

# INTO THE DUST (El Polvo de la Tierra) Paraguay

**Category :** Drama

**Length :** 75'

**Language :** Guaraní, Spanish & Plattdeustsch

**Shooting format :** HD

**Shooting location :** Chaco (Paraguay)

**Shooting dates :** August/September 2015

**Stage of production :** Development stage

**Expected date of completion :** January 2016

**Budget :** 200 000 €

**Financing in place :** 64 000 €

**Source of financment :** Hubert Bals Fund

**Workshops or markets attended :** TyPA Colon Workshop for Film Development (Argentina), Rotterdam Lab, Talleres Mua (Paraguay)

**Current situation :** Seeking for European coproducer, international sales agent



## Renate COSTA PERDOMO – PRODUCER (Grupo Perdomo S.A.)



Born in Paraguay in 1981. Renate Costa Perdomo wrote and directed her first film *Cuchillo de Palo*, which was world-premiered at the 2010 Berlinale, awarded various international prizes at festivals and produced by Marta Andreu. In 2012, she co-directed *Resistente* with the Finnish director, Salla Sorri. *Resistente* was world-premiered at the 69th Venice International Film Festival Horizons section, being the first Paraguayan short film to compete in La Biennale. In 2013, she founded an international workshop for directors and scriptwriters held in Paraguay with prestigious filmmakers such as Lucrecia Martel, Paz Encina and Violeta Bava. As a producer, she worked on *Cándido López, los campos de batalla* by José Luis García (Argentina 2005), collaborated on *Ixcánul* by Jayro Bustamante (Guatemala, to be premiered in 2014) and she is developing *Into the Dust* by Federico Adorno.

## Federico ADORNO – DIRECTOR



Federico Adorno (1982, Paraguay) studied Communication Sciences at the University of Asunción, and followed courses in acting and theatre directing. In 2012, he took part in the 10th Berlinale Talent Campus and in 2011 in IFFR's Rotterdam Lab. He is currently developing his first feature. His last short film *La Estancia* (2014) won the Grand Prize of the City of Oberhausen and, in 2012, his short film *Isla Alta* (2011) won the Grand Prize of the International Competition at Kurzfilmtage Winterthur in Switzerland and has been screened in more than 10 festivals including Rotterdam, Oberhausen, Vila do Conde, Paris, Tokyo and Sao Paulo.

## SYNOPSIS

Three labourers work in the Paraguayan Chaco. Francisco and Aníbal are both over fifty; Luis is in his twenties. They are busy at work when their boss shows up. Luis can no longer stand being separated from his family and decides to return home. Aníbal and Francisco are left behind to continue the wiring. The atmosphere in this land grows increasingly tense and strange as the days pass by.

The Boss was supposed to return but has not. Aníbal can no longer stand the wait and decides to leave. Francisco reluctantly agrees to go with him. They begin wandering and traipse for long hours down endless narrow paths in the forest but the paths they choose lead them past the same landscapes.

## CONTACT :

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## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT (extract)

« Paraguay is divided into two large, distinct regions: east and west. Throughout history, Paraguayan society has identified with the eastern region, the “useful Paraguay”, and ignored the “useless Paraguay” in the west, known as the Chaco. [...]

Many foreigners travelled to the Chaco with the hope of forging a new destiny in the “promised land” but they soon found themselves in a “green hell”. Many of those who arrived in this hostile land quickly pulled up stakes and left. Apart from the original Indigenous Indian tribes, the only group that has managed to settle in the Chaco are the Mennonites. The Chaco interests me because it is still up for settlements and is interesting how a transformation in such a dry and harsh environment is taking place.

*Into the Dust* is set in this ambiguous place, an evolving landscape in an immutable space. The atmosphere in the film will be forged as the characters carry out their work: object by object to pile the layers that will tense the lines of the storytelling. In this apparently endless monotony of the Chaco, with its glaring light and elusive shadows, we will experience moments of calm and the tension of the forest as Francisco and Aníbal, who seem destined to wander endlessly and aimlessly through the wilderness of the Chaco.»