



OFFICIAL SELECTION  
**INTERNATIONAL  
 FILM FESTIVAL  
 ROTTERDAM**  
 2021

# DESTELLO



# BRAVÍO

A FILM BY AINHOA RODRÍGUEZ



A Production of TENTACIÓN CABRIA in Co-production with EDDIE SHETA • Written and Directed by AINHOA RODRÍGUEZ • Executive Production and Production Management AINHOA RODRÍGUEZ • Co-producer LLUÍS MÓNARRO • Production Manager RUBÉN AVELLANO • Photography Direction WILLY JAUREGUI  
 Art Direction LAURA GARCÍA SEBRANO • Edition JOSÉ LUIS PICADO • Sound Creation EVA VALUÑO Y ALEJANDRO CASTILLO • Direct Sound FRANCISCO ÁLVAREZ • Original Music PALOMA PEÑA-PRILOBA Y ALEJANDRO LÉVAR • VFX and Color JOSÉ PANAUERO • Color ALICIA CASADO • Casting Direction AINHOA RODRÍGUEZ  
 Title Font: Le Murmure by JÉRÉMY LANDES (VelveType Type Foundry)



# DESTELLO BRAVÍO

TENTACIÓN CABIRIA

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## SYNOPSIS

There'll be a flash in the village, a really mighty, mighty one and everything will change..., Isa uses a cassette recorder to record messages to herself for when she disappears or loses her memory.

Cita feels trapped in a marriage in a house full of saints and virgins. María returns to the town where she was born to face her loneliness. The women of a small rural town, suspended in time and whipped by depopulation, live between the apathy of their daily day where nothing extraordinary happens and a deep desire for liberating experiences that makes them rediscover the place where they believe they were happy or dreamed of being happy.

## ABOUT THE FILM

*Destello Bravío* is a mysterious, dark and suggestive story; far removed from traditional narrative approaches. It is a fictional work that draws from the documentary and codes of suspense, with notes of magical realism and surrealism. It deconstructs film genres, breaks away from the traditional tale and peeks into different everyday lives to describe a state of mind: the sentiment of inhabitants in a place in process of depopulation, focusing on its women. The film also broaches the search for beauty and the longing for childhood. In the background, and as the main cause of evil, the patriarchal system and the arrival of globalisation.

It is a personal search that moves between reality and fantasy, naturalism and surrealism. A fictional work that sees non-actresses and non-actors take the lead, natives from the region of Tierra de Barros (Badajoz, Spain) and its surroundings, chosen after several castings. The leading roles are played by real women, far removed from normative canons, who bring their truth to the work. The village and the neighbouring towns fully collaborated with the making of the film.

frame of the film *Destello Bravio*



The film delves into the social constructions of men and women while walking through the idiosyncrasy of the villages of southern Spain. It questions the virtues of the end of an era, which brings with it the loss of traditions deeply linked to the rural way of life. The film aims to reflect on social, cultural structures and the gender relations that make up our coexistence.

Subsequently, *Destello Bravío* is a universal story that invites the viewer to converse with the film, to relate to new formal approaches, to discover other realities and, at the same time, to see themselves reflected in the different everyday lives. It has the conviction to establish a feminine and feminist point of view and to collaborate in creating a fairer, more inclusive and more diverse collective imaginary. It is a work that subverts what we know, making us question ourselves because, in a world where globality prevails, unique views in art are subversive.

#### STORY AND MISE EN SCÈNE

*Destello Bravío* brings together different characters' vital moments and focuses on the women's need to fabulate in order to escape their monotony and frustrated dreams. The story has a spiral shape, with leaps through time; it gradually delves deeper into the different characters as the film progresses, until it reaches the heart of the fable. It is a tale of moments, because, sometimes, the everyday can be extraordinary.

By and large, each character in this story is framed in a fixed sequence shot to portray their world and trap them in the place where they belong, in their routine that holds them there and which suffocates them. Each shot becomes a beautiful and stylised compositional scene. It is a perspective that fragments reality by selecting it and, subsequently, ennobling it.

frame of the film *Destello Bravío*



## PHOTOGRAPHY AND COLOUR

It is a small village anchored in its traditions, where time has stood still and the "new world" is resisted. The unsaturated and, sometimes, monochromatic photography is presented as an image of the past but the action is happening now.

