



Portfolio



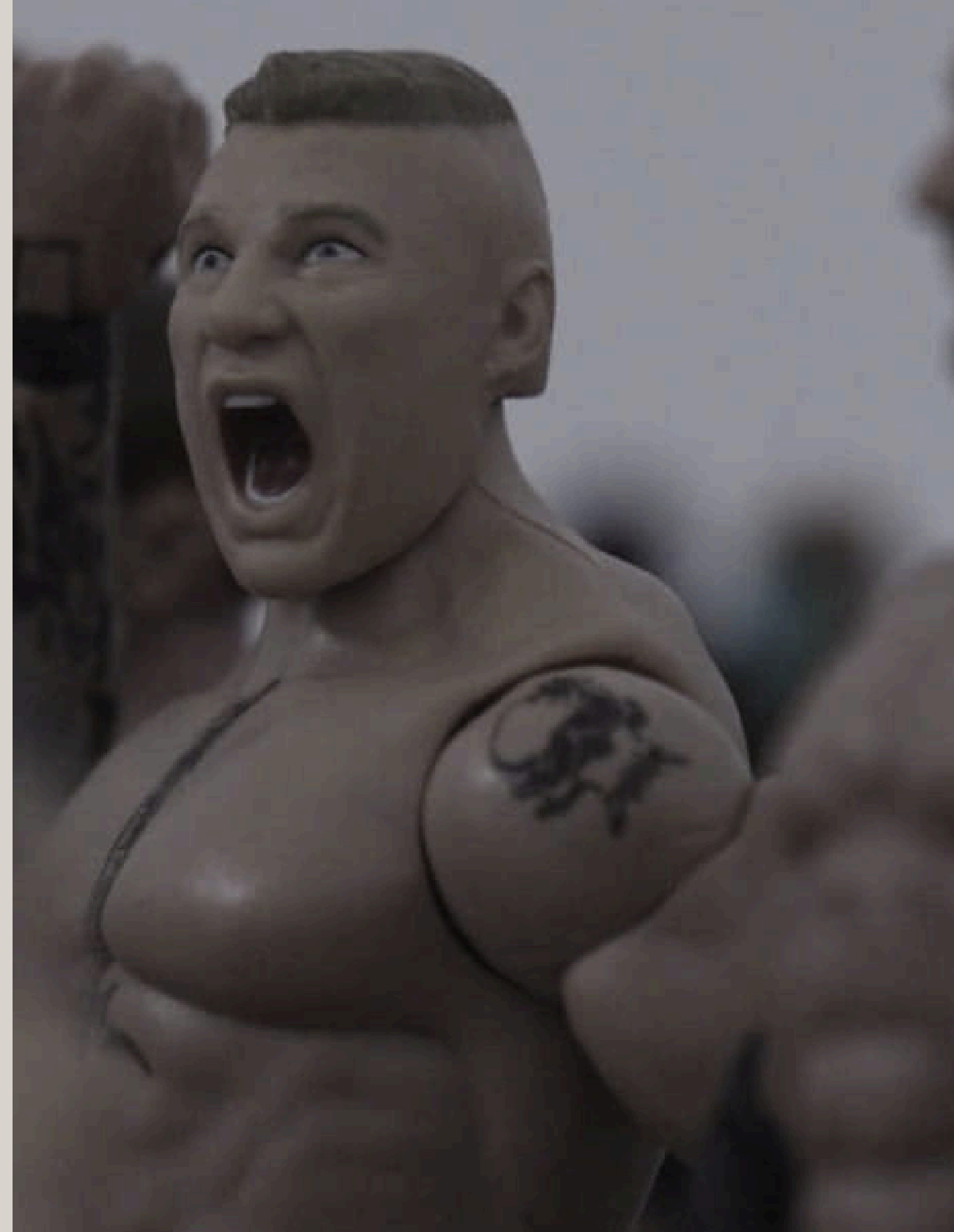
Our Story

Juli Films is a Central American production company founded by Leonor Zúniga and Camilo de Castro. It was born from a belief in cinema as a way to confront complex realities and imagine a more just future.

Rooted in the contemporary realities of Central America, Juli Films explores political violence, memory, territory, resistance, and hope through intimate, character-driven documentaries. Its work combines rigorous research with cinematic storytelling, creating films that resonate on screen, as well as inspire dialogue and sustained engagement beyond it.

Its films have been distributed through platforms such as ARTE and HBO and screened at festivals in over 25 countries.

Since 2018, Leonor and Camilo have lived in exile in Costa Rica. Juli Films is named after their son Julián, whose birth gave them a renewed sense of purpose.



