

Mongrel Media

Presents

I'm So Excited!



A film by Pedro Almodóvar

(95 min., Spain, 2012)

Language: Spanish

Distribution

mONGREL

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

CAST

in order of appearance

Alex Acero	ANTONIO DE LA TORRE
Benito Morón	HUGO SILVA
The Groom	MIGUEL ÁNGEL SILVESTRE
The Bride	LAYA MARTÍ
Joserra	JAVIER CÁMARA
Fajas	CARLOS ARECES
Ulloa	RAÚL ARÉVALO
Infante	JOSÉ MARÍA YAZPIK
Ricardo Galán	GUILLERMO TOLEDO
Mr. Más	JOSÉ LUIS TORRIJO
Bruna	LOLA DUENAS
Norma	CECILIA ROTH
Ruth	BLANCA SUÁREZ

With the special collaboration of

León	ANTONIO BANDERAS
Jessica	PENÉLOPE CRUZ
Alba	PAZ VEGA
Concierge	CARMEN MACHI
Alba's Mother	SUSI SÁNCHEZ
Hostess Piluca	PEPA CHARRO
Passenger	NASSER SALEH

FILMMAKERS

Written and Directed	PEDRO ALMODÓVAR
Producer	AGUSTÍN ALMODÓVAR
Produced by	ESTHER GARCIA
Original Score	ALBERTO IGLESIAS
Director of Photography	JOSÉ LUIS ALCÁINE (AEC)
Art Director	ANTXON GÓMEZ
Associate Producers	BÁRBARA PEIRÓ
	DIEGO PAJUELO
Director of Production	TONI NOVELLA
Sound	IVÁN MARTÍN
Sound Editing	PELAYO GUTIÉRREZ
Sound Mixing	MARC ORTS
Make-Up	ANA LOZANO
Hair	SERGIO PÉREZ BERBEL
Costumes	TATIANA HERNÁNDEZ
Costumes of the Air Crew	DAVIDELFÍN
Choreography	BLANCA LI

SYNOPSIS

A very varied group of people are in a precarious situation aboard a plane flying to Mexico City.

A technical failure (a kind of justifiable negligence, even though it sounds contradictory, but that's what human actions are) has endangered the lives of the passengers on Peninsula Flight 2549. The pilots, hardened, experienced professionals are striving, along with their colleagues in the Control Center, to find a solution. The flight attendants and the chief steward are atypical, baroque characters who, in the face of danger, try to forget their own personal problems and devote themselves body and soul to the task of making the flight as enjoyable as possible for the passengers, while they wait for a solution. Life in the clouds is as complicated as it is at ground level, and for the same reasons, which could be summarized in two: sex and death.

The travelers in Business Class consist of a pair of newlyweds, partygoers, worn out by their wedding celebration; a financier and embezzler; unscrupulous in business but also a father afflicted by his daughter's estrangement; an inveterate Don Juan with an uneasy conscience who is trying to say goodbye to one of his women (**girlfriends**); a rural psychic; a queen of the gossip magazines and a Mexican with an important secret. Each of them has a project in Mexico City, either to work or to escape. They all have some kind of secret, not just the Mexican.

Their defenselessness in the face of danger provokes a general catharsis among the passengers and the crew, and this ends up becoming the best way to escape from the idea of death. This catharsis, developed in the tone of a riotous, moral comedy, fills the time with sensational confessions that help them forget the anguish of the moment.

PEDRO ALMODÓVAR – BIOGRAPHY

He was born in Calzada de Calatrava, province of Ciudad Real, in the heart of La Mancha, in the 50s. When he was eight, he emigrated with his family to Extremadura. There he studied for his elementary and high school diplomas respectively with the Salesian Fathers and the Franciscans.

At seventeen, he left home and moved to Madrid, with no money and no job, but with a very specific project in mind: to study cinema and direct films. It was impossible to enrol in the Official Film School because Franco had just closed it. Despite the dictatorship that was suffocating the country, for an adolescent from the provinces Madrid represented culture, independence and freedom. He worked at many, sporadic jobs but couldn't buy his first Super-8mm camera until he got a "serious" job at the National Telephone Company of Spain in 1971. He worked there for twelve years as an administrative assistant, he shared this job in the mornings with other multiple activities which provided his real training as a filmmaker and as a person.

