



VERTICAL

The ABSENCE *of* EDEN

Press Notes



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DIRECTOR: Marco Perego

WRITERS: Marco Perego & Rick Rapoza

STARRING: Zoe Saldaña, Garrett Hedlund, Adria Arjona, Chris Coy

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: Martin Scorsese, Rick Yorn, Cisely Saldaña, Mariel Saldaña, Zoe Saldaña, Ruben Islas, Jolene Rodriguez, Stanley Preschutti, Ingenious Media, Ashland Hill, Sycuan Tribal

PRODUCERS: Julie Yorn, Marco Perego, Robert Kravis, Karl Herrmann, Alexandra Milchan

Runtime: 85 minutes | Languages: English, Spanish

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Synopsis

The *Absence of Eden* takes place at the border between the United States and Mexico – a hellish landscape inhabited by coyotes, armed officers, desperate immigrants, and refugees. When Esmee (Saldaña), a young woman working as a private dancer in Mexico, is forced to commit a violent act of self-defense that results in the death of a cartel member, she flees her homeland for sanctuary in the United States. Guided by a ruthless Coyote and a group of undocumented immigrants, she befriends a young mother and her daughter along the way. Before crossing the border, the mother is taken from the group, and Esmee promises to protect her daughter and help them reunite again in America, touching off an interlocking story about people struggling to survive on America's border with Mexico.

Director's Statement

In 2016 I did a sculpture that honored the children that lost their lives as immigrants traveling from Syria to Italy in 2015. I collected over 714 pairs of kid's shoes. I filled the shoes with concrete. The piece was exhibited in Downtown Los Angeles and is now part of the Rennie Collection.

Around that time, I started thinking about making another sculpture. I wanted to continue addressing immigration. I wanted to reach out – to be a part of the global conversation regarding this very human issue.

I started thinking about the fundamental concept of a border. What it has meant for me. As an immigrant, America was always on the other side. Until it wasn't. I am lucky that America both represented the dream, it was a big idea to jump into the unknown, to strive for something better. It worked out for me. But most people are not so lucky. I thought about the people that didn't get their American dream. What is their story?

When I make an art piece, I don't feel the need to explain it. I really believe that the moment you explain the art, it loses its power.

I started to think about using another medium, cinema specifically, to touch more people. I wanted to make a film in 3 different colors, RED, WHITE, and BLUE. Like the three colors trilogy of Krzysztof Kieslowski (BLUE, WHITE and RED). Three beautiful films with Juliette Binoche. I wanted to make one film that represented the 3 colors of the American Flag. This became the palette of the film.

I started to look into the Biblical idea of Adam and Eve (in 2005 I did a sculpture called ADAM EVE and ME in New York City). This origin story for humanity has always been a present conversation in my work.

What if Adam and Eve left Eden and God was not there? We tried to put this idea into different elements of the film. For example, the chicken lost in the house devastated by the Ice Agent represents a young Adam. The garden burning in the fire (Eden). The young Eve being dragged away from her home.

The coyote represents the devil. He slowly eats the chicken (Adam) who couldn't survive in this world. The camera is used like a hunting coyote – always moving through the film until he comes out of the truck.

I made a decision to not show the skyline when shooting Shipp (Garrett Hedlund). There is no air in his life. The world is pressing down on him.

People punished from the start, they jump into the unknown, looking for a better life, only to find a reality more devastating than where they were running from.

The conversation between Esmeralda and The Hotel Manager was trying to capture that feeling. "We come here, and we plant your seeds...". I tried to ask myself about that experience. The emptiness. The exhaustion. The invisibility. Striving without ever being acknowledged. Without ever being seen.

That's why I represented them as if in a Goya painting, because it is not about immigration. It is about humanity. It is about women and children being lost in this dilemma between man and God.

God must be a man because only a man can be absent and violent at the same time. Poetry can give a voice to the unheard. That was my goal with this film. The goal is to talk about humanity to change something inside us like an art piece, try to change one grain at a time.

– Marco Perego

Filmmaker Biographies

Marco Perego, Director & Co-Writer

MARCO PEREGO is a conceptual artist and feature filmmaker with an interest in work that focuses on current societal situations and conversations about the ever-changing world around us. He specializes in unique storytelling that aims to use art to answer the biggest questions of our existence. With directors such as Stanley Kubrick, Andrei Tarkovsky and Vittorio De Sica serving as inspirations, Perego strives to create cinema that explores the condition of humanity and how we can evolve to transcend expectations and explore new perspectives.

Recently, Perego completed his debut feature film as writer and director, *THE ABSENCE OF EDEN* starring Zoe Saldaña, Adria Aroja, and Garrett Hedlund. The story follows an ICE Agent struggling with the moral dilemmas of his job who unites with an undocumented woman fighting to escape a ruthless cartel to save the life of an innocent girl. The film is co-written by Perego and Rick Rapoza and is produced by Academy Award-nominated producer Julie Yorn, Robert Kravis and Karl Herrmann under their banner of Pioneer Pictures, and Academy Award-nominated producer Alexandra Milchan. Martin Scorsese and Rick Yorn serve as executive producers alongside Zoe Saldaña's Cinestar Pictures, Ingenious Media, Ashland Hill, Sycuan Tribal as well as Ruben Islas, Jolene Rodriguez and Stanley Preschutti. The film debuted at the 69th Taormina Film Festival in Italy and was well received by its audience. It will be released in theaters on April 27.

