

CANTADORAS: MUSICAL MEMORIES OF LIFE AND DEATH IN COLOMBIA



A FILM BY MARÍA FERNANDA CARRILLO SÁNCHEZ

70 mins / Color / 2017 / Spanish, English Subtitles / Mexico



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AWARDS & FESTIVALS

- Nomination “Ethnomusicology Film Award 2019”. Royal Anthropological Institute Film Festival, RAI-FF Bristol, UK.
- Honorable Mention Best Documentary, African International Film Festival, AFRIFF 2018. Lagos, Nigeria.
- Best Documentary “Culture and Identity Afro and Afro-Descendent People”, FICWALLMAPU Festival, Temuco, Chile.
- Best Social Documentary, Audiovisual Festival of Montes de María, FAMMA, Carmen de Bolívar, Colombia.
- Honorable Mention Best Student Documentary, José Rovirosa Award 2017. General Direction of Film Activities, National Autonomous University of Mexico. Mexico City, Mexico.
- Honorable Mention Best Documentary “Pepe Benítez Muro”, Crystal Screen Festival, Mexico City, Mexico.
- Award Gender Lab Work In Progress, Best Project. International Film Exhibition with Gender Perspective of Mexico City, MICG, Mexico City, Mexico.
- Selected Project in Postproduction for “Dissection” in DocuLab5, International Film Festival of Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Mexico.
- Official Selection Royal Anthropological Institute Film Festival RAI-FF Intangible Culture. Bristol, UK
- Official Selection Africa Internacional Film Festival AFRIFF, Lagos, Nigeria
- Official Selection Globale Film Festival Berlin, Germany
- Official Selection Film Library Word Music Expo (WOMEX Film), Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain
- Official Selection Festival Internacional Indígena de Wallmapu FICWALLMAPU, Temuco, Chile
- Official Selection Festival de Cine Etnográfico “Etnografías Otras”, Quito, Ecuador
- Official Selection Festival Africa Moment, Bacerlona, Spain
- Official Selection Media Library of the Industry of Visions du Réel, Festival International de Cinéma Nyon
- Official Selection, Festival Contra el Silencio Todas las Voces, México City, México
- Official Selection Festival LatinoDocs Toulouse, France
- Official Selection Festival FILMAR en América Latina, Geneva, Switzerland
- Official Selection III Muestra de Cine y Radio Comunitario en Mesoamérica, Oaxaca, México
- Official Selection Festival Internacional de Cine de Mérida y Yucatán, FICMY, México
- Official Selection Festival Internacional por los Derechos Humanos de Bogotá, Colombia
- Official Selection Muestra Internacional de Cine con Perspectiva de Género de la Ciudad de México, México
- Official Selection Muestra Audiovisual XVI Congreso de Antropología en Colombia y del V Congreso de la Asociación Latinoamericana de Antropología, Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá Colombia.
- Premier – Muestra Fílmica del Centro Universitario de Estudios Cinematográficos, México
- Pre-Premier Official Selection Festival Internacional de Cine y Medio Ambiente de Cuernavaca, Cinema Planeta

SYNOPSIS

The word Cantadora comes from traditional Colombian music influenced by African roots and refers to the women that compose and sing their songs while going through their daily chores. “Cantadoras” provides a portrait of rural life in Colombia in its Caribbean and Pacific regions told through the words and songs of the resilient Afro-Colombian singers that farm there. Through intimate interviews and the evocative chants of the bullerengue (cumbia-based style traditionally sung exclusively by women) and currulao, we learn of their everyday experiences of hardship and survival. They speak emotionally of their memories of violence at the hands of paramilitaries and the power of song to build intergenerational strength and give voice to dignity and creativity. Weaving songs, interviews, and archive footage, Cantadoras is a musical journey through ancestral resistance to violence from working in white-owned mines, civil war in which violence rest heavily on rural communities and the challenges of today’s condition.



DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

María Fernanda Carrillo Sánchez is a researcher, scholar and filmmaker. She is the Co-Coordinator of the Laboratory of Media and Audiovisuals (Laboratorio de Medios Audiovisuales, LaMA) at the Universidad Autónoma de la Ciudad de México (UACM). María has a Master's Degree in Documentary Filmmaking at the Centro Universitario de Estudios Cinematográficos and the Facultad de Artes y Diseño (UNAM). She also has a Master's Degree in Social Sciences (FLACSO, Mex). Sociologist (UNAL, Col). María studies focused on direction, sound, editing and the production of documentary films. She also director musical clips and political documentaries. María also organizes conferences and workshops and teaches courses in documentary filmmaking and social science research.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

- Director, Screenplay and Research: María Fernanda Carrillo Sánchez
- Production Manager and Director Assistant: Amaranta Díaz Carnero
- Executive Producer: María Fernanda Carrillo Sánchez
- Director of Photography: Manuel Ortíz Escámez
- Still Photography: Amaranta Díaz Carnero, Emilia López Guzmán & Azeneth Farah
- Production Sound: Emilia López Guzmán, Mario Laborde, María Fernanda Carrillo & Leika Mochán
- Production Coordinators: Juan David Castaño, David Lara & María Fernanda Carrillo
- Production Assistant: Josefina Morales Osorio
- Editors: Emilia López Guzmán & María Fernanda Carrillo
- Post Production Manager: María Fernanda Carrillo
- Post Production Assistant: Isolé Valadéz Morales
- Sound Design: Luis Ortega & Raúl Flores Bernal
- Foley Artist and Effects: Luis Ortega
- Source Music: Juan David Castaño, Diego Balanta, Carlos Daniel Balanta, Luis Freiner Hurtado, Vinicio Torres Reyes & Luis Ortega.
- Digital Art: Vanessa Velázquez & Mayra Mendoza Villa
- Graphic Design: Carmina Flores, Alejandro Medina & Cinthia Sánchez
- Still Photography: Josefina Morales Osorio, Manuel Ortíz Escámez, Amaranta Díaz Carnero & Natalia Monroy
- Online Editing: Mayra Mendoza Villa
- Online Editing Assistant: Lizett Velázquez Bermúdez
- Color Correction: Edgar Flores Ogarrio, C.S.I
- Scanner Arriscan 16mm to 2k: Arturo Pintor Pasos
- Digital Area Engineer: Tomás Gil Flores
- Post Production Sound and Mixing in THX: Raymundo Ballesteros Castillo, Luis Ortega, & Alfredo Romero Hernández
- Mastering and DCP: Mayra Mendoza Villa
- French Translation: Jorge Luis Carrillo
- English Translation: Livia Olvera
- Subtitles: Una Pardo