


SUZIE LÉGER

MARIANO CABACO

ASTRONAUTS

ATELIER ORLANDO präsentiert ASTRONAUTS • Regie MARIANO CABACO • Drehbuch SUZIE LEGER und MARIANO CABACO • Regieassistentz LAURA POSSON • Kamera HANS SELIKOVSKY • Szenenbild MIMI VIOLETTE und BEN SASSON • Ton PETAR MRