

**Noodles Production and Janus Films**  
presents

# **ANNA**

A film by  
**JACQUES TOULEMONDE**

With  
**Juana Acosta, Kolia Abiteboul Dossetto**  
and **Bruno Clairefond**

**DIGITAL PRESSKIT**

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# ANNA

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# ANNA

## SYNOPSIS

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Anna is a young Colombian woman living in Paris, daily struggling with her emotional frailty. She tries to spend more time with her ten-year-old son, Nathan, but Philippe, her ex-husband, doesn't trust her anymore and threatens her to take full custody of the child. Having no other choice, she convinces her boyfriend Bruno to help her, and the three of them fly away to Colombia.

During this journey, Anna will strive to build a new family, and will face the difficulty of being a mother.

# ANNA

## DIRECTOR STATEMENT

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*Anna* is a film about motherhood and identity; a film that explores subjects influenced by the seventies American cinema. Just like *The Scarecrow* directed by Jerry Schatzberg, *A Dog Day Afternoon* by Sidney Lumet or *Two-lane Blacktop* by Monte Hellman, *Anna* describes the journey of misfit characters seeking redemption in a society that doesn't understand them, that alienates them. They pursue delusional dreams that are far from their reach. *Anna* is a film about the obsession of being like everyone else, about the anxiety of not achieving it.

It's a very personal story. Those who have lived along people like Anna, know the complexity of the relationships we engage with them and the difficulty to face the situations they put us through.

Anna is unstable, of course, but she's also a mother. A marvelous mother who can be dangerous for herself and others. The question that goes through the film is: what can we do with people like Anna? Must we stoically put up with them? Shall we put them in asylums out of sight and out of mind? I don't know if this film answers the question in a concrete and clear way, but at least it raises the issue.

*Anna* also describes a journey between France and Colombia. Just like my lead character and like my film, I have been divided between those two countries and I have always been considered as a foreigner in Bogotá as well as in Paris.

The road movie motif in this film allows me to depict different places where I have lived through the perspective of the stranger, seeing France through Anna's eyes and Colombia through Bruno's point of view. This way, every place the characters go through gains a kind of novelty shared by the characters and the viewer.

To me, the truthfulness and the strength of the actors' performances is the first priority. During rehearsals and improvisations mixing professional and no professional actors, I tried to erase as much as possible the border between character and person. I wanted to get a realistic, truthful and intense acting, even a just bit excessive because of the extreme and changing nature of the characters.

The camera was at their will, following a harmonic choreography that is complementary to theirs, trying to catch a reality that is always on the verge of escaping. A reality that aims to plunge the viewer into the same turmoil of emotions of the characters, that aims to allow him to travel with them.

## ANNA

### JACQUES TOULEMONDE

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Jacques Toulemonde was born to a French-Colombian family in Bogota where he grew up before leaving to France in 2001. In Paris, he studied literature at La Sorbonne.

He served for nearly ten years as first assistant director in several feature films such as *The Wind Journeys* by Ciro Guerra, *The Stoplight Society* by Rubén Mendoza, *El Paseo* by Harold Trompetero and Dago García, and *Roa* by Andi Baiz, among others.

In January 2010, he directed the short film *Un juego de niños*. This coproduction between the Colombian company Janus Films and Noodles Production in France, was selected in more than thirty film festivals and received more than ten international awards.

During spring and summer 2014, he directed the feature film *Anna*, a road movie between France and Colombia. It tells the story of a young Colombian mother trying to win her son's love back. Toulemonde is currently developing *Cariño*, a feature that describes the struggle of a rapper caught in a spiral of violence while he tries to provide for his family in Bogota.

Concurrently to his director's career, Jacques Toulemonde also works as a screenwriter. He is the writer of his own projects and he co-wrote the script of Ciro Guerra's *The Embrace of the Serpent*, winner of the Art Cinema Award during Cannes' Directors Fortnight 2015.

***Anna*** – Director and screenwriter  
Feature film – Janus Films – Noodles Production

***Cariño*** – Director and screenwriter – in development  
Feature film – Janus Films – Noodles Production

***El Abrazo de la Serpiente*** – by Ciro Guerra – Co-screenwriter  
Feature film – Ciudad Lunar – Colombia, 2015

***Drogadicto en serie*** – Crack Family feat. Arte y Lenguaje « Cariñito » - Director  
Video-clip – Janus Films – Bogotá, 2011

***Créalo mi so*** – Crack Family and Arte y Lenguaje « Cariñito » - Director  
Video-clip – Janus Films – Bogotá, 2011

***Un juego de niños*** – Director and screenwriter  
Bogotá/Paris, 2010 – short film – Janus Films – Noodles Production

# ANNA

## CASTING

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ANNA	Juana ACOSTA
NATHAN	Kolia ABITEBOUL DOSSETTO
BRUNO	Bruno CLAIREFOND
PHILIPPE	Augustin LEGRAND
FERNANDO	Alexandre TOULEMONDE
JULIE	Audrey BASTIEN
ALICIA	Claudia VALLEJO
NATALIA	Maria Paula JARAMILLO
YEINER	Hermes MEJIA
NAYIBE	Elvira GONZALEZ
JOSE MANUEL	Manuel Fidel PENA
JOSEPH	Joseph BRACONNIER
FREDO	Frédéric GEORGES
GERARD	Thierry LEVARET