In the mornings, in the Telephone Company, he got an in-depth knowledge of the Spanish middle class at the start of the consumer era, the seventies, its dramas and its misfortunes, a real gold mine for a future story teller. In the evenings and nights, he wrote, loved, acted with the mythical independent theatre group Los Goliardos and made films in Super-8 (his only school as a filmmaker). He collaborated with various underground magazines and wrote stories, some of which were published. He was a member of a parodic punk-rock group, Almodóvar and McNamara, etc. And he had the good fortune that his personal explosion coincided with the explosion of the democratic Madrid of the last seventies, early eighties. That was the period the world knew as La Movida.

His films are the heirs and the witnesses of the brand new born Spanish democracy. After a year and a half of eventful shooting on 16mm, in 1980 he opened "Pepi, Luci, Bom", a no-budget film made as a cooperative effort with the rest of the crew and the cast, all beginners, except for Carmen Maura.

In 1986, he founded the production company El Deseo S.A. with his brother Agustín. Their first project was “Law of Desire”. Since then, they have produced all the films that Pedro has written and directed, and have also produced other young directors.

In 1988, “Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown” brought him international recognition. Since then, his films have opened all around the world. With “All About my Mother” he won his first Academy Award for Best Foreign Film, and also the Golden Globe, the César, 3 European Film Awards, the David de Donatello, 2 BAFTAs, 7 Goyas and 45 other awards. Three years later, “Talk to Her” had the same or better fortune (Academy Award for Best Script, 5 European Film Awards, 2 BAFTAs, the Nastro de Argento, the César and many other awards throughout the world but not in Spain).

He produced four very special films, highly rated throughout the world for their valour and delicacy (“My Life Without Me”, “The Holy Girl”, “The Secret Life of Words” and “The Headless Woman”, by Isabel Coixet and Lucrecia Martel alternatively).

In 2004, “Bad Education” was chosen to open the Cannes Festival. It received extraordinary reviews throughout the world. It was nominated for numerous awards (Independent Spirit Awards, BAFTAs, César, European Film Awards) and won the prestigious Award for Best Foreign Film given by the New York Critics’ Circle and also the Nastro de Argento.

In 2006 he is awarded with the Prince of Asturias Award to the Arts. That very same year he presents “Volver” in competition in the Cannes Film Festival, where it got the Best Screenplay Award as well as the Best Actress Award for the six actresses of the film, leaded by Penélope Cruz. The film received 5 EFA awards, 5 Goya awards, the Fipresci award, the National Board of Review, and many others (up to 72). Penélope was nominated to the Best Actress Academy Award, being the first time a Spanish actress was nominated for a Spanish speaking film. Up to now, “Volver” has been his most popular film in terms of box office.

FILMOGRAPHY

- 1974-1979 Various films of differing lengths on Super-8mm, including some on 16mm
(*Salomé*)
- 1980 *Pepi, Luci, Bom*
- 1982 *Labyrinth of Passions*
- 1983 *Dark Habits*
- 1984-5 *What Have I Done to Deserve This?!*
- 1985 *Trayler para amantes de lo prohibido* (medium length, on video, for TVE)
- 1985-86 *Matador*
- 1986 *Law of Desire*
- 1987 *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*
- 1989 *Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down*
- 1991 *High Heels*
- 1992 *Acción mutante* (Producer)
- 1993 *Kika*
- 1995 *The Flower of my Secret*
- 1997 *Live Flesh*
- 1999 *All About My Mother*
- 2000 *The Devil's Backbone* (Producer)
- 2001 *Talk to Her*

2002	<i>My Life Without Me</i> (Producer)
2003	<i>Chill Out!</i> (Producer)
2003	<i>Bad Education</i>
2004	<i>The Holy Girl</i> (Producer)
2005	<i>The Secret Life of Words</i> (Producer)
2006	<i>Volver</i>
2008	<i>The Headless Woman</i> (Producer)
2009	<i>Broken Embraces</i>
2011	<i>The Skin I Live In</i>

ACTORS' BIOGRAPHIES

ANTONIO DE LA TORRE

Born in Malaga, Antonio de la Torre first worked in journalism and then went on to try his luck in the world of acting.