It was recently announced Perego, alongside 9 other artists, will be participating in the Pavilion of the Holy See at the 60th Venice Biennale, from April 20 to November 24. Made inside the Giudecca Women's Prison, the display will have the title "With my own eyes" curating installations and site-specific work dedicated to the theme of human rights and inhabitants of marginalized worlds. This project is a part of the broader theme of the international exhibition by Adriano Pedrosa entitled "Foreigners everywhere."

As an artist, Marco's work has been shown internationally in group exhibition at the Rennie Museum, Vancouver BC, Canada, Museo d'Arte, Galleria d'Arte Moderna Bologna, Museo Archeologico Firenze, The Andy Warhol Museum, and Galerie Untilthen. As a solo artist, his work has been featured at the Michele Maccarone Gallery, Galerie Untilthen, as well as displayed in a show by Chiara Parisi. Additionally, he curated a show of his work for the Museum Centre Pompidou-Mertz.

Currently, Marco's art can be found across the world in public collections at Museo Jumex and CDMX in Mexico City, the Rennie Museum in BC, Canada, the Bourse de Commerce - Pinault Collection in Paris, and The Hammer Museum in Los Angeles California.

Cast Biographies

Zoe Saldaña

ZOE SALDAÑA has steadily earned a reputation as one of the most versatile and respected powerhouses in the industry with a remarkable career spanning more than 20 years as an actor and producer. As the only actor in history to have starred in four films that have grossed over 2 billion dollars and the top three highest grossing films of all time, *Avatar*, *Avatar: The Way of the Water* and Marvel Studios' *AVENGERS: Endgame*, Saldaña's passionate commitment to seeking compelling, indelible roles has remained constant.

Saldaña currently stars in Taylor Sheridan's undercover CIA drama series for Paramount+ "Special Ops: Lioness," where she leads a fantastic cast including Nicole Kidman and Morgan Freeman, as well as executive producer. The show launched in July 2023 and became the one of the most-watched global premieres on Paramount+, garnering nearly 6 million viewers combined on streaming and network television. The role also earned her a 2024 NAACP Image Awards nomination for "Outstanding Actress in a Drama Series."

Saldaña is also an executive producer and lead of the independent film *The Absence of Eden*, opposite Garrett Hedlund and Adria Arjona. Directed by Marco Perego in his feature film debut, the story revolves around an ICE Agent who grapples with moral dilemmas related to border security. He joins forces with an undocumented woman, portrayed by Saldaña, in her quest to evade a ruthless cartel and save the life of an innocent girl. The film had its World Premiere at the 2023 Taormina Film Festival, opened the 2023 Newport Beach Film Festival and will be released in theaters on April 12, 2024 from Roadside Attractions.

This past year, she wrapped production on Jacques Audiard's upcoming musical crime comedy *Emilia Perez*, co-starring Karla Sofia Gascón and Selena Gomez. Saldaña also returned to the Marvel universe in *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3* to reprise her beloved role as Gamora in the third and final installment of the series. The movie grossed over \$845.6 million worldwide, becoming the fourth-highest-grossing film of 2023, and garnered multiple nominations this most recent awards season from the Academy Awards, BAFTAs, and Critics Choice in the visual effects categories, as well as a Golden Globe nomination for "Cinematic and Box Office Achievement" and Screen Actors Guild nomination for "Outstanding Action Performance by a Stunt Ensemble in a Motion Picture."

In December 2022, she reprised her role of Neytiri in James Cameron's Oscar-winning film *Avatar: The Way of the Water*, which since its release, has shattered box office records, including becoming the first pandemic-era film to reach \$2 billion at the global box office and securing its spot as the third highest grossing film of all time, following the first *Avatar* film from 2009, which remains the top of the list. The third film of the franchise is currently in production, with two additional installments to follow.

Past projects include Saldaña starring as trailblazing heroine, Nyota Uhura, in J.J. Abrams' hit *Star Trek* franchise, beginning in 2009, and starring alongside Christian Bale, Casey Affleck and Woody Harrelson in Scott Cooper's 2013 crime thriller *Out of the Furnace*. In 2014, she took on yet another iconic role with Gamora, the Marvel fan-favorite lethal alien assassin, in the blockbuster hit *Guardians of the Galaxy*, reprising the role in the 2017 sequel *Guardians of the Galaxy 2*, and again in the years to follow for *AVENGERS: Infinity War* and *AVENGERS: Endgame*. In 2022, she was also seen as the lead role of Netflix's limited series, "From Scratch," based on Tembi Locke's best-selling memoir of the same name; starred opposite Ryan Reynolds, Jennifer Garner and Mark Ruffalo in Shawn Levy's *The Adam*.

Project, which was released on Netflix and remains in the streaming service's top ten most viewed films of all time; as well as the 20th Century Studios' mystery-comedy *Amsterdam*, directed by David O'Russell with an all-star ensemble including Christian Bale, John David Washington, and Margot Robbie.

In a career that began with a breakout role in the 2000 film *Center Stage*, Saldaña's additional credits also include *Crossroads*, *Drumline*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *The Losers*, *Takers*, *Colombina*, the NBC mini-series "Rosemary's Baby," and the Academy Award®-nominated animated feature *Missing Link*. She also lent her voice to the animated films *Book of Life* and *Vivo*, as well as the Netflix limited series "Maya and The Three." She made her directorial debut in 2011 with the short film *Kaylien*, part of the Glamour Reel Moments series.

Saldaña has taken a very active role as a producer, forming Cinestar Pictures along with her sisters Mariel and Cisely, with an eye toward broadening the American narrative and creating meaningful, character-driven content. Committed to honest portrayals of women and accurate representation of the America we live in, Cinestar produces contemporary, multicultural stories for everyone. The company's first feature film was *The Honor List*, from Lionsgate's Studio L, and was released in 2018. Since then, their projects have included the beloved hit family comedy series "The Gordita Chronicles" for Sony and HBO Max; the limited series "From Scratch" at Netflix with Hello Sunshine; two seasons of the Emmy-nominated animal kingdom docuseries "Mamas" for Roku Channel; "Meet Me in Paris," the first ever unscripted romantic comedy feature which quickly became the biggest Roku Original unscripted debut and the #1 reality title premiere in the history of platform with the recently released second season, "Meet Me in Rome"; the Disney+ series "MPower" which spotlights several of the Marvel Cinematic Universe's most inspirational women heroes; the Taylor Sheridan created spy-thriller series "Special Ops: Lioness" on Paramount+; the independent film *The Absence of Eden*, directed by Marco Perego and starring Saldaña; as well as the upcoming action-survival film for Amazon Prime Video, *THE BLUFF*, alongside the Russo Brothers. Cinestar also has projects in pre-production at Paramount, HBO, HBO Max, Disney+, and CBS.

In addition to her prolific acting and producing career, Saldaña founded BESE in 2018, a media company created to support and amplify the voices of the Latinx community by sharing real and untold stories of today's America. The spirit of BESE's mission extends to the partnership Saldaña launched with sportswear giant

Adidas and Kohl's department store in 2020. The activewear athleisure collections, ranging in sizes from XS to XXL, are meant to highlight, support, and celebrate women of color.

Saldaña received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2018 and was honored with Outstanding Achievement in Film Award by the National Association of Latino Independent Producers (NALIP) in 2017, for her impactful work to broaden representation of the Latinx community throughout Hollywood. She was recently recognized as one of TIME Magazine's Most Influential People of 2023.

Born in New Jersey and raised in Queens and in the Dominican Republic, Saldaña currently resides in Los Angeles with her husband and three sons.

Garrett Hedlund

Garrett Hedlund has had a multitude of starring roles since he made an auspicious debut as part of the all-star cast in Wolfgang Petersen's TROY with Brad Pitt, Eric Bana, Orlando Bloom and Diane Kruger when he was just 18 years old.

Hedlund was most recently seen in Paramount+'s "Tulsa King" as Mitch Keller an Oklahoma native and ex bull-rider who retired prematurely after injuries led to addiction and the independent film *The Tutor* where he starred alongside Victoria Justice and Noah Schnapp. Season two of "Tulsa King" will begin filming this spring.

Hedlund is also currently making his way in the music world as well. Having previously recorded music for *Country Strong*, *Lullaby*, and *DiRT Music*, Hedlund released his debut single in January called 'The Road' and followed up with singles 'Tulsa King,' 'More Like Home,' 'Best Ones' and his most recent release 'Always Wanted To.' All of his music can be found on Spotify, Apple Music, Pandora and Amazon Music.

Recently starring in two films, *Desperation Road* opposite Mel Gibson and *The Marsh King's Daughter* co-starring Ben Mendelson and Daisy Ridley for STXfilms, Hedlund's other work includes, *The United States vs. Billy Holiday* from Paramount Pictures, the independent film *DiRT Music*, filmed in Australia, Netflix's *Triple Frontier*, and the independent film *Burden*.

In the award-winning film for Netflix, *Mudbound*, Hedlund co-starred with Mary J. Blige, Carey Mulligan and Jason Clarke. Directed by Dee Rees and based on the Hillary Jordan novel, the cast won the Robert Altman Award at the Spirit Awards as well as the Breakthrough Cast Award at the Hollywood Film Awards. The film received numerous award recognitions including Academy Award nominations for Best Cinematography and Best Writing Adapted Screenplay.

On the small screen, Hedlund was seen in an episode of Amazon's "Modern Love" opposite Anna Paquin and Stephen Soderbergh's HBO series, "Mosaic," opposite Sharon Stone. The project was an experimental show which had a tie-in with a newly developed app that helped viewers follow different character's story lines.

