

Mongrel Media
Presents

Crystal Fairy

**A film by Sebastian Silva
(112 min., Chile, 2013)
Language: English**

Distribution



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High res stills may be downloaded from <http://www.mongrelmedia.com/press.html>

A young man with curly hair, wearing a light blue shirt, is shown in profile, holding a large, green, columnar cactus. He is standing in a vast, arid desert landscape under a bright sky. The cactus is held vertically, and the man's expression is one of wonder or contemplation.

CRYSTAL FAIRY & THE MAGICAL CACTUS AND 2012

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY SEBASTIAN SILVA

SYNOPSIS

When Jamie invites a complete stranger to come along on a road trip to the north of Chile with his Chilean friend Champa and two of his younger brothers, he fails to realize that this woman -a fellow American who goes by the name of Crystal Fairy- is ready and willing to accept any invitation that comes her way. Jamie's acid and self-absorbed personality clashes with Crystal Fairy's free and esoteric nature as all five of them head into the Atacama Desert with the concise mission of drinking a San Pedro cactus for mescaline-fueled psychedelic trip. As the journey unfolds and the traveling companions get to know each other better, Jamie must learn that he must be more accepting of others, while Crystal finds the way to accept herself.





Written and directed by Sebastián Silva

Produced by Juan de Dios Larraín
Pablo Larraín

Cast Michael Cera as Jamie
Gaby Hoffmann as Crystal Fairy
Juan Andrés Silva as Champa
José Miguel Silva as Lel
Agustín Silva as Pilo

Director of photography Cristián Petit-Laurent

Art director Mark Grattan

Costume design Mark Grattan

Line Producer Cristóbal Sotomayor

Editing Sebastián Silva
Sofía Subercaseaux
Diego Macho

Sound design Roberto Espinoza

Original music Pedro Subercaseaux

Executive producers **Diroriro:** Sebastián Silva

Fabula: Mariane Hartard
Juan Ignacio Correa
Andrea Carrasco Stiven
Sofía Subercaseaux
Rocío Jadue



SEBASTIAN SILVA

Filmography

2007: La Vida Me Mata (Life kills me)

2009: La Nana (The maid)

2010: Gatos Viejos (Old cats)

2012: The boring life of Jacqueline

2013: Crystal Fairy

2013: Magic Magic

Crystal Fairy and the Magical Cactus and 2012 is not a film, but a miracle.

It is a magical and miraculous film that speaks of the power of altruism and genuine feelings, of tolerance and altruism.

It is a magical and positive journey that will lead you to enjoy a diverse universe of illusions and truth.

Its characters represent the deepest of virtues, and act according to them sometimes but not always.

Finally, and lastly, the reality presented through its mis-en-scene never gives away the ending, yet you may be able to deduce it.

Everything you have just read is a joke.

Making this film was a pleasure from start to finish.

To me, it is about experiencing compassion for the first time.

MICHAEL CERA

How was it to work as an actor under Sebastián Silva's direction?

I love working with Sebastián. This was a very collaborative experience and Sebastián is such an open guy to work with. It was exciting watching him find this story as we worked.

What is your opinion on drug use among young people?

I think everyone explores drugs for their own reasons. The characters in this film are all on this adventure for their own reasons, mine being the most obsessed by the idea of taking the San Pedro. But to me it's not a film about drug use so much as a film about denial, and self-recognition.

A woman with dark hair tied in a bun, wearing a patterned headscarf and a dark jacket, is drinking from a clear plastic bottle. She is looking upwards and to the right. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a window and a floral patterned chair.

GABY HOFFMANN

How did you prepare for the role of Crystal Fairy?

I made little preparations other than having fallen in love with Sebastián during the making of *Boring life of Jacqueline*, following the sensational experience of seeing *The Maid* at sundance. Once in Chile Seb, myself and the gang spent a week talking, eating, drinking and playing. I read a fantastic book about 2012 and delved into the scrapbook I created for *Crystal Fairy* while the boys played music in the backyard and Seb wrote and rewrote across the desk from me and we occasionally ran out on crystal buying expeditions. All the while building up an enthusiasm and camaraderie for the project that seemed to be the only preparation we needed.

Tell us about the experience of making a film in the Chilean desert.

The making of the movie was a frantic yet meditative, wonderful, confusing explosion of effort, imagination and love for one another. It was an adventure, a pleasure and a privilege.

A photograph of three young men running on a sandy beach. The man on the left is wearing orange shorts and is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The man in the middle is wearing dark patterned shorts and is also looking towards the camera. The man on the right is wearing bright blue shorts and is running away from the camera, looking back over his shoulder. The background shows a rocky coastline and a cloudy sky.

THE SILVA BROTHERS

Juan Andrés, how was it to act under your brother's direction?

It was quite comfortable and pleasant to work in an atmosphere with this much familiarity.

We knew beforehand that the film would include a lot of improvisation and spontaneous jokes, so there wasn't too much pressure to adopt characters and dynamics that differ from real life.

I think that it's one of the film's greatest virtues, and that Sebastian skillfully handled us as a director-brother, who knows and shares our sense of humor.

CRYSTAL FAIRY & THE MAGICAL CACTUS AND 2012



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