Our Team



Leonor Zúniga is a Nicaraguan documentary producer and director working at the intersection of cinema, human rights, and public advocacy.

Her work engages with political violence, resistance, and hope through an intimate cinematic approach, often anchored in women's stories.

Working in exile since 2021, she has developed a practice that extends beyond the screen, linking filmmaking with public action. She is co-founder of Juli Films, a production company developing international documentary projects from a Central American perspective. Her work spans production, impact campaigns, and distribution, with experience building audiences and circulation strategies across Central America and internationally.

She is currently producing *Pantasma*, a feature documentary selected for the Open Doors program at the Locarno Film Festival and supported by EURODOC and Visions Sud Est.

Our Team

Camilo de Castro is an award-winning filmmaker, investigative journalist, and impact strategist. His work explores the intersections of human rights, environmental justice and resistance.

He co-directed *Patrol* (2023), an internationally awarded feature documentary about Indigenous Rama and Kriol forest rangers confronting illegal cattle ranching in the Indio Maíz Biological Reserve. Alongside organizations such as Re:wild, he has developed impact campaigns that use film to expose corporate impunity, mobilize public attention, and support cross-border advocacy.

He is the Creative Director of Juli Films and has led impact campaigns across Latin America. His activism led to his exile in 2018. In 2023, the Ortega regime stripped him of his Nicaraguan citizenship and confiscated his home.



Selected Films





PATROL (2023)

Nicaragua / USA | 82 min | Feature Documentary

A group of Indigenous Rama and Kriol forest rangers risk their lives protecting one of Central America's last tropical forests from illegal cattle ranchers.