Hedlund received critical accolades for his starring role in Walter Salles' *On the Road* opposite Sam Riley and Kristen Stewart, based on the novel by Jack Kerouac. He also starred alongside Vin Diesel, Steve Martin and Chris Tucker and his *On the Road* co-star Kristen Stewart in *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk* from director Ang Lee. Hedlund was also in William Monahan's *MOJAVE* in which he appeared once again with his *Inside Llewyn Davis* co-star, Oscar Isaac.

Hedlund also starred alongside Hugh Jackman and Rooney Mara in Warner Bros' *PAN*, directed by Joe Wright, in which he portrayed 'Hook.' Previous film credits include; Universal's *UNBROKEN*, based on the Laura Hillenbrand book and directed by Angelina Jolie; *Inside Llewyn Davis* alongside Oscar Isaac, Carrie Mulligan and John Goodman and *Lullaby*.

Hedlund has had the opportunity to work with great actors and directors in: Twentieth Century Fox's *Death Sentence* opposite Kevin Bacon, Kelly Preston and John Goodman; Universal Pictures' *Georgie Rule* opposite Lindsay Lohan and Jane Fonda; and *Eragon* co-starring with Djimon Honsou, Jeremy Irons and John Malkovich. Hedlund also starred in Paramount Pictures' *Four Brothers* with director John Singleton and co-stars Mark Wahlberg, Andre 3000 and Tyrese Gibson and Universal's "Friday Night Lights", directed by Peter Berg and produced by Brian Grazer and Imagine Entertainment. Hedlund starred as tailback Don Billingsley, co-starring with Billy Bob Thornton, Derek Luke, Jay Hernandez, Lucas Black and Tim McGraw. He also starred in *Tron: Legacy* alongside Jeff Bridges and Olivia Wilde and *Country Strong* opposite Gwyneth Paltrow, Leighton Meester and Tim McGraw.

Hedlund was born in northern Minnesota and spent his high school years in Scottsdale, Arizona before starring in Petersen's iconic film at the age of eighteen. He began taking private acting classes while in high school and took a unique approach to his pursuit of the craft by reading screenplays of older films, watching those films on video, and then pretending he was auditioning for one of the roles in the film. He also spent countless hours reading the Hollywood trade papers at his local bookstore and calling agents in Los Angeles. He graduated from high school a semester early and immediately packed his bags and headed for Hollywood.

Hedlund has been honored with the Young Hollywood "Film Actor of the Year" Award, the Glamour UK "Man of the Year" Award and the Maui Film Festival's "Rising Star" Award.

Adria Arjona

Adria Arjona is one of Hollywood's most sought after talents working today.

She will next be seen in Richard Linklater's *Hit Man* starring opposite Glen Powell. Based on an article written for Texas Monthly by award-winning journalist Skip Hollandsworth, *Hit Man* follows a cop who goes undercover as a hitman in Houston. Everything is going smoothly until he encounters a woman (Arjona) trying to flee an abusive relationship. The film premiered at the 2023 Venice Film Festival and the 2023 Toronto International Film Festival as well as the 2024 Sundance Film Festival to rave reviews. The film will be released in theaters on May 24, 2024 and on Netflix on June 7, 2024.

This Summer, Arjona will be seen in Zoe Kravitz's directorial debut film *Blink Twice* in which she stars opposite Channing Tatum, Naomi Ackie, Simon Rex, Christian Slater, and Geena Davis. The film follows a cocktail waitress who becomes infatuated with a tech mogul, and travels with him to his private island, where things begin to go wrong. The film will be released on August 23, 2024.

Arjona was most recently seen starring in Disney+'s critically-acclaimed hit series, "Andor." The show is a prequel to Star Wars's *Rogue One* film. Arjona stars opposite Diego Luna in the series, which focuses on Rebel agent Andor prior to the events of *Rogue One* in the early days of the Rebellion against the Empire. Arjona plays Bix, Cassian Andor's fearless longtime friend. The first season was released on August 31, 2022 and was nominated for eight Emmy Awards including "Outstanding Drama Series." Arjona has wrapped production for Season 2 of the series which is expected to be released in 2025.

She stars in and executive produced *Los Frikis*, which follows a true story about teenagers who inject themselves with HIV in order to escape the oppression of Cuba. Tyler Nilson and Michael Schwartz co-wrote and are directing the film. The film is set to premiere at the 2024 Miami Film Festival this Spring.

Arjona is set to star in the feature film adaptation of Francisco Goldman's bestselling book *Say Her Name* alongside Wagner Moura. The film will be directed by Gerardo Naranjo and Arjona will serve as an executive producer. The story follows a perpetually single novelist and journalist, who is caught off guard when he falls passionately in love. Aura is an aspiring and brilliant young writer with a wild side, who is fiercely loyal to her mother, who wants to separate Aura from Francisco and who blames him after Aura's tragic death.

