

GREEN RIVER THE TIME OF THE YAKURUNAS

A FILM BY ALVARO AND DIEGO SARMIENTO

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TARRING CUSTODIO SANGAMA ALBINA TAPULLIMA SAMUEL SANGAMA ANDREA SINARAHUA JULIO RENERIO

STORY BY ALVARO SARMIENTO DIRECTED AND PRODUCED BY ALVARO AND DIEGO SARMIENTO DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DIEGO SARMIENTO AND JAIR GUILLEN SOUND DESIGN ALEX CRUZ EDITOR ALEX CRUZ AND FABRICIO DEZA SOUND MIX FONICA STUDIO COLOR CORRECTION JORGE SABANA

PRODUCED BY HDPERU - DESFASE FILMS

Synopsis

Guided by ayahuasca chants, *GREEN RIVER: THE TIME OF THE YAKURUNAS* is a meditative journey into the depths of the Amazon. The film explores the perception of time in three small villages intertwined by the flowing waters of the Amazon river, immersing the viewer in a landscape inhabited by shamans and archetypical societies.

This parafiction despicts the bodies of native elders who evoke the ghosts of rubber colonialism at the end of XIX century, the memory of ancient indigenous cultures still alive, but in danger of disappearing as a consequence of global capitalism.





Diego Sarmiento

Born in 1984 in Peru, Diego Sarmiento is a documentary filmmaker who studied Media Production at the Universidad Catolica in Lima, and is a Berlinale Talents alumni.

Diego directed several short films, two of them premiered at the Berlinale: *EARTH'S CHILDREN* (Generation K-Plus 2014) and *SONIA'S DREAM* (Culinary Cinema 2015).

He is currently working in the post-production of a new feature: *SEMBRADORAS DE VIDA*, which won a Production Grant from the Peruvian Ministry of Culture.

Alvaro Sarmiento

Born in 1982 in Peru, Alvaro Sarmiento is a visual artist and founder of **HDPERU**, an independent production company focused in the defense of native peoples' rights and environmental conservation in the Andes and the Amazon of Peru.

Alvaro wrote and directed the award winning short *KAY PACHA*, screened in over 30 festivals, including Clermont-Ferrand and Cannes Short Film Corner.

Alvaro graduated with a degree in Film Studies at the Estacio de Sa University in Brazil and studied an MFA in Film Production at Ohio University in the USA.







Directors' Statement

We, Alvaro and Diego Sarmiento, dedicate our lives to produce films focused in the defense of native people's rights and environmental conservation.

During the past ten years we produced films in several farming communities in the Andes and the Amazon of Peru. While different in content and themes, all of them share a quality of denouncing social injustices against native people.

The Quechua - Lamistas elders are the protagonists of *GREEN RIVER: THE TIME OF THE YAKURUNAS*. The film exposes the personal life stories of traditional farming families, fishermen and hunters.

We believe that the Amazon region has a lot to offer to mankind across the globe in terms of spiritual relation to nature. It can give a much-needed positive perspective on what traditional cultures preserve.

Our film is dedicated to the natives who survived to the colonization process of the Amazon, where 9 in 10 inhabitants died as a consequence of the rubber boom extraction during the XIX century.

The bodies of the elders in the film refer us to the ghosts of colonialism who come back bringing the memory of the death, the shadows of ancient indigenous cultures still alive, but in danger of disappearing as a consequence of global capitalism.

Nowadays 66% of native people land in Peru has been concessioned to oil companies polluting our ancestral territories causing deforestation, damaging our biodiversity and exploiting our natural resources.



HDPERU is an independent production company founded by filmmakers Alvaro and Diego Sarmiento. Who make films focused in the defense of native peoples' rights and environmental conservation. Our films have screened previously at the Berlinale: EARTH'S CHILDREN (Generation 2014) and SONIA'S DREAM (Culinary Cinema 2015), San Sebastian and Sydney.

HDPERU debut feature film GREEN RIVER: THE TIME OF THE YAKURUNAS will premiere at the 67th Berlin Film Festival - Forum.

We are currently involved in the development of our next film CUSCO ONE PICTURE, for which we won the support of the IBERMEDIA Fund and Fundacion Carolina.

Filmography

- 2017 "Green River: The Time of the Yakurunas" (Feature Film) Directed by Alvaro and Diego Sarmiento Berlinale Forum 2017
- 2015 "Sonia's Dream" (Documentary Short Film) Directed by Diego Sarmiento Berlinale Culinary Cinema 2015
- 2014 "Earth's Children" (Documentary Short Film) Directed by Diego Sarmiento Berlinale Generation K-Plus 2014
- 2013 "Kay Pacha" (Fiction Short Film) Directed by Alvaro Sarmiento Clermont - Ferrand International Competition 2014
- 2012 "Rancas, from a long time ago" (Documentary Short Film) Directed by Alvaro Sarmiento Best Peruvian Short Documentary. Lima Film Festival 2013
- 2011 "Cerro de Pasco: Deep Grave" (Mid-Length Documentary) Directed by Alvaro and Diego Sarmiento Barcelona International Environmental Film Festival - FICMA 2011
- 2008 "Wanka Willka" (Video Installation) Directed by Diego Sarmiento
- 2007 " La Oroya: Full Metal Air" (Documentary Short Film) Directed by Alvaro Sarmiento Best Peruvian Film Production of the year 2007. CONACINE Peruvian Film Board

"Circle of Dance" Exhibition. National Museum of the American Indian. New York, USA.

PERU | 2017 | 70 MIN | DCP | COLOR | 16:9 | 5.1 www.greenriverfilm.com

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