Directed by Camilo de Castro & Brad Allgood

Produced by Leonor Zúniga, Camilo de Castro & Brad Allgood

Festivals

Jackson Wild • Wildscreen • Big Sky • AFI Docs • One World • Mountainfilm

Awards & Distribution

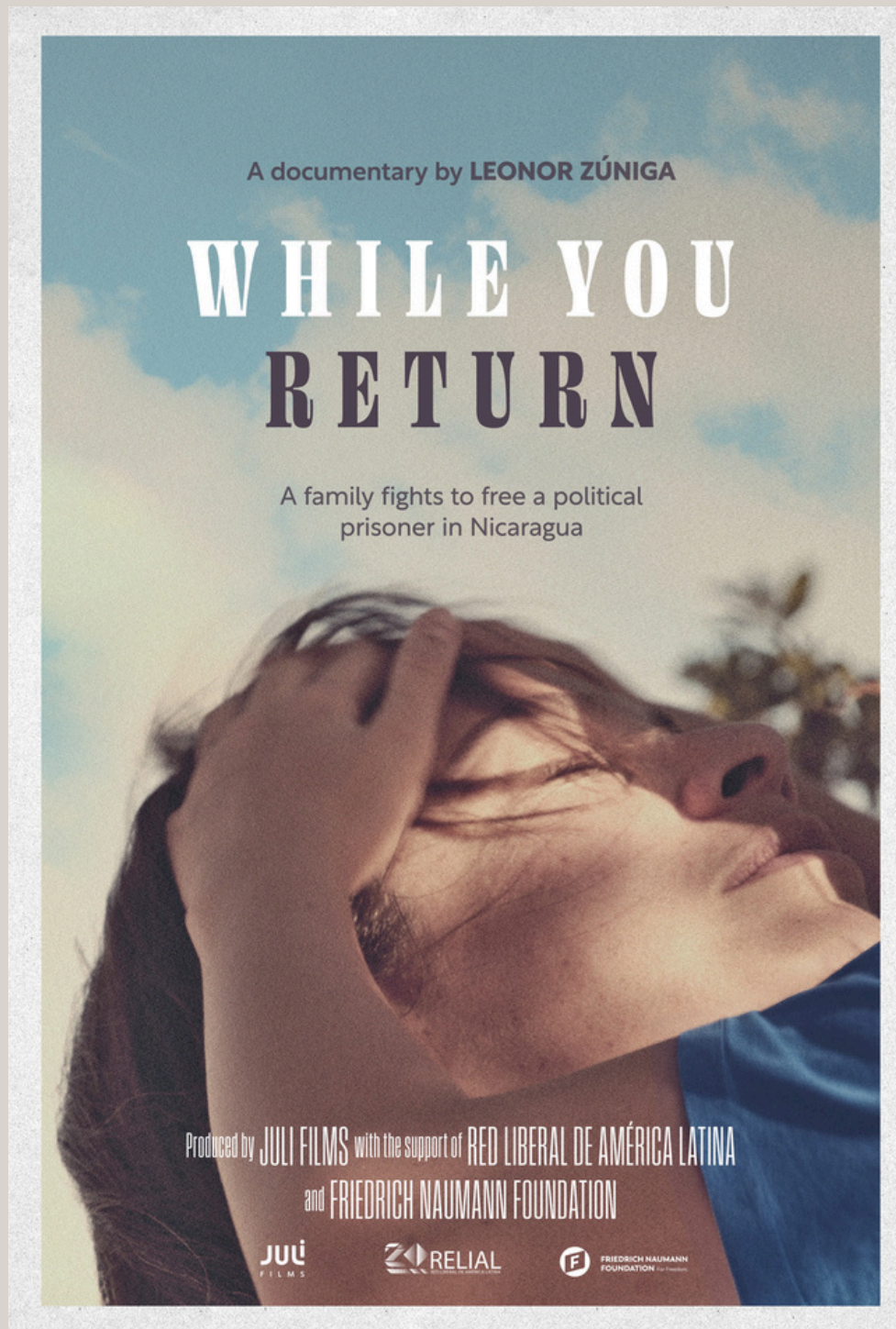
25+ international awards

ARTE France • HBO Max Latin America

Seeking

Distribution & impact partners

[Website](#) | [Trailer](#)



WHILE YOU RETURN (2025)

Nicaragua | 43 min | Documentary

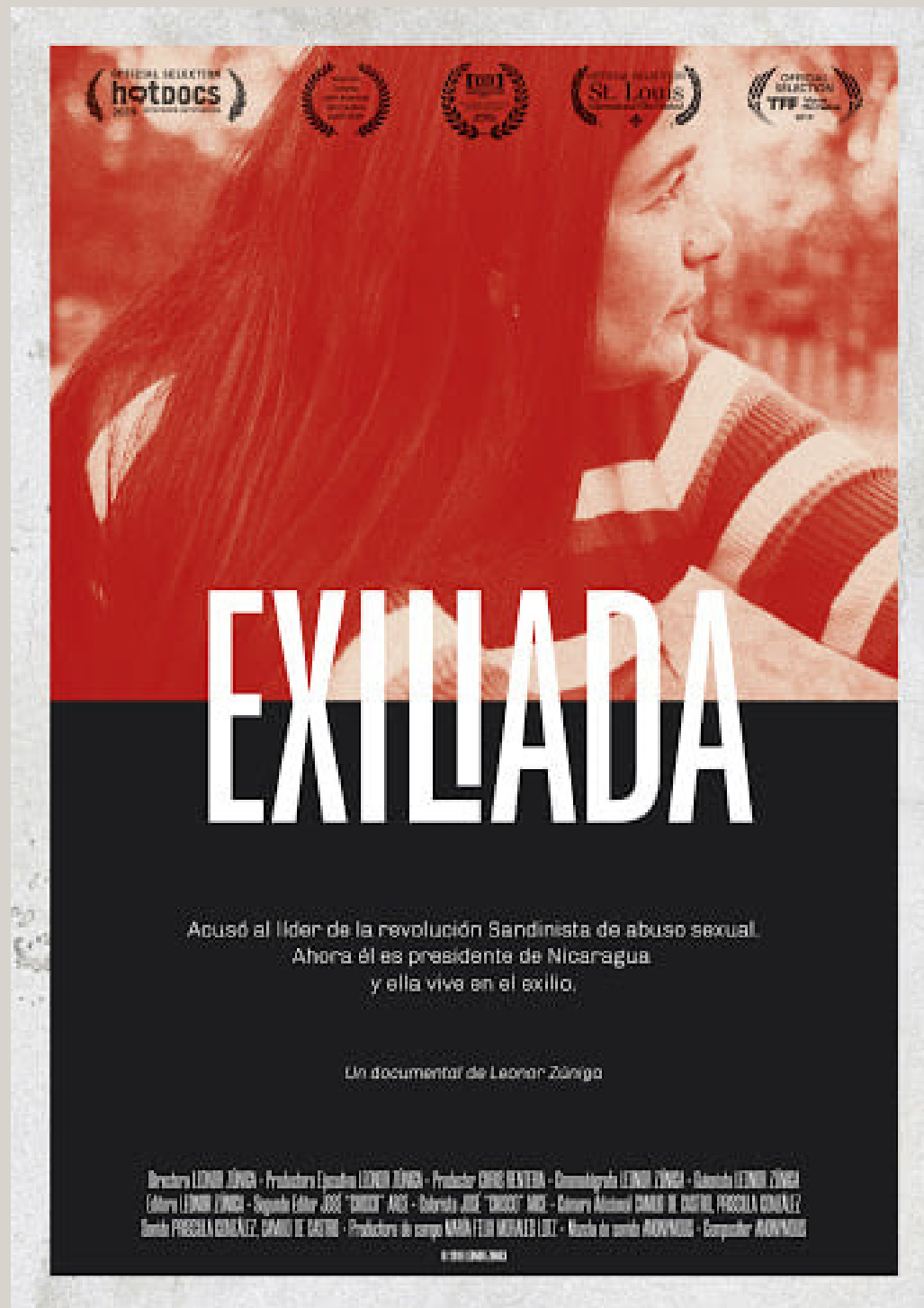
A woman in exile fights to free her husband, a political prisoner in Nicaragua, while caring for their 9-year-old daughter.