He has become one of Daniel Sánchez Arévalo's favorite actors and has appeared in all his films. "AzulOscuroCasiNegro" (2006) earned him the Goya for Best Supporting Actor and "Gordos" (2009), for which he gained over 65 pounds, a nomination as Best Actor. He is also in the cast of "La gran familia española", which has not yet been released.

Another of his regular directors is Álex de la Iglesia, with whom he has worked in "Muertos de risa" (1999), "La comunidad" (2000), "Balada triste de trompeta" (2010), for which he was nominated for a Goya as Best Actor, and "La chispa de la vida" (2011).

He has also worked regularly with Iciar Bollaín, Félix Sabroso and Dunia Ayaso and Manuel Martín Cuenca, with whom he is now shooting "Caníbal".

He was nominated for 2 Goya Awards last year, as Best Actor for "Grupo 7" (2012), by Alberto Rodríguez, and as best supporting actor for "Invasor" (2012), by Daniel Calparsoro.

HUGO SILVA

Although he began working as an electrician, his mother encouraged him to follow his dream of becoming an actor. He had his first break in the now legendary television series "Al salir de clase", a breeding ground for a whole generation of Spanish cinema. But it was some time later when, with another television series, "Los hombres de Paco", he made the leap to stardom. Since then, he has been working constantly in cinema: "Reinas" (2004) by Manuel Gómez Pereira, "El hombre de arena" (2006) by José Manuel González, the very successful "Mentiras y gordas" (2008) by David Menkes and Alfonso Albacete and "Que se mueran los feos" (2010) by Nacho García Velilla, or the delicious romantic comedy "Lo contrario al amor" (The Opposite of

Love) (2011) by Vicente Villanueva. He is currently having success at the Spanish box office with “El Cuerpo” (2012), by Oriol Vila.

In addition to his film and television work, in 2009 he was also in the cast of the stellar “Hamlet” directed by Tomaz Pandur.

MIGUEL ÁNGEL SILVESTRE

Miguel Ángel was destined to be a professional tennis player but a shoulder injury cut short his sporting career. After taking his first steps as a model, he began working as an actor in various theater productions and television series. It was precisely the television series “Sin tetas no hay paraíso” that catapulted him to fame. As well as earning him many awards, such as the Silver Fotogramas for the Best Television Actor, the Ondas Award for the Best Actor in national television fiction in 2008 or the Chameleon of Honor for the Best Television Newcomer in the ninth edition of the Festival of Islantilla, the character of “Duque” made Silvestre one of the most sought after actors on the national scene practically overnight.

Previously he had stood out for his work in "La distancia" (2006), by Iñaki Dorronsoro, which earned him the A Future in Cinema award at the 22nd edition of Cinemajove and the Best Newcomer award at the Toulouse Festival. He also worked with Eduardo Chapero Jackson in “Verbo” (2011), with Mariano Barroso in “Lo mejor de Eva” (2012) and with José Luis Cuerda in “Todo es silencio” (2012) and he took part in the Italian production "L'imbroglio nel lenzuolo" (2008) by Alfonso Arau. He will shortly be seen in “Alacrán enamorado” by Santiago Zannou.

JAVIER CÁMARA

Javier Cámara has had an extensive, varied career, in cinema, television and theater, and has enjoyed both great popular success and critical acclaim.

His first television success came with the series “¡Ay, Señor, Señor!”, which was followed by even greater success over several seasons with “7 vidas” (Silver Fotograma for Best Television Actor in 1999). It was precisely with several of his companions from that series that he produced and starred in the staging of “Un air de famille” (Agnès Jaoui and Jean-Pierre Bacri) in 2003 for which he won the Silver Fotogramas for Best Theater Actor.

He has combined auteurist cinema (“Lucía y el sexo” (2000), Julio Medem; “Torremolinos 73” (2003), Pablo Berger; “Malas temporadas” (2005), Manuel Martín Cuenca; “Una pistola en cada mano” (2012), Cesc Gay), with more commercial cinema (“Torrente: el brazo tonto de la ley” (1998), Santiago Segura; “Alatriste” (2006), Agustín Díaz Yanes; “Fuera de carta” (2008), Nacho García Velilla; “Que se mueran los feos” (2010), Nacho García Velilla).

