, *L'Oréal* and *Coca-Cola*. The latest coproduction projects of *Caponeto Cine* are the new *Netflix's* original series *DESENFRENADAS* (2020), the feature and *TENGO MIEDO TORERO* (2020) as well as *GO YOUTH!* (2020) by Carlo Armella.



World Sales Picture Tree International

Picture Tree International (PTI) is an energetic and fast-growing world sales company with its headquarters in Berlin. The core business is worldwide licensing across all platforms, with the company maintaining a presence at all the major film and television markets. Alongside licensing, *PTI* is also able to act as your German co-producer and local distributor via a fully integrated business model that offers producers individual sales and financing strategies in a results-driven and transparent partnership, something essential in today's ever changing audio-visual industry landscape. *PTI's* line-up of up to 15 films a year is designed to ensure the right mix of arthouse and crossover productions to fully maximize the revenue potential of each film.

Picture Tree International was founded in December 2012 by Andreas Rothbauer and has been run jointly by his partner and Co-Managing Director Yuan Rothbauer since 2017.



Martin

He is a 17-year-old boy, who left high school because of his poor performance, and he spends his time wandering, dreaming, drawing and whenever he can, painting graffiti on the city walls. Despite being a talented graffiti artist, the world looks at him as a vandal who transgresses and violates private property, so Martin sees himself in the same way. He is introverted and lovesick. Lately, his heart is suffering for Cristina, a girl who does not even acknowledge his existence, and who he sees as un-

reachable, because of her social status and beauty. But Martin's biggest problem is himself. He considers himself a loser, someone who cannot have ambitions, and even more, he sees himself as a very ugly guy that no girl would be interested in. Without a father figure or any kind of mentor, Martin is very insecure and does not know how to manage relationships, but he has a great need to be loved. His biggest challenge is learning to love himself.

Daniel

Daniel is just 18 years old yet he considers himself an adult with all rights and responsibilities. He is full of illusions but very unlucky. Abandoned by his parents at his grandparent's home since he was a child, he dropped out of high school in order to work and help with the household expenses. Daniel drives his grandfather's taxi many hours each day, with the intention of earning more money to take responsibility for his 16-year-old pregnant girlfriend, Graciela. However, Graciela and her family

do not want him to be involved, because they see him as a guy with no future. However, Daniel is not discouraged. He is friendly and very honest, but every time he feels more disappointed, realizing that being a grown up means adapting to a hostile and individualistic world where corruption and immorality prevail. Recently he was mugged and his taxi got stolen. And even if days later he was able to recover it, his luck is about to get worse.

THE CHARACTERS



Dulce

Dulce is a 16-year-old who has always been the bully of the school. With uncouth and little feminine appearance, she spends her time harassing and even terrorizing weak and insecure adolescents. She is an only child, whose mother died when she was little. Her father is in charge of her, but avoids being affectionate, apart from ignoring her female needs and curiosities, thus restraining her sexual education. While Dulce assumes sex as a weapon to attack and humiliate others, her in-

ner sexuality is about to burst. She is a virgin, desperate to be loved and erotically touched, but her appearance and hostility keep men away. Innocently she plans to catch their eye and attention by making friends with one of her victims, the pretty girl at school, Cristina (the same one that Martin is in love with), hoping her magnetism on men will rub on her.

Pedro

Pedro is just a child who is entering adolescence. At only 14 years old, he has developed a critical eye on the world, which has disenchanted him from everything around him. He is unhappy with the way adults teach his generation to conform and obey without questioning their superiors, and without aspirations.

Second child and only son of three children in an apparently normal family, his mother is an apprehensive and overprotective woman, while his father is a

superficial man trying to instill in him supposed men values and tastes: football, television, beer, toughness, insensitivity, etc. What Pedro began as a childhood game to alter words in order to create some kind of secret language, has become a tool of provocation toward the adults as he refuses to speak Spanish like normal people and limits his communication to his own language, even though no one else understands him.



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Producción
189



Estímulo Fiscal a Proyectos de Inversión
en la Producción Cinematográfica Nacional



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