# ANNA

## CREW

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DIRECTOR	Jacques TOULEMONDE
SCREENWRITER With the participation of	Jacques TOULEMONDE Franco LOLLI
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	Paulo PEREZ A.D.F.C.
SOUND	Matthieu PERROT Pierre BARIAUD Jocelyn ROBERT
EDITING	Mauricio LLERAS
CASTING FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SCRIPT SUPERVISOR	Fanny de DONCEEL Vincent PRADES Julie DARFEUIL
ART DIRECTOR	Philippe LEGLER Benoît PFAUWADEL
COSTUME DESIGN MAKE-UP ARTIST	Claire DAGUERRE Sarah MESCOFF Laura COPO Bénédicte TROUVE
SFX MAKE UP	Pierre-Olivier PERSIN
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER PRODUCTION DIRECTOR	MAT TROI DAY Felipe DUARTE Alexandre ISIDORO
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS Colombia	Jérôme VIDAL Cristina GALLEGO Jacques TOULEMONDE Alexandre TOULEMONDE
PRODUCERS	Julien NAVEAU Diana RAMOS

# ANNA

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

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PRODUCTION YEAR	April 2015
LENGTH	1h36
SHOOTING FORMAT	HD Alexa
SCREENING FORMAT	DCP
RATIO	1: 85
SOUND	5.1
FILM LANGUAGES	French, Spanish and English
SUBTITLES	French, Spanish and English
COLOR TYPE	Color



# ANNA

## NOODLES PRODUCTION

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Created in 1997, **Noodles Production** is a production company, producing short and feature films. Jérôme Vidal and Julien Naveau are the producers and the company mainly produces first and second features as well as coproduction in collaboration with Spain.

**Noodles Production** recently produced a dozen of short films and feature films among them, are:

**C'est ici que je vis** (Petit Indi) is a movie from Marc Recha, shot in the suburbs of Barcelona. It was broadcasted on la Piazza Grande at Locarno film festival, the movie was distributed in France by Ad Vitam and released on the 10th of February 2010.

**El Muerto y ser feliz** by Javier Rebollo, a French and Spanish coproduction, introduced at San Sebastian film festival in 2013. Javier Rebollo had received at this festival the prize for best director in 2009 for **La mujer sin Piano**, also produced by Noodles Production.

**Memories Corner**, the first movie by Audrey Fouché (famous script writer recognized for her work on TV shows like, **Borgia**, **Ainsi soit-il** and **the Returned**) was entirely shot in Kobe, Japan. The main actors are Déborah François, Hiroshi Abe and Hidetoshi Nishijima. It premiered internationally at the Pusan film festival in 2011.

**Blancanieves** was coproduced in collaboration with the Spanish production company Arcadia Motion Pictures. It's a gothic interpretation of the Grimm brother's fairy tale Snow-white; **Blancanieves** is the second film of Pablo Berger after **Torremolinos 73**. The main actors are Maribel Verdu, Daniel Giménez Cacho and Macarena García de la Camacha. Rezo Films distributed the film in France and released it on the 23rd of January 2013. In February 2013 **Blancanieves** won 10 Goyas including best film.

Also, Noodles' last coproduction **Aloft** in collaboration with Arcadia Motion Pictures, recently premiered at the Berlin Film Festival (2014) where the performances of Claudia Llosa's cast – Jennifer Connelly, Cillian Murphy and Mélanie Laurent – were unanimously acclaimed.

In 2014 the third feature film by Thierry Poiraud, **Don't Grow Up**, was shot in Spain, it's a fantastic movie about teenage years. The new film from Lucile Hadzihalilovic, **Evolution**, was shot in Spain too, the main actors are Roxane Duran and Julie-Marie Parmentier, and it is a coproduction between Noodles Production and Les Films du Worso. The same year, Jacques Toulemonde Vidal directed his first feature film, **Anna**, between France and Colombia.

In 2015, **Nobody wants the night**, an international coproduction directed by Isabel Coixet with Juliette Binoche and Rikko Kikuchi was opening the Berlin film festival; meanwhile Mateo Gil started shooting the anticipation feature film, **Project Lazarus**, with Thomas Hughes, Oona Chaplin, Charlotte Le Bon and Barry Ward, a new coproduction between Noodles Production and Arcadia Motion Pictures.

## ANNA

### JANUS FILMS

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Janus Films is a Colombian movie production company specialized in international co-productions.

Created in 2009, it coproduced in collaboration with Noodles Production the short-movie *Un juego de niños*, thanks to the support of the Colombian funding program of *Fondo para el Desarrollo Cinematográfico (FDC)* and the funding l'Aide au Film Court of Seine-Saint-Denis. *Un juego de niños* has been selected in more than thirty international film festivals and received the CNC's "Prix à la qualité".

In 2014, Janus Films produced with Noodles Productions, Jacques Toulemonde's first feature film, *Anna*. This movie was funded by the FDC and received the funding "Avance sur Recettes" of CNC. It will be released in both Colombia and France in 2016.

Janus coproduced in collaboration with the Spanish production company El Dedo en el Ojo, the feature film *No todo es vigilia* directed by Hermes Paralluelo from Catalonia, which was selected at the San Sebastian film festival in 2014.

Currently, Janus Films is developing feature film projects *Cariño* by Jacques Toulemonde and *Sin la tierra prometida* by Adriana Bernal.