

ELASTICA, VENTALL CINEMA, DOS SOLES MEDIA

PRESENT



FESTIVAL DE CANNES
2025 OFFICIAL SELECTION
COMPETITION

ROMERIA

A FILM BY CARLA SIMÓN

2025 – SPAIN, GERMANY – DRAMA – SPANISH, CATALAN, FRENCH – 104'

mk2
FILMS

SYNOPSIS

Marina, 18, orphaned at a young age, must travel to Spain's Atlantic coast to obtain a signature for a scholarship application from the paternal grandparents she has never met. She navigates a sea of new aunts, uncles, and cousins, uncertain whether she will be embraced or met with resistance. Stirring long-buried emotions, reviving tenderness, and uncovering unspoken wounds tied to the past, Marina pieces together the fragmented and often contradictory memories of the parents she barely remembers.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I am fortunate to be part of a large family full of stories, which has become my main source of inspiration. Family relationships fascinate me because we don't choose them. My father died when I was three, and my mother when I was six, both of AIDS. The last time I saw my father's family was at my mother's funeral, after which we lost contact. When I was about to go to university, I needed my parents' death certificates, so I contacted my grandparents. A few hours later, one of my uncles contacted me to invite me to visit them. Curiosity and the desire to know my origins overcame the resentment of years of silence. At the age of 18, I travelled alone to Vigo, Galicia, to meet my father's family and uncover the story of my parents.

My parents were young during Spain's democratic transition in the 1980s, a time of freedom and experimentation, when young people broke with the inherited values of a deeply Catholic and conservative society. However, this long-awaited period of freedom, known as "La Movida", also brought with it a heroin crisis, which made Spain the country with the highest rate of AIDS-related deaths in Europe. These stories, however, have often been silenced.

Romería is a film about memory - the elusive family moments that we may never fully understand. I tried to reconstruct my parents' story through the memories of my family and those who knew them, but failed. The inherently fragmented nature of memory plays a role, but the main obstacle is the stigma surrounding AIDS, which clouds these memories. This story aims to recover the legacy of a forgotten generation that endured the dual consequences of heroin addiction and the emergence of a new virus. A part of Spanish historical memory that deserves to be revisited.

Frustrated by the impossibility of uncovering the complete history of my parents, I dedicated myself to creating the memory I was missing. Can we create our own memory when it does not exist? I believe we can - and must - establish a healthier relationship with the past and shape our identity. Fortunately, I have cinema.

ABOUT CARLA SIMÓN

Carla Simón (born 1986) is a screenwriter and film director who grew up in a small Catalan village. Part of a large family that is a bottomless well of stories, she decided to make films. Graduated in Audiovisual Communication in Barcelona, Carla won a scholarship to complete her master's degree at the London Film School.

Verano 1993 (2017) is her autobiographical debut. It won the Best First Film Award and the Generation Kplus Grand Prix at the Berlinale, as well as three Goya Awards, including Best New Director. The film represented Spain at the 2018 Oscars, earned a Discovery nomination at the European Film Awards and earned Carla the Kering emerging Women in Motion award at Cannes.

In 2022, Simón released her latest short film *Letter to my mother for my son*, a Miu Miu story premiered in Giornate degli Autori at the 79th Venice International Film Festival.

Her second feature film, *Alcarràs* (2022) won the coveted Golden Bear at the Berlinale. It was selected for more than 90 international film festivals and was sold to more than 35 territories. It also represented Spain at the Oscars 2023, obtained three nominations at the European Film Awards and won six Gaudí awards from the Catalan Film Academy. In 2023, Carla won the National Cinematography Award.

Romería, Simón's third feature film, will have its world premiere in the Official Competition at the Cannes Film Festival.

CAST

Marina	LLÚCIA GARCIA
Nuno	MITCH
Lois	TRISTÁN ULLOA
Iago	ALBERTO GRACIA
Olalla	MIRYAM GALLEGO
Xulia	JANET NOVÁS
Abuelo	JOSÉ ÁNGEL EGIDO
Abuela	MARINA TRONCOSO
Virxinia	SARA CASASNOVAS
Denise	CELINE TYLL

CREW

Director and Screenplay	CARLA SIMÓN
Director of photography	HÉLÈNE LOUVART
Composer	ERNEST PIPÓ
Editing	SERGIO JIMÉNEZ, ANA PFAFF
Casting	MARÍA RODRIGO
Casting (Marina)	IRENE ROQUÉ
Art director	MÓNICA BERNUY
Cinematographer	ANNA AGUILÀ
Production manager	ELISA SIRVENT AGUIRRE
Assistant director	DANIELA FORN MAYOR
Head of make-up	PATY LOPEZ LOPEZ
Head hairdresser	PACO RODRIGUEZ H.
Head of direct sound	EVA VALIÑO
Sound supervisor & mixer	ALEJANDRO CASTILLO
Producers	MARÍA ZAMORA, OLIMPIA PONT CHÁFER, ÀNGELS MASCLANS

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