In summer 2022, Arjona was seen starring in HBO Max's *Father of the Bride* opposite Andy Garcia and Gloria Estefan, playing their daughter and bride-to-be, Sofia. The film was released on June 16, 2022 and was HBO Max's biggest movie premiere to date for a title that was exclusively made for the streaming service. The film tells the story of a father (Garcia) coming to grips with his daughter's (Arjona) upcoming wedding through the prism of multiple relationships within a big, sprawling Cuban-American family.

Arjona was also seen starring in HBO's "Irma Vep," a limited series based on Olivier Assayas' 1996 feature film. The show premiered on June 6th, 2022 on the streaming platform. Set against the backdrop of a lurid crime thriller, "Irma Vep" follows Mira, an American movie star disillusioned by her career and a recent breakup who comes to France to star as Irma Vep in a remake of the French silent film classic, *Les Vampires*. Arjona stars as Laurie opposite Alicia Vikander, Carrie Brownstein, Jerrod Carmichael, Fala Chen, and Devon Ross.

In April 2022, Arjona starred as the female lead of Sony's Marvel franchise *MORBIUS*, opposite Jared Leto. The film was released on April 1, 2022 to great box office success and follows biochemist Michael Morbius (Leto) and Martine Bancroft (Arjona) as Morbius tries to cure himself of a rare blood disease. When his experiment goes wrong, he inadvertently infects himself with a form of vampirism instead.

In 2021, Adria appeared in Netflix's film *Sweet Girl*, with Jason Momoa and Marisa Tomei. The film follows a devastated husband who vows to bring justice to the people responsible for his wife's (Arjona) death while protecting the only family he has left, his daughter. The film was released on the streaming platform on August 20th, 2021.

In Winter 2019, Arjona starred alongside Ryan Reynolds in Michael Bay's Netflix feature *Six Underground*, which was released on the streaming service on December 13, 2019 and became the 3rd most-watched Netflix title in 2019 despite premiering 18 days before the year's end.

Arjona completed production on Marco Perego Saldaña's feature *The Absence of Eden*, opposite Zoe Saldaña and Garrett Hedlund. The film follows a couple whose love for each other struggles to overcome the divisions of life on America's southern border. The film aims to be a timely exploration of the humanity of immigration. The film premiered at the 2023 Taormina Film Festival. Arjona starred in an episode of Hulu's anthology series "Monsterland," alongside Kaitlyn Dever and Jonathan Tucker which premiered on the platform in 2020.

In Spring 2019, Arjona starred in Amazon/BBC's miniseries "Good Omens" alongside Jon Hamm, David Tennant and Frances McDormand. The series follows an angel, a demon, an Antichrist and a witch as they battle between heaven and hell. She also starred alongside Ben Affleck and Oscar Isaac in the J.C. Chandor directed Netflix film *Triple Frontier*. The film follows former special forces operatives as they reunite to take down a South American drug lord.

In Spring 2018, she was seen in Universal Picture's *Pacific Rim: Uprising* opposite John Boyega and Scott Eastwood and Warner Bros. Pictures' *Life of the Party* with Melissa McCarthy.

In Winter 2017, Arjona starred in NBC's "Emerald City," which was based on the early 20th century "Oz" book series written by L. Frank Baum and followed Arjona's Dorothy Gale as she sets out to find the Wizard in the Land of Oz.

In Summer 2015, Arjona played a recurring role in HBO's critically acclaimed series "True Detective" as well as Netflix's "Narcos."

Arjona currently resides in Los Angeles.

Chris Coy

Born in Louisville, KY, Chris Coy was most recently a series regular in "The Peripheral", Jonathan Nolan and Lisa Joy's sci-fi/thriller/drama series for AMAZON. In 2022, Chris was a series regular in the critically acclaimed ABC limited series "Women of the Movement" as "J.W. Milam," the Mississippi man accused of spearheading the brutal murder of 14 yr. old Emmett Till in the summer of 1955. He also recently starred in the BILLY

PORTER-directed episode of “Accused” and recurred opposite DAVID OYELOWO on BASS REEVES for TAYLOR SHERIDAN

He is perhaps best known for his starring role opposite Maggie Gyllenhaal in David Simon’s HBO drama series “The Deuce”, which explores the rough and tumble rise of the American sex industry in 1970’s New York. Prior, Coy also starred for Simon, portraying real-life journalist A.C. Thompson, in HBO’s award-winning New Orleans-set post Hurricane Katrina drama “Treme”. Chris also recurred for HBO on Alan Ball’s supernatural sensation “True Blood” later re-teaming with the producer, starring as the “big bad” in the final season of his grindhouse cult hit “Banshee”.

In film, Chris plays a supporting lead opposite ZOE SALDAÑA, TOM WAITS and GARRETT HEDLUND in the 2024 indie feature THE ABSENCE OF EDEN. CHRIS was a supporting lead opposite JILLIAN BELL and STEVE ZAHN in *Cowboys*, which won awards at 2020’s pandemic-adjusted TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL, and also stars in *The Killing of Two Lovers*, which premiered at the SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL. Other notable film roles include a supporting lead opposite Hugh Jackman in Jason Reitman’s *The Front Runner*, a racist cop in Kathryn Bigelow’s civil rights drama *Detroit*, and Ed Zwick’s *Trial by Fire*.