Known to the general public for his comic work, “Talk to Her” (2002), by Pedro Almodóvar, was a turning point in his career. Playing the lead for the first time in a dramatic role, he received awards and nominations around the world (including nominations as Best Actor for the Goya and the European Film Awards). Almodóvar called on him again to play La Paca in “Bad Education” (2004) and designed this role in “I’m So Excited!” specifically for him.

He will soon be seen in “Ayer no termina nunca”, by Isabel Coixet, with whom he also worked in “The Secret Life of Words” (2005).

CARLOS ARECES

While still at school, he was already making a name for himself as an artist, selling caricatures of his teachers at break time. This led him to study Fine Arts, where he met the people who would later be his companions in the cult television series “La hora chanante”, “Muchachada Nui” and “Museo Coconut”. The absurd humor of these programs and Areces’ imitations in them have made him into an icon. The subnpop (subnormal pop) music group he has formed with Aníbal Gómez, Ojete Calor, and which will soon be releasing the album “Delayed” (understood as “Retarded”), undoubtedly reaffirms his status in the world of the sub-genre.

Although his filmography is short, he has had time to work with Alex de la Iglesia in the television series “Plutón B.R.B. Nero” (2008), in “Balada triste de trompeta” (2010) (for which he won the Sant Jordi for Best Actor along with fellow actor Antonio de la Torre) and in “Las brujas de Zugarramundi”, which has not yet been released. He also appeared in “Spanish Movie” (2009), by Javier Ruíz Caldera, “Extraterrestre” (2011), by Nacho Vigalondo and “Lobos De Arga” (2011), by Juan Martínez Moreno.

RAÚL ARÉVALO

Raúl Arévalo’s career has been marked by Daniel Sánchez Arévalo. He offered him his first notable role in “AzulOscuroCasiNegro” (2006), which earned him an award from the Actors’ Union as Best Newcomer. This collaboration continued in “Gordos” (2009), for which he won the Goya for Best Supporting Actor, and “Primos” (2011), for which he again won an award from the Actors’ Union, this time as Best Supporting Actor.

He has also appeared in “El camino de los ingleses” (2006), by Antonio Banderas; “Siete mesas de billar francés” (2007), by Gracia Querejeta; “Los girasoles ciegos” (2008), by José Luis Cuerda; and "Promoción fantasma" (2012), by Javier Ruiz Caldera.

At present, he is having a success in the television series “Con el culo al aire” and is preparing, with Javier Cámara, “La vida inesperada”, by Jorge Torregrosa.

JOSÉ MARÍA YAZPIK

Although this is the first time that Pedro Almodóvar has worked with the Mexican actor, it isn’t his first appearance in Spanish cinema, as he had already stood out in “Sólo quiero caminar” (2008) by Agustín Díaz Yanes.

He got his first important roles in television, more specifically as the leading man in various Mexican soap operas. He moved from there to cinema, and appeared in film such as “La habitación azul” (2002) by Walter Doehner, “Sin ton ni Sonia” (2003) by Carlos Sama, “Nicotina” (2003) by Hugo Rodríguez or “Las vueltas del citrillo” (2006) by Felipe Cazals, for

which he won the Ariel as Best Actor. He also participated in the directing debuts of Guillermo Arriaga, “The Burning Plain” (2008), and Diego Luna, “Abel” (2010).

GUILLERMO TOLEDO

Also known as Willy Toledo, he began his training as an actor in the prestigious Cristina Rota School. There, he met Ernesto Alterio and Alberto San Juan, with whom he founded the theater company Animalario. Apart from their own productions (“Alejandro y Ana: todo lo que España no pudo ver del banquete de boda de la hija del presidente” by Juan Mayorga and Juan Cavestany, “Últimas palabras de Copito de Nieve” by Juan Mayorga, “Hamelin” by Juan Mayorga, “Urtain” by Juan Cavestany), Animalario has staged adaptations of other authors (“Marat/Sade” by Peter Weiss, “Arlequino, servidor de dos amos” by Carlo Goldoni, “Titus Andronicus” by William Shakespeare or “The Dumb Waiter” by Harold Pinter). All of them have won all possible theatrical awards in Spain.

At the same time, Guillermo Toledo was winning popularity for his political activism (not always free of controversy) and his participation in the successful television series “7 Vidas”, and also in the film “El otro lado de la cama” (2002), by Emilio Martínez Lázaro, and its sequel “Los 2 lados de la cama” (2005).

His extensive film career includes: “Al sur de Granada” (2003), by Fernando Colomo; “Días de fútbol” (2003), by David Serrano; “Crimen Ferpecto” (2004), by Alex de la Iglesia (for which he was nominated for the Goya as Best Actor); or “After” (2010), by Alberto Rodríguez, (for which he won the Best Actor award at the Toulouse Festival).

LOLA DUEÑAS

This is the fourth time Lola Dueñas has worked with Pedro Almodóvar, after an appearance in “Talk to Her” (2002), the unforgettable Sole in “Volver” (2005), for which she won, along with many other awards, Best Actress at the Cannes Festival along with her fellow actresses, and the scene-stealing lip reader in “Broken Embraces” (2009).

Ramón Salazar and Javier Rebollo are other key directors in her filmography. With them she has made respectively, “Piedras” (2002), “20 centímetros” (2005) and “10.000 noches en ninguna parte” (not yet released), and “En camas separadas” (2003) and “Lo que sé de Lola”

“The Sea Inside” (2004), by Alejandro Amenábar, was a great success for her and earned her the Goya and the Actors’ Union award. This happened again with “Yo, también” (2009), by Álvaro Pastor and Antonio Naharro. With this film she also won the Silver Conch for Best Actress at the San Sebastian film festival.

Recently she has worked in French cinema (“Les femmes du 6ème étage” (2011) by Philippe Le Guay or “La pièce manquante” (not yet released) by Nicolas Birkenstock) and she is living happily in Paris.

CECILIA ROTH

Cecilia Roth fled Argentina because of the military dictatorship and settled in Spain in 1976. She rapidly became part of Madrid’s “Movida” and worked with directors such as Iván Zulueta (“Arrebato” (1980)), and Pedro Almodóvar (she was the female lead in “Labyrinth of Passion” (1982) and collaborated in “Pepi, Luci, Bom” (1980), “Dark Habits” (1983) and “What Have I Done to Deserve This?!” (1984)).

After her return to Argentina, where she now lives, Pedro Almodóvar worked again with Cecilia Roth in all her splendor as an actress in “All About My Mother” (1999). As well as having enormous international success, Cecilia Roth won countless awards for her portrayal of Manuela in this film, including the Goya, the European Film Award and the Silver Fotogramas.

Another notable director in her filmography is Adolfo Aristarain, who directed her in “Un lugar en el mundo” (1992) (Condor award as Best Actress) and “Martín (Hache)” (1997) (Goya and Condor awards as Best Actress).

Over the years, Cecilia has combined her career in Spain (“Deseo” (2002) by Gerardo Vera, “La hija del caníbal” (2003) by Antonio Serrano) and Argentina (“Kamchatka” (2002) by Marcelo Piñeyro, “El nido vacío” (2008) by Daniel Burman), where she has also appeared in numerous

televisión series (“Epitafios”) and successful theater productions (“Una relación pornográfica”, with Darío Grandinetti, coinciding with the launch of this film).

BLANCA SUÁREZ

The very beautiful Blanca Suárez began her career with “Eskalofrío ” (2007) by Isidro Ortiz. Since then she hasn’t stopped. A TV star thanks to the series “El Internado ” and “El barco”, Pedro Almodóvar called on her for “The Skin I Live in” (2011) and then transformed her into one of the few characters who remain on terra firma in “I’m So Excited!”.

She has also worked in “Miel de naranjas” (2012) by Imanol Uribe, “Los Pelayos” (2012) by Eduard Cortes, and “Carne de neón” (2010) by Paco Cabezas. She has one of the most promising futures of the young Spanish actresses.