

JULI  
FILMS

# Portfolio

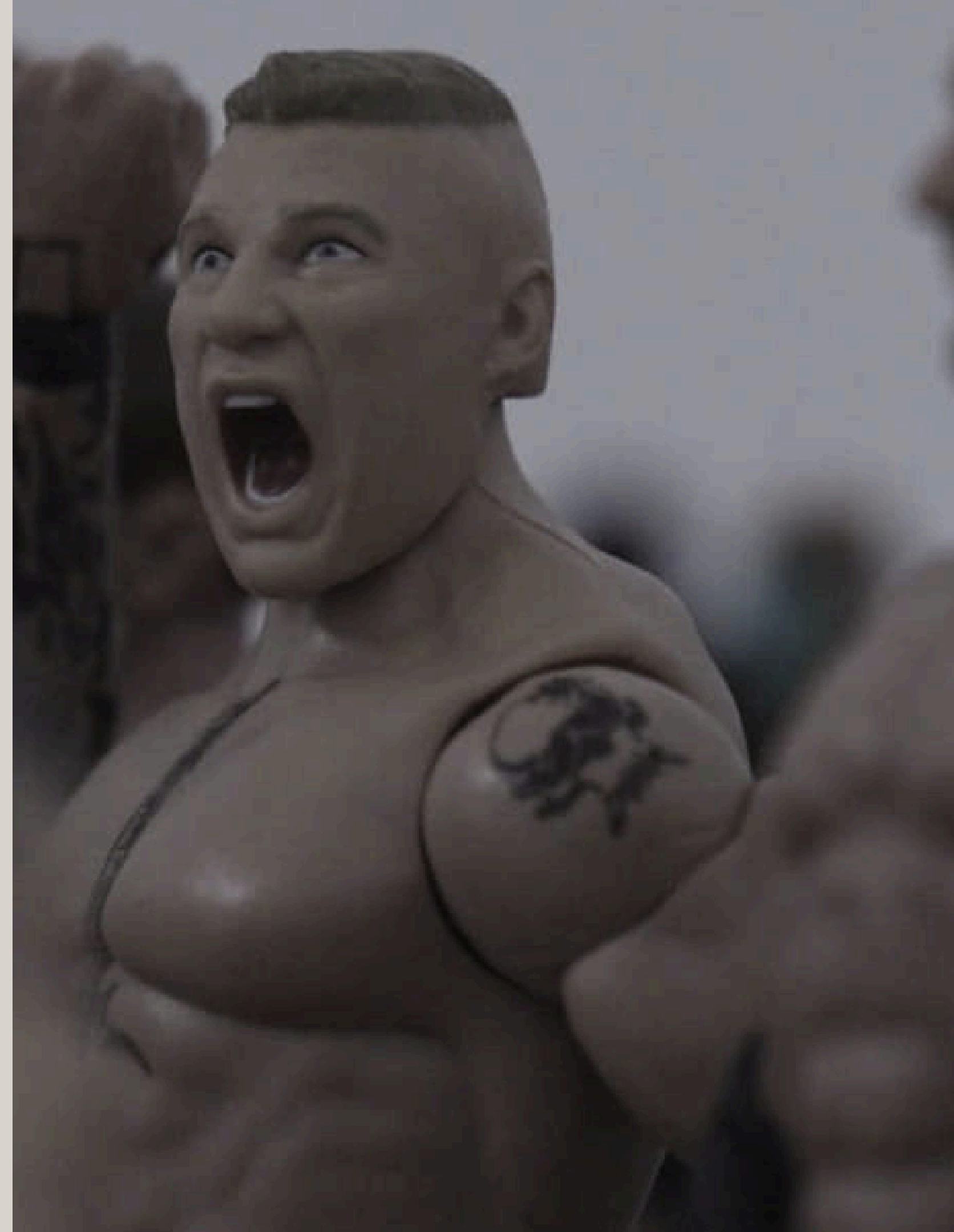


# Our Story

**Juli Films** is a Central American production company founded by Leonor Zuniga and Camilo de Castro after they were forced into exile from Nicaragua. Named after their son Julián, whose birth gave them a renewed sense of purpose, the studio 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 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.