He lives in Kentucky and Los Angeles with his wife and three kids.

Credits

DIRECTED BY

Marco Perego

WRITTEN BY

Marco Perego & Rick Rapoza

EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY

Martin Scorsese

Rick Yorn

Cisely Mariel & Zoe Saldaña Cinestar Pictures

Ingenious Media

Ashland Hill

Sycuan Tribal

Ruben Islas

Jolene Rodriguez

Stanley Preschutti

PRODUCED BY

Julie Yorn

Marco Perego

Robert Kravis

Karl Herrmann

Alexandra Milchan

Unit Production Manager

SUSAN KIRR

First Assistant Director

DENNIS CROW

Second Assistant Director

WALTER MYAL

CAST

Esmee

ZOE SALDAÑA

Shipp

GARRETT HEDLUND

Yadira

ADRIA ARJONA

Dobbins

CHRIS COY

Alma

SOPHIA HAMMONS

Mateo	NOAH ZIGGY JAMES
Alma's Madre	LAURA CRUZ
Bible Man	MARTIN PALMER
Drunk Worker	ALEJANDRO RODRIGUEZ
Dolore	SANTIAGO VILLALOBOS
Manager Phil	KEVIN McDONALD
Migrant Girl	MAEVE GARAY
Migrant Mother	MORNINGSTAR ANGELINE
ICE Training Officer	ESODIE GEIGER
ICE Captain	KEITH MERIWEATHER
Mexican Cowboy	LEONEL GARZA
Davalos	VINCENT FUENTES
Coyote	JESSE RAMIREZ
Abuela	PETRA TOVAR SANCHEZ
Grandma Maria	TERESA CEPADA RODRIGUEZ
Gabriel	CHRYSOVALENTIS MARTINEZ
Rebecca	SARAH MINNICH
Valeria	INEZ DOMINGUEZ
Shipp's Father	TED KOCH

Stunt Coordinator	DERIK PRITCHARD
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STUNTS

DAN BROCKETT	CARMA HARVEY
DANIEL CHAVEZ	JOHN TRAVIS JOHNSON
MATT CHRISTMAS	DAVID PINTER
BRETT COLE	MORGAN REDMOND
SIMON DROBIK	EMILY SNELL
AL GOTO	KURLY TLAPOYAWA

JERMAINE WASHINGTON

Production Supervisor	JAKE POKLUDA
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Production Coordinator	ROMÁN ARRELLIN
Post Production Supervisor	PAUL F. RYAN
Storyboard Artist	JARID BOYCE
Set Decorator	ALEXANDRA BRANDENBURG
Lead Person	BOB BOUWMAN
On Set Dresser	CHRIS HALL
Set Dressers	KEVIN DURAN
	PAUL HAAG
	JONI SWEET
	DONOVAN THOMAS
"A" Camera Operator / Steadicam Operator	ERIC CATELAN
"B" Camera Operator	DANIEL ZOLLINGER
"A" Camera First Assistant	MEGHAN NOCE
"A" Camera Second Assistant	BRANDON LEE "BISHOP" PATTISON
Digital Utility	DANIEL DUERRE
Loader	MIKE FERNANDEZ
Video Assist Operator	DALE WASETA
Still Photographer	URSULA COYOTE
Script Supervisor	ANASTASIA CUMMINGS
Second Second Assistant Director	FORREST ALSOBROOK
Additional Second Assistant Director	J.J. DALTON
Production Sound Mixer	EDWARD SANTIAGO
Boom Operator	CARLOS GARCIA
Gaffer	LEE SPENCER

Best Boy Electrician	LEVI TRENT WILLIAMS
Rigging Gaffer	LEE RAMSEY
Rigging Best Boy	TIMOTHY HOLMES
Electricians	ANDREW J. MARTINEZ MARLON O'BRIEN
Key Grip	TERRY SANCHEZ
Best Boy Grips	JOHN SNEESBY CARLOS GARCIA
Dolly Grip	JORDON TRONOLONE
Grips	KEVIN GARCIA JOE LONESOME
Rigging Key Grip	MIKE BISS
Rigging Best Boy	ROBERT BARAN
Construction Coordinators	DARREN "KIWI" GIBSON MICHAEL MALONEY
Propmakers	TIMOTHY SIENICKI TRAVIS HAYES WILLIAMS
Lead Scenic	KIRK LEBLANC
Scenic Painter	THOMAS ZIMMERMAN
Special Effects Coordinator	ERIC THELANDER
Special Effects Technician	ROBERT WILLIAMSON
Location Manager	ARIEL LOPEZ
Assistant Location Manager	ANDREW GRIEGO