Directed by Leonor Zúniga

Produced by Leonor Zúniga & Camilo de Castro

Seeking
Festival premiere, distribution & impact partners

[Website](#) | [Trailer](#)



EXILED (2017)

Nicaragua | 24 min | Short Documentary

The story of Zoilamérica Ortega Murillo, who accused her adoptive father, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, of sexual abuse.

Directed by Leonor Zúñiga

Produced by Leonor Zúñiga & Camilo de Castro

Festivals

Hot Docs Film Festival • St Louis International Film Festival • Tallgrass Film Festival • Toronto Latin American Film Festival • Humans Fest Valencia

Trailer



MADELAINE (2022)

Nicaragua | 28 min | Short Documentary

A young painter relives the brave act that changed her life.

Directed by Leonor Zúniga

Produced by Roberto Guillen | Tres Felices Tigres & Leonor Zúniga | Juli Films

Festivals

2026 Athena Film Festival Short Film •
DOQUMENTA International Film • Toronto Latin
American Film Festival • Philadelphia Latino Arts
& Film Festival

[Trailer](#)



EL CANTO DE BOSAWAS (2014)

Nicaragua | 53 min | Feature Documentary

In search of the music of the Mayangna, they found a different way to live.

Directed by Camilo de Castro & Brad Allgood

Produced by Camilo de Castro & Brad Allgood

Development





PANTASMA

Nicaragua | Feature Documentary | In Development

Pantasma follows my husband Felipe, a former Sandinista combatant, and me as our exile reopens the unresolved wounds of Nicaragua's Sandinista–Contra war. Once children of the revolution, we are now labeled enemies by the regime we helped build. Through archival footage, reconstructed memories of the war, a house in ruins, and the scars engraved on Felipe's body, the film blurs past and present, revealing how a war that officially ended decades ago continues to inhabit our lives and memories, forcing us to reexamine the notion of the enemy.

Directed by
Gloria Carrion

Produced by
Juli Films, Caja de Luz & Cine CA

Current stage
Development

Seeking
Development financing

Selected / Supported by
Locarno Open Doors (First Prize) • EURODOC • Visions Sud Est • Ibermedia
Development • Moulin d'Andé • IFF Panamá

Estimated completion
2029

GIOCONDA

Nicaragua | Feature Documentary | In Development

As exile forces my mother, Nicaragua's most renowned living woman writer, to confront the losses that shaped her life, I embark on an intimate journey to understand how she has managed to hold on to hope after war, heartbreak, and the collapse of the country she once fought to build.

Directed by
Camilo de Castro

Produced by
Juli Films

Current stage
Development

Seeking
Development financing

Estimated completion
2029



THE ORDER

Nicaragua | Feature Documentary | In Development

After her husband, Nicaraguan dissident Roberto Samcam, is assassinated in exile, Claudia Vargas refuses to let the case disappear into silence. As she and an international team of lawyers search for justice, the investigation begins to expose a transnational network of repression linked to the highest levels of Nicaragua's Ortega regime. An intimate portrait of grief and defiance, the film follows one woman's fight against impunity.

Directed by
Camilo de Castro

Produced by
Juli Films

Current stage
Development

Seeking
Development financing

Estimated completion
2029



MEAT VS. PLANT

US | Feature Documentary | In Development

Following a global network of whistleblowers, food innovators, researchers, and advocates, the documentary uncovers how the meat industry is fighting to preserve its dominance and halt the transition toward alternative proteins.

Directed by
Camilo de Castro

Produced by
Juli Films

Current stage
Development

Seeking
Development financing

Estimated completion
2029



JULI
FILMS





Nicaragua | Costa Rica

Leonor Zúniga

Producer / Director

Email: Leoniczg05@gmail.com

WhatsApp: +506 8604 4843

Web: Julifilms.co

Stories rooted in territory, memory, and resistance.