



MADEINUSA

A Film by Claudia Llosa

"Exquisite!..Illuminating...[and] remarkable"
- *Variety*



Spain/ Peru/ 2005/ In Spanish/ 103 min./ 35 MM/
1:1.85/ COLOR/ DOLBY DIGITAL

Everything changes in the life of Peruvian girl Madeinusa when Salvador arrives in her isolated religiously zealous village in the mountains of Peru.

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SYNOPSIS

Madeinusa is a girl aged 14 with a sweet Indian face who lives in an isolated village in the Cordillera Blanca Mountain range of Peru. This strange place is characterized by its religious fervor. From Good Friday at three o'clock in the afternoon (the time of day when Christ died on the cross) to Easter Sunday, the whole village can do whatever it feels like. During the two holy days sin does not exist: God is dead and can't see what is happening. Everything is accepted and allowed, without remorse. Year after year, Madeinusa and her sister Chale, and her father Don Cayo, the Mayor and local big shot, maintain this tradition without questioning it. However, everything changes with the arrival in the village of Salvador, a young geologist from Lima, who will unknowingly change the destiny of the girl.

FESTIVALS/AWARDS

OFFICIAL SELECTION, SUNDANCE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2006
OFFICIAL SELECTION, SEATTLE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2006
OFFICIAL SELECTION, TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL 2006
WINNER, FIPRESCI AWARD, ROTTERDAM INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2006
WINNER, CORAL AWARD, BEST ORIGINAL SCRIPT, HAVANA FILM FESTIVAL 2003
WINNER, ARGENTINA FILM & CINEMATOGRAPHY INDUSTRY AWARD, MAR DEL PLATA FILM FESTIVAL 2006
WINNER, TERRITORIO LATINO: BEST FILM AWARD, FESTIVAL DE CINE ESPANOL DE MALAGA 2006
WINNER, SPECIAL JURY PRIZE, RECONTRES D'AMERIQUE LATINE TOULOUSE 2006
WINNER, BEST PHOTOGRAPHY, CINE CEARÁ, BRASIL
WINNER, BEST SCRIPT, CINE CEARÁ, BRASIL

CREW

Written and directed by	Claudia Llosa
Producers	José María Morales Antonio Chavarrías Claudia Llosa
Cinematography	Raúl Pérez Ureta
Art director	Eduardo Camino
Visual Conception	Patricia Bueno Susana Torres
Art producer	Roxana Rivera
Editing	Ernest Blasi
Sound designer and Editor	Albert Manera
Direct sound	Ferran Mengod
Mixer	Marc Orts
Original music	Selma Mutal
Band music	Alfredo Neira
Delegate producers	Marina Charún Àngels Masclans Miguel Morales
Line producer	Enid Campos “Pinky”
Casting director	Bárbara Acosta

CAST

Madeinusa	Magaly Solier
Salvador	Carlos de la Torre
Chale	Yiliana Chong
Cayo	Ubaldo Huamán
Mauro	Melvin Quijada

FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is the pride and the shame of revealing a culture as distinctive as it is different from ours: Andean Peru, full of sins and richness, but essentially unknown. The co-star, Salvador, and I myself, the narrator of the story, are always observing in the light and in the shade of the Westernised viewpoint.

I try to discover a lost and forgotten world and to turn the spectator into a faithful voyeur of what happens in a non-existent but real village. My task is also to reflect on its greatest problem: its identity

I was moved by the need to look at the people of the Andes with the same self-assurance as when I look at any suburban family, without any fears of wanting to censor them or priori defend them.

Basing the story on the village and its characters, I discovered a way to concentrate on a subject that is common to all the peoples of the world: the submission of want in the face of duty. I wanted to reflect on that blurred border that separates instinctive desire from learned duty.

Punishment has an important role to play in the Western view of sin. But it only exists when there is a condemned person to judge. But who creates these norms? And why do we follow or transgress them?

A different premise is presented in MADEINUSA: the acceptance of a momentary absence of guilt, the judging eye or, better still, the permission of God/Father.

But the most interesting thing for me was to understand the cathartic and liberating relevance of a people who are able to construct a new self-esteem based on an absence of fear and humiliation.

DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Writer/Director Claudia Llosa was born in Lima in 1976. Her film *Madeinusa*, developed at the Sundance Screenwriters lab in Los Angeles was the recipient of the best original script at the Havana film festival and has gone to win praise at numerous international festivals.

Claudia achieved her degree in cinematographic direction in 1998 and a Masters Degree in TV and Cinema Script at the “Escuela de Artes y Cine TAI”, Madrid, Spain. She then went on to specialize in Cinematographic Direction at NYU, University in New York.

Claudia previously directed the short film, *SEEING MARTINA* in 2004. *MADEINUSA* is her first feature film.