

Strand Releasing presents

# POST TENEBRAS LUX

("light after darkness")

**A film by Carlos Reygadas**

**Starring**

**Adolfo Jiménez Castro, Nathalia Acevedo and Willebaldo Torres**

*Official Selection: Cannes Film Festival*

*Official Selection: Toronto International Film Festival*

*Official Selection: AFI Fest*

## **PRELIMINARY PRESS NOTES**

**Country of Origin:** Mexico / France / Germany / The Netherlands

**Format:** 35mm/Color

**Sound Format:** 5.1 Dolby Surround

**Running Time:** 115 minutes

**Genre:** Drama

Not Rated

**In Spanish, English and French with English Subtitles**

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## **SYNOPSIS**

POST TENEBRAS LUX (“light after darkness”), ostensibly the story of an upscale, urban family whose move to the Mexican countryside results in domestic crises and class friction, is a stunningly photographed, impressionistic psychological portrait of a family and their place within the sublime, unforgiving natural world. Reygadas conjures a host of unforgettable, ominous images: a haunting sequence at dusk as Reygadas’s real-life daughter wanders a muddy field and farm animals loudly circle and thunder and lightning threaten; a glowing-red demon gliding through the rooms of a home; a husband and wife visiting a swingers’ bathhouse with rooms named after famous philosophers. By turns entrancing and mystifying, POST TENEBRAS LUX palpably explores the primal conflicts of the human condition.

— Mike Maggiore, Programmer, Film Forum

## **DIRECTOR – CARLOS REYGADAS**

### **ON *POST TENEBRAS LUX***

The film may seem mysterious at first sight. But I really hope that by not giving you any simple answers, you eventually feel how much I respect you as a viewer, how I respect the movie in terms of art, and how much I respect myself as a director. The film is what it is. Talking about it afterward makes me feel dishonest. I demand a lot from the audience and I don't have any limits, that's true. However, I am a free man, and I may do what I really want. I am giving you the best of myself, and I strongly believe that all around me there are lots of people more sensitive and intelligent than I am. Every single person is different, is focused on other things, feels different emotions, and tries to find their own way through the movie, and is able to find their very own and unique interpretations of the story. One viewer could love the film; the other one, as sensible as anyone else, may hate it for a very good reason. Moreover, I am a viewer as well. I watch lots of movies, and I truly appreciate the directors that don't try to lead me by the hand through their stories. I want to be considered one of them.

— Carlos Reygadas

## **DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY**

Carlos Reygadas became a lawyer in Mexico and specialized in Armed Conflict Law in London. He worked for the European Commission and was a member of the Mexican Foreign Service. Between 1998 and 1999 Reygadas made four shorts in Belgium learning film in a self-taught manner after being rejected from film school in Brussels.

In 2000 he shot his first feature film, *Japón* (Japan). The film was presented at the Rotterdam Film Festival and received a special mention for the Caméra d'Or Award at the 2002 Cannes Film Festival, as well as several other prizes. He presented *Batalla en el Cielo* (Battle in Heaven) in 2005, which was selected for Competition in Cannes and won the FIPRESCI Prize at Río de Janeiro International Film Festival among others. In 2007 his film *Stellet Licht* (Silent Light) competed once more for the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival winning the Jury Award. He also won the Grand Prize at Riga International Film Forum 'Arsenals', the Golden Colón at Huelva Latin American Film Festival, the Grand Coral – First Prize and Best Director at Havana Film Festival, the Gold Hugo at Chicago International Film Festival, the Jury Award at Bergen International Film Festival, among others.

In 2009 he made the installation Serengetti and the short film “Este es mi reino” (This is my kingdom) for the long film *Revolución* directed by 10 Mexican filmmakers.

*Post Tenebras Lux* is his fourth feature film.

## **FILMOGRAPHY**

1998	ADULT
1999	PRISONNIERS (PRISONERS) OISEAUX (BIRDS) MAXHUMAIN (SUPER HUMAN)
2001	JAPÓN (JAPAN)
2005	BATALLA EN EL CIELO (BATTLE IN HEAVEN)
2007	STELLET LICHT (SILENT LIGHT)
2010	REVOLUCIÓN [EP THIS IS MY KINGDOM ONLY]
2012	POST TENEBRAS LUX

## **CAST**

JUAN	ADOLFO JINÉNEZ CASTRO
NATALIA	NATHALIA ACEVEDO
EL SIETE	WILLEBALDO TORRES
RUT	RUT REYGADAS
ELEAZAR	ELEAZAR REYGADAS

## **CREW**

DIRECTOR & SCREENWRITER	CARLOS REYGADAS
CINEMATOGRAPHER	ALEXIS ZABE
EDITOR	NATALIA LOPÉZ
SOUND	GILLES LAURENT
PRODUCTION DESIGN	GERARDO TAGLE
ART DIRECTOR	NOHEMÍ GONZÁLES
VISUAL EFFECTS	RODRIGO ECHEVARRÍA
PRODUCERS	JAIME ROMANDÍA CARLOS REYGADAS
ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS	JEAN LABADIE FIORELLA MORETTI
ARTISTIC PRODUCER	NOHEMÍ GONZÁLEZ