

BANANALAND

A FILM WRITTEN BY DAVID MARCONI



PARAGAS INDEPENDENT FILMS

CONCEPT

BANANALAND is a fast-paced feature film infused with the magic realism of Gabriel García Márquez's novel; 100 Years of Solitude. All told against the tapestry of corpocracy empire-driven actions that've shaped Latin America for over a century.

The film uses the sweeping, true-life story of Luis Noboa Naranjo, the most successful banana producer in the world, and takes the audience on an emotional journey of human drama.

The movie intends to carry an inspiring and crucial piece of Latin American history to a worldwide audience, providing an important extra layer and innovative approach to the continent's decade long struggle against corruption and foreign corporate imposition.



1922 - 1985

STORY

6-year-old Luis Norte witnesses the murder of his father during the infamous Colombian Banana Massacre of 1928, organized by the United Fruit Company.

Once a grown man and rising from absolute poverty to the heights of a global banana empire, Norte, emulating his father's ideals, models his farms upon the principle of equality; but by doing so, he alienates and antagonizes the fruit company and the elite families, lead by Paolo Manfredo, whose plantation workers don't receive the same benefits.

When an oil company discovers a massive crude reserve right beneath Norte's plantations, they try to buy him out, but Norte resists, so a corrupt branch of the CIA sends an agent to handle the situation.

A smart and beautiful undercover agent is in charge of the operation, but she soon betrays the Agency for the man she has come to understand and secretly love.

However, backed by the oil industry, United Fruit, the CIA and the Ecuadorian elite, Manfredo has made it his life mission to make Norte pay the ultimate price.

STRUCTURE

As the films; JFK, The Big Short and I Tonya, BANANALAND is told in a series of flashback narratives of four characters lead by a well-known TV filmmaker that is doing a TV documentary called "The Life and Times of Luis Norte". His show focuses on who may have killed Norte and why.

Each interviewee knows an aspect of Norte's life and provides specific incidents and motivations as to who had reasons to kill Norte. When woven together, the narratives create a tapestry as to who Norte was, how he lived, loved, fought and died for his beliefs.



LUIS NORTE



Heroic. Serious. An astute businessman. A man of moral integrity. His life changes forever when his father, a labor organizer for United Fruit, is mercilessly slaughtered right before his eyes. Norte becomes a man of the people, modeling his farms on the egalitarian idea of equality, his utopian Bananaland.

W.A. WINSLOW



Norte's personal devil since he murder his father. A ruthless and key employee of the Unite Fruit Company. Winslow is a poster boy for American white-privilege, with the strategic mind of a war master. He is the puppeteer that guides both Ecuadorian politics and International relations while keeping the workers in check, as he views them as a simple mean to an end.

MADDY TUCKER



A self-assured, sophisticated woman who exudes a smoky, mysterious intellect and beauty. Economic hitman with one mission: to persuade Norte to sell his mineral rights to Big Oil. Maddy will become Norte's chief love interest. Her mission-resolve will weaken as she sees the country through Norte's eyes and passion.

MAGDA



Her love with Luis was forbidden, since Magda belongs to a pompous and rich elite family. Still, when Luis becomes an important businessman, Magda will finally marry him. But sooner than later she gets bored of her Ecuadorian life, craving the excitement of a jet-set scene in Manhattan with its fashion parties and celebrities.

PAOLO MANFREDO



Norte's chief nemesis since childhood. Ex-president of Ecuador, an outlandish character who carefully maintains his Hitler-styled toothbrush mustache and provides the comedy for the film. Unlike Norte, Manfredo comes from an old-moneyed family of Ecuador that's part of the entrenched political system running things.

FATHER FRANCISCO



Archbishop of Guayaquil that helps Luis to escape. He provides the emotional fabric of Norte's early years, his devoutness, moral conflicts, interesting anecdotes as well as Norte's mystical relationship with the indigenous tribes and Eco-system. Francisco understands Norte's list of enemies and is one of the few Norte trusts.

ENRIQUE PONCE



A fellow survivor of the Colombian massacre. Ponce will grow into Norte's lifelong friend and business partner. His gift is the gift of gab, especially with women. He is the squire Sancho Panza to Norte's noble Don Quixote.

ARMANDO NORTE



Corrupt, manipulative and drug addict. Norte's eldest son. Armando hates his father for his lack of power sharing and for treating him like the child he still is. Armando will do whatever it takes to achieve his goal of grabbing Norte's business empire.

SETTING

Breathtaking landscapes.

A visual experience.



New York
Washington DC
Jamaica
Honduras
Panama
Colombia
Ecuador



VISUAL REFERENCES



DAVID MARCONI

THE WRITER

Is a renowned American screenwriter.



THE CREW



Guillermo Navarro
DP



Gustavo Santaolalla
Composer



Nicolas Becker
Sound Design



Guillaume Rocheron
VFX Supervisor

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ABOUT THE PRODUCTION COMPANY

We are an independent development and production company founded in 2009 with offices in Paris, Guayaquil and Miami. We have a simple goal: to create authentic, disruptive and high aesthetic value films and TV content.

Andes



North America



Africa

Amazonas

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