

VERANADA

A film by Dominique Chaumont

www.veranafilm.com

Press Kit - May 2023



Trailer: https://youtu.be/7284l6O_888

SYNOPSIS

Veranada (summer pasture) opens a small window into the fascinating way of life of the Malargüe herders. The film moves through the eyes of Don Arturo, a gaucho who travels on his horse in the Argentina Andes Mountains in search of greener grasslands to feed his goats and sheep. In this remote community, herders depend on the one necessary resource to survive: water nourishes the plants in the meadows which feed the herds. This story is about Don Arturo's tenacious yet hopeful will to survive in a region affected by climate change, severe drought.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The film takes place in a remote community of herders in the Andes mountains of Malargüe, located southwest of Mendoza, about five hundred kilometres away from my hometown. As a kid growing up, I visited herders and their families from this community, as I accompanied my father on many road trips. From a young age, I was intrigued by the customs of the people of this community. No automobiles - transportation is only possible by horse, no televisions or phones - communication is restricted to radio announcements. No permanent housing for the most part - herders wander in search of better grasslands.

Since then, the world has changed, but in this remote community, most things remain the same, except the one thing the herders cannot control: climate.

In directing this film, I seek to open a small window into the fascinating way of life of the Malargüe herders and, at the same time, to bring awareness and spark a conversation about the issue of climate change and how actions on one side of the planet can affect vulnerable people and species on the other side of the planet.

REVIEWS

- [POV Magazine - Veranada Review: A Confident First Feature with Finesse](#)

PRODUCTION NOTES

The remoteness of and difficult access to the filming locations were determining factors impacting both artistic and logistic aspects of the film.

In order to reach Don Arturo's veranada, our crew of three traveled by horse for two days. Our camera, sound equipment, food and camping equipment were also transported by horse.

Given that we couldn't carry much weight and take much space on the journey, we decided to pack the bare essentials. We used the following gear: a Panasonic Lumix DC-S1H camera and Cooke Anamorphic lenses, a tripod and a Ronin. For sound a boom and a pair of lavalier microphones. Two laptops, three hard drives, two portable batteries, a satellite phone and two solar panels.

FILM SUBJECT

Don Luis Arturo Avila is a herder from Malargüe, Mendoza, Argentina.

He lives with his girlfriend in the lower parts of the mountains. Their closest neighbours are Don Arturo's brothers and nephews who live in the neighboring lands. The closest city, Malargüe, is located 150 kilometers away.

Like most herders in this region, Don Arturo, travels by horse for a week with his animals from the "Invernada" - the *winter quarters* - usually in the lower part of the mountain range where the gaucho lives with his family during the winter from April to November, to their "Veranada" - the *summer pasture* - at the top of the mountain

range - where the gaucho lives from November to April. At the Veranada, the gaucho, for the most part spends time alone. The summer pastures are more fertile and the gauchos take the opportunity to fatten their animals.

CREATIVE TEAM

Dominique Chaumont is a Canadian, Argentinian and French director and producer. Dominique was born and raised in San Rafael, a small town in the province of Mendoza, Argentina near the Andes Mountains. As a kid growing up, Dominique was fascinated by films and stories. Her passion for films led her to attend at the "Universidad Nacional de las Artes" in Buenos Aires to study film production. Dominique is happy to call Toronto home, where she has been actively involved in the film industry. ***Veranada*** is Dominique's first featured documentary.

Sébastien Armand is a Canadian and French classically trained pianist and composer. Sébastien's musical journey started at the age of six at the Conservatoire de Nice (France). He studied music theory, harmony and history at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto.

Diego Ignacio Miranda is a Chilean Cinematographer and Steadicam Operator. He studied Audiovisual Communication at "Universidad de Artes, Ciencias y Comunicación (UNIACC)." His credits include ***Spencer*** (Pablo Larraín), ***El Presidente*** (Armando Bo), ***Ema*** (Pablo Larraín), ***A fantastic woman*** (Sebastian Lelio).

Florencia Gómez García is a Buenos Aires based film editor and writer. She studied film edition at the "Universidad del Cine" in Buenos Aires. Her editorial credits include ***One in Thousand*** (Clarisa Navas), ***Como el cielo después de llover*** (Mercedes Gaviria), ***Here and There*** (Melisa Liebenthal).

Paito Figueroa is a musician, record producer, arranger, composer and performer from Mendoza, Argentina. He worked for EMI, Sony, DBN and independent productions, in Argentina and abroad. He is currently involved in radio, advertising and studio recording activities at "Underplace" in Mendoza.

CREDITS

Director, Producer
Director of Photography
Production Sound Mixer
Music Composer
Editor
Assistant Editor
Colorist
Sound Editor
Music Producer
Music Recording Engineer
Translation and Subtitling
Script Consultant

Dominique Chaumont
Diego Ignacio Miranda
Juan Carlos Maldonado
Sébastien Armand
Florencia Gomez Garcia
Camila Blanco
Lisa Lombardo
Juan Ignacio Sanchez
Paito Figueroa
Mario Sanchez
Ana Carrino
Valerico Morisi

MUSICIANS

Bombo Leguero
Cello
Clarinet
Guitar I
Guitar II
Piano
Singer I
Singer II
Viola
Violin

Paito Figueroa
Juan Geredus
Natanael Sánchez
Exequiel Sandoval
Hugo Budini
Facundo Pelaitai
Sergio Santi
Paito Figueroa
Ignacio Videla Ruiz
Francisco Jose Delgado

SONGS

“LUCERO”
Written by Paito Figueroa & Sébastien Armand

“IMAGENES DE SU VOZ”
Written by Pablo Budini

“QUINES MI LUGAR”
Written by Juan Carlos Romero