Photography that offers contrast: darkness in the night that is disturbing and where fears are unleashed; brightness during the day, to position and frame the characters in their everyday lives and relax the suspense. The colour range is that of an apparently ordinary town featuring whites, greys, blacks, browns; surrounded by the sky and the vegetation, which seem to indicate the way out and highlight the harshness of this end of a way of life, inviting its inhabitants to give up and renounce their former selves. When night falls, fears and passions are unleashed, and inventiveness emerges, trying to make sense of the shadows, looking for a flash to guide and free them. Halfway between fiction and reality, truth and fantasy mix until they reach the heart of the story and, then, the colour red emerges, saturating the photography and speaking of mystery and magic.

## SOUND

Naturalistic by day, strange and unusual by night. Loud in the morning: animals, wind, conversations that echo through the houses, noises and whispers that become unusual. And at dusk, the enchantment takes hold and the deforming sound that conjures up all anguishes and the need to fly far away. It emanates from natural environments and twists them, creating an experimental and unique sound.

frame of the film *Destello Bravio*



photography of María, character of the film *Destello Bravío*





AINHOA RODRÍGUEZ,  
director and producer

Ainhoa Rodríguez is a film and television director, producer and scriptwriter. She was born in Madrid in a hot July in 1982, but she grew up in Extremadura (Spain).

She graduated Cum Laude with a PhD in Audiovisual Media (Cinematographic Theory, Analysis and Documentation) from Complutense University of Madrid with the doctoral thesis The concept of reality in Fellini's films. Also, she has a degree in Audiovisual Communication (Complutense University of Madrid) and a diploma in Film Direction and TV Production (TAI College).

Her short films have won more than 40 awards around the world such as the Best Music Video at the 8th Annual New York Independent Film Festival (USA); the Best 2017 Director at the Austin Music Video Festival 2017 (USA) or the Best Music Video at the 2nd Sacramento Underground Film & Arts Festival (USA), and they have premiered in the Official Section in more than 80 international festivals such as the Leeds International Film Festival (England), a festival accredited by the Academy for the Oscars and the BAFTA; the 12th Edition of the ÉCU, The European Independent Film Festival (France); or the IV FIC Gibara International Film Festival (Gibara, Cuba).

Her music film *Fade* is part of the catalogue of the prestigious US cable channel Short TV, specialized in short films. She is also the creator and director of the serial for TV *Aprende con...*, nominated as Best Autonomic Entertainment Program in 2008 by the Awards of the Spanish Academy of Sciences and Arts of Television.

She combines her work as a film director for other producers and institutions with her independent work for her audiovisual brand: Tentación Cabiria.

She has a long career as a teacher with more than 480 hours of teaching experience, and she has delivered talks and conferences about film language and audiovisual creation, collaborating with public and private organizations such as the University of Extremadura or the Spanish publishing house SM, among others.

Ainhoa works with women from different rural areas in workshops about film language and non-normative perspectives to encourage them to promote and lead actions of socio-cultural importance in their communities. It is about understanding the importance of cinema to create new femininities that break with the canon that the majority of media have of women.

[www.tentacioncabiria.com](http://www.tentacioncabiria.com)

[www.ainhoarodriguez.com](http://www.ainhoarodriguez.com)

## CAST

GUADALUPE GUTIÉRREZ  
Cita

CARMEN VALVERDE  
Clara

ISABEL MENDOZA  
Isa

## TEAM LEADER

AINHOA RODRÍGUEZ  
LLUÍS MIÑARRO  
producers

PALOMA PEÑARRUBIA  
ALEJANDRO LÉVAR  
music composer

RUBY AVELDAÑO,  
production manager

JOSÉ LUIS PICADO,  
film editor

WILLY JÁUREGUI,  
director of photography

LAURA GARCÍA-SERRANO,  
art director

EVA VALIÑO  
ALEJANDRO CASTILLO  
sound creation

## Filmography

Destello Bravío

Color 16:9 Feature film 2021

El!xs

Color 16:9 Shortfilm 2019

Fade

Color 2.35:1 Shortfilm 2016

Aprende con...

Color 4:3 Tv Series 2008-2009

Dolls

Color 1:95:1 Shortfilm 2006



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