# 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 environmental destruction, human rights 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 abuses, 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

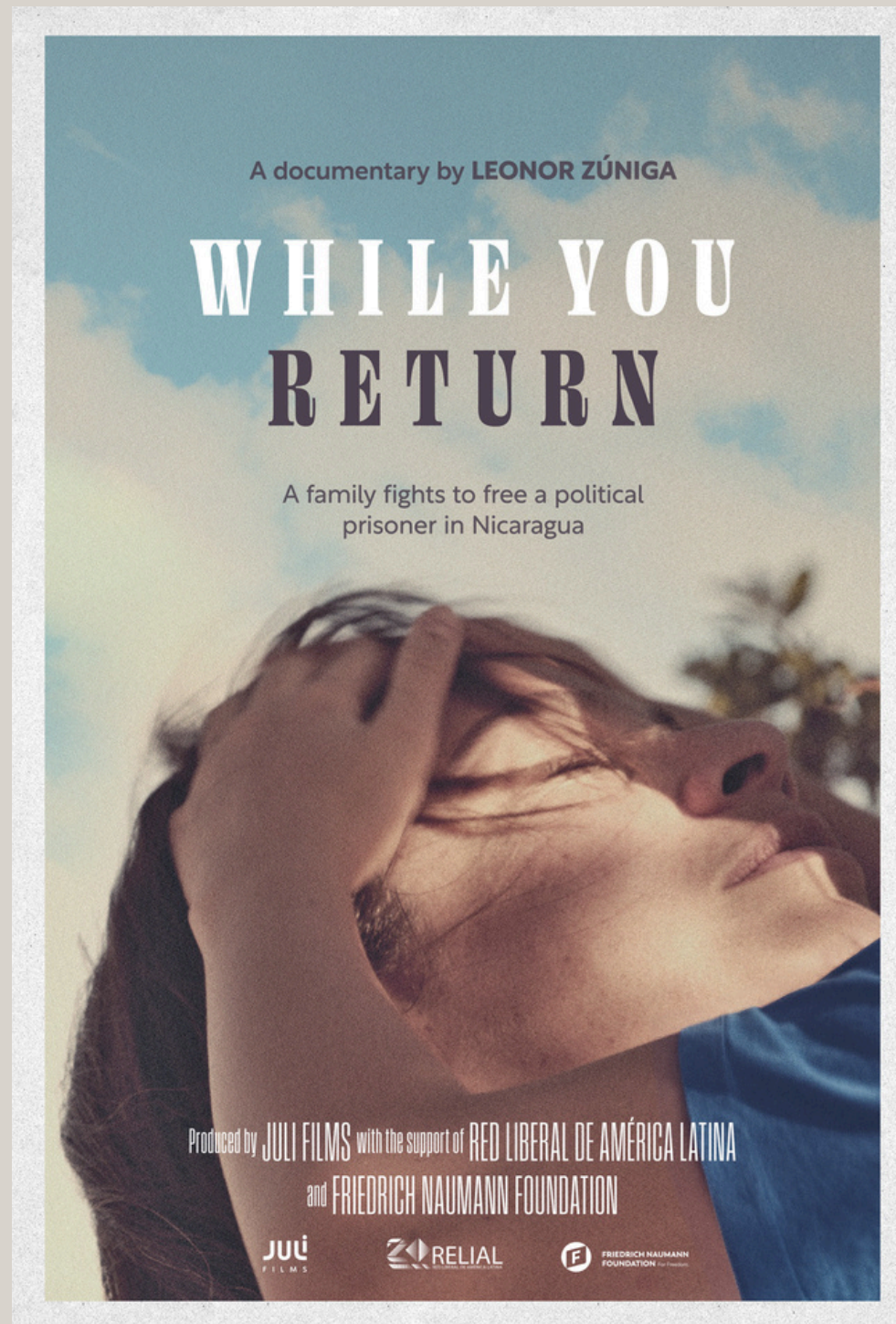
25+ international awards

ARTE France • HBO Max Latin America

### Seeking

Distribution & impact partners

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



## WHILE YOU RETURN (2025)

Nicaragua | 43 min | Documentary

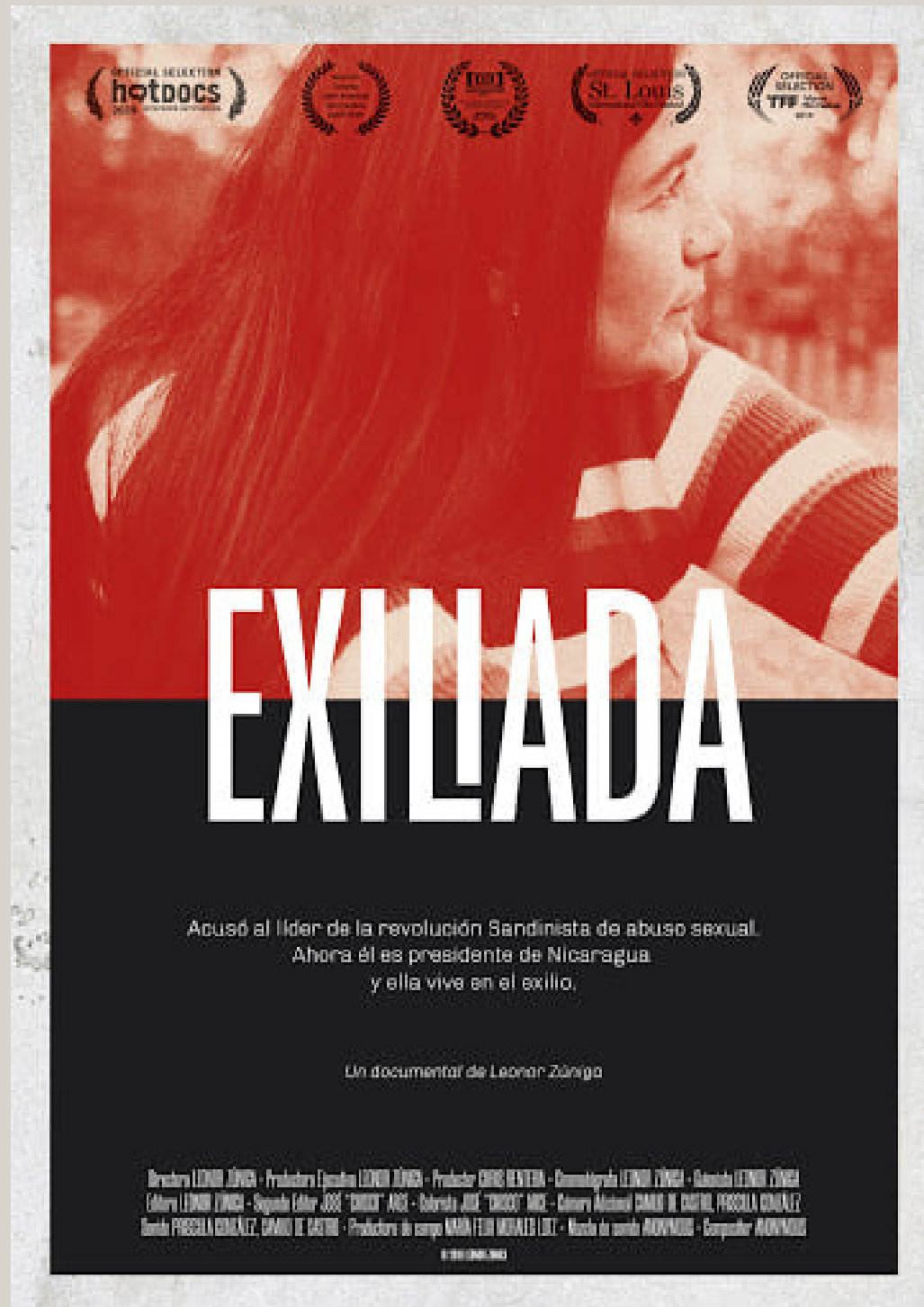
A woman in exile fights to free her husband, a political prisoner in Nicaragua, while caring for their 9-year-old daughter.

Directed by Leonor Zúniga

Produced by Leonor Zúniga & Camilo de Castro

Seeking  
Festival premiere, distribution & impact partners

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



## EXILIED (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 Zúniga

Produced by Leonor Zúniga & Camilo de Castro

### Festivals

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

### Trailer



## MADELAINE (2025)

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 •  
DOQUUMENTA 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

### Short synopsis

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 & CineCA

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

Short synopsis

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

Short synopsis

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

Short synopsis

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



JUNI  
FILMS





Nicaragua | Costa Rica

Leonor Zúniga

Producer / Director

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Stories rooted in territory, memory, and resistance.