Location Production Assistants	MAKAHLA HARAPAT GRANT LEVRON NELL PIERCE
Property Master	CARMA HARVEY
Assistant Property Master	AARON ARAGON
Armorer	SCOTT "SARGE" RASMUSSEN
Costume Supervisor	BRANDY MARRS
Key Set Costumer	DANIELLE CUNDIFF
Set Costumer	SACHEL GARCIA
Seamstress	JJI HISE
Key Ager / Dyer	URSULA ROCHESTER
Makeup Department Head	ROCKY FAULKNER
Key Makeup Artist	SARA ROYBAL
Hair Department Head	MEGAN DAUM
Key Hairstylist	CHRISTI HENNESSEY
Special Effects Makeup Artist	JOSE "PEPE" MORA
Animal Trainers	KIP LEWIS CHELSEY LEWIS KIRBY RHOADES
Snake Handler	JEN KENNEDY
Supervising Sound Editor	CRAIG MANN
Re-Recording Mixers	CRAIG MANN

	LAURA WIEST
Additional Editing by	JASON VOSS
Post Production Assistant	JOHN BLASCOE
Assistant Production Coordinator	DENYS SEDILLO
Production Secretary	ALEJANDRO RODRIGUEZ
Background Casting	SHAYNE HARTIGAN
Background Casting Key	JULIAN PETERSON
Production Accountant	MOLLY BUNNER
First Assistant Accountant	METTA STAHL
Post Production Accountant	HANNAH GALLEGOS
Payroll Accountant	BRETT BUNNER
Accounting Clerk	ALISIA DOWNING
Assistant to Marco Perego-Saldana	KIMBERLY OVITZ
Assistant to Julie Yorn	CAROLYN LEVINE
Assistant to Alexandra Milchan	MARTIN SALGO
ICE Consultant	SIMON DROBIK
Spanish Consultant	ERICKA ZEPEDA
Set Production Assistants	JORGE OROZCO
	SYDNEY POTADLE
	WILL THOMAS
Office Production Assistants	ANDREW VALDEZ
Studio Teachers	ROSA WEISS
	LEE LEWIN

Art Department Coordinator	BRITNEY HOPPER
Art Production Assistants	JOSH GOODSON-GONDEK FELICIA MONK
Costume Production Assistants	JESSICA CLARK MONIQUE MONTEZ
Post Production Sound Services Provided by	FORMOSA GROUP
Dialogue Editor	DANIEL IRWIN
ADR Editor	CHASE KEEHN
Sound Effects Editor	SUAT AYAS
Editorial Assistant	MARK COFFEY
Mix Technician	DUNCAN McRAE
Foley Supervisor	RANDY WILSON
ADR Re-recording Mixers	MICHAEL MILLER TRAVIS MACKAY
Foley Mixers	RANDY WILSON RON MELLEGER
Foley Artists	STEFAN FRATICELLI JASON CHARBONNEAU
Foley Assistant	JUSTIN HELLE
Loop Group	BEN TURNER DIXON COURTNEY SWEET
Music Supervisor	JESSICA BERNDT

Music Editor	MITCH BEDERMAN
Additional Music Editing by	BEN CORRIGAN
Transportation Captain / Coordinator	BOBBY HIRONS
Transportation Captain	GAVIN LEBOW
Drivers	MARK ANDERSON FRANK CRUZ LORRIE DILLON LARRY FORSBERG JD HICKS DAVID KLINE LEON LEBOW ROBERT RUNDELL PAUL SALARD JONATHAN SCORZA THOMAS WILSON
Lead Greens	ADRIAN LOBATO
Greens Labor	RAY MARK PROVENCIO MARK FRANCISCO
Set Medic	ROBERT NASH
Key Craft Service	BECKY SMITH
Craft Service Assistant	CORRINA MOODY

Catering by	ALL STAR CATERING
	RICK FIRKINS
Chef	ERICKA PFEIFFER
Assistant Chefs	HARRISON COHEN
	LUIS ZAMBRANO
	ZAK PARKER
	NICK FIRKINS

VISUAL EFFECTS BY CRAFTY APES

Sr. Visual Effects Supervisor	MARK LeDOUX
Visual Effects Producer	MATT AKEY
Additional Visual Effects Supervisor	CHRIS LeDOUX
CG Supervisor	TRI HOANG
Visual Effects Production Manager	ANTHONY VU
Technical and Data Supervisor	DAVID LeDOUX
Lead Compositor	CHRISTIAN WOOD
Compositing Supervisor	JOSH BAILOR

Visual Effects by	ANDY DILL
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Additional Visual Effects by	BRIAN BATTLES
	BILLY BROOKS

Dailies by	RICK METZ
	DAN DINNING

DIGITAL INTERMEDIATE BY FOTOKEM CREATIVE SERVICES

Digital Intermediate Colorist	ALASTOR ARNOLD
Digital Intermediate Editor	CLAIRE IANNELLI
Digital Intermediate Lead Producer	PAMELA SCOTT-FARR
Digital Intermediate Producer	ROBERTO GARCIA

Digital Intermediate Engineers

ALEX OREMAN

MICHAEL VAN FLEET

Titles Creation

CHRIS HIATT

SONGS

"Pablo"

Written by Cory Kennedy-Bodyfelt

Performed by Cory Kendrix

Courtesy of LNS Crew Productions LLC

"Old Friend"

Written by George Jackson

Performed by Lou Roberts

Courtesy of Simply Grand Music, Inc.

By arrangement with Fine Gold Music

"Se Me Escapó Tu Nombre"

Written by Gerardo Demara

Performed by Gera Demara

Courtesy of Casa Nacional

"Amor Mio"

Written by Franck Sarkissian

Performed by Frank Sark

Courtesy of APM Music

"Empty Spirits"

Written by Benji Madden, Joel Madden,
Wesley Lang, Ross Golan

Performed by The Madden Brothers

Courtesy of MDDN

"Simonize"

Written by Peter J. Yorn

Performed by Pete Yorn

Courtesy of Columbia Records

By arrangement with Sony Music
Entertainment

"A Bailar Son Montuno"

Written by Carlos Ruiz

Performed by La Solucion

Courtesy of The Numero Group

"No Lo Debo a Nadie"

Written by Keith Corona, José Eric Chavez,
Adrian Ruben Moreno, Cassidy Fisher

Performed by Keith Corona, El Tr3z &
Dieciseven

Courtesy of A Quarter Til...

"Una Noche"

Written by Norbert Galouo, José Miguel Ortegon Tovar

Performed by Señor Ortegon

Courtesy of APM Music

Music Clearances by ILYSE WOLFE TRETTER, ESQ.

Rights & Clearances by MARSHALL-PLUMB

Insurance by GALLAGHER ENTERTAINMENT
INSURANCE SERVICES

Legal Services Provided by SARAH SANTOS - MSI

For Percy Productions Limited and Ingenious
Media SOPHIE HYDE

JULIAN SCHNEIDERS
MICHAEL STEPHENSON
MAX STOCK
SERGEI MIHHALJOV

Production Monitoring Services for Percy
Productions Provided by GOLDEN ARROW ENTERTAINMENT

NADINE LUQUE
AGAR FORJÁN

Legal Services for Percy Productions Provided
by LEE & THOMPSON

ANWEN GRIFFITHS
SEAN KIA

Completion Bond by FILM FINANCES, INC.
BRYAN BORDON
DAVE BENNETT

Financing and Distribution Advisory Services
by

CREATIVE ARTISTS AGENCY

Payroll Services by

GREENSLATE

Camera & Lenses by

KESLOW

Lighting Equipment Supplied by

MBS EQUIPMENT CO.

Grip Equipment Supplied by

SERIOUS GRIPPAGE

Rigging Grip Equipment Provided by

MALEKO GRIP & RIGGING

Dolly Provided by

CHAPMAN LEONARD

Prosthetics by

LEGACY EFFECTS

Copiers Provided by

DIGITECH OFFICE EQUIPMENT

Walkie Talkies by

ROCK BOTTOM

Stock Footage Provided by

DRIVINGPLATES.COM

SHUTTERSTOCK

Filmed on Location in the State of New Mexico

[FILM NEW MEXICO LOGO]

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO

THELMA SCHOONMAKER

and

TOM WAITS

THE FILMMAKERS WISH TO THANK

NEW MEXICO STATE FILM OFFICE	IT'S A TEN
CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE FILM OFFICE	MICHAEL OVITZ
CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE OPEN SPACE	RON BURKLE
FILM BERNCO	KEVIN MARKS
TOBI IVES	ALEXANDRA TRUSTMAN
CANONCITO BAND OF NAVAJOS	LINDSEY LUCIBELLA-KRAVIS
SANTA ANA PUEBLO	ALANNA BERNSTEIN
ECTOR GOMEZ / CAFE 66	HENRY R. KRAVIS
SANDRA & SALVADOR MONTES	MARIE-JOSEE KRAVIS
ALBUQUERQUE PRESS CLUB	JAMES GOLDRICK
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BODE AVIATION	BRYAN WOLF
FURNITURE ON CONSIGNMENT & STAFF	BEN RUBINFELD
COMMERCIAL TIRE & STAFF	GRANT NIMAN
TED BUSTOS	LINDA QUANE
MELANIE KIRK	JEAN BONG
MARJ ERGAS	WENDY HELLER
ANDREA CANTRELL	JILLIAN WALDRON
SPOTS & PROPS UNLIMITED, LLC	CHRIS HANSON
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MONROE'S RESTAURANT	PAUL CADENHEAD
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KOH GEN DO	MEREDITH WECHTER
ANASTASIA OF BEVERLY HILLS	CHRIS FIOTO
SIGMA BEAUTY	KEVIN YORN
KEVYN ACOIN	AMY KAWA
DAVINES (NORTH AMERICA)	HARLEY NEWMAN
DR. BRONNER'S	TEFFT SMITH
NATHAN HOPKINS	ROB QUADRINO

MARCO SIMULA
TIM WEBER

LUIGI COMANDATORE
SEBASTIAN BUTENBERG