

Strand Releasing presents

THE EMPTY HOURS

(Las Horas Muertas)

A FILM BY AARÓN FERNÁNDEZ

Starring Kristyan Ferrer and Adriana Paz

PRELIMINARY PRESS NOTES

*Official Selection:
San Sebastián Film Festival*

Country of Origin: Mexico/France/Spain
Format: DCP/Color
Running Time: 100 minutes
Genre: Drama
Not Rated
In Spanish with English Subtitles

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SYNOPSIS

On the desolated coast of Veracruz, 17 year-old Sebastián takes over running his uncle's small and cozy rent-by-the hour motel. There he meets Miranda, a regular customer who comes to the motel to meet a lover who always keeps her waiting. As Sebastián and Miranda get to know each other, an ambiguous game of seduction begins between them.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE: AARÓN FERNÁNDEZ

The Empty Hours, my second feature film, is a kind of coming-of-age plot with a strong lyrical mood. The film portrays two solitary characters that are immersed in a desolated tropical place where time seems not to pass and apparently nothing happens at all. Sebastián and Miranda will have something to share: their spare time and their solitude. Little by little, something between friendship, tenderness and sexual attraction will start to grow within each of them, even if they know that this can only be a casual relationship.

The plot is quite thin and its simplicity allows the viewer to grow fond of these two characters. The minimal story also granted us the opportunity to construct a great scenery against which their relationship develops, based on the great natural atmosphere of the place.

It is a very sensuous film. The ambiance is simple and introspective, giving a great importance to the characters portraits and the contemplative aspects of the landscapes – full of nonchalance and torpor, giving the film a lusty touch.

AARÓN FERNÁNDEZ'S BIOGRAPHY

Aarón Fernández studied in Paris, France, where he obtained a Master's degree in cinematographic studies at the Sorbonne University. He is the founder of Santa Lucía Cine Production Company. He has worked as a screenwriter, director and producer in several projects for cinema and TV. He also acts as a script consultant and teaches screenwriting and direction. He actually lives in São Paulo, Brazil, but works between Mexico and Brazil.

He directed four short films, prior to his debut feature film, *Partes Usadas (Used Parts)*, which was presented in 40 festivals around the world and won various prizes. His second film, *Las Horas Muertas (The Empty Hours)*, was written in the Cannes Cinefondation Residence and has just been completed.

He directed the first 5 episodes of the TV series *Alguien Más*, coproduced by Canana Films and Canal 11. He is developing his new film, *Carmen*, which is set in Brazil, to be produced by Enquadramento Filmes and shot in 2014.

CAST

Kristyan Ferrer
Adriana Paz
Eliseo Lara Martínez
Fermín Martínez
Bartolo Campos
Rebeca Villacorte
Norma Pablo
Amaranta Abril
Sergio Lasgón
Mayra Batalla

Sebastián
Miranda
Jacinto
Tío Gerry
Severino
Lucha
María
Rosa
Mario
Mamá de Jacinto

CREW

Directed by
Produced by
Executive Producer
In co-production with

Aarón Fernández
Aarón Fernández
Elsa Reyes
Christophe Bouffil, Fred Prémel and
Alejandro Palma

Screenplay
Director of Photography
Production Designer
Costume design
Sound
Music
Editor
Casting
Post-production Supervisor
Sound Design and Mix

Aarón Fernández
Javier Morón (A.M.C.)
Patricia De Burgos
Laura García De La Mora
Pablo Tamez
Camilo Froideval
Ana Laura Calderón
Rocío Belmont
Ariel Gordon
Miguel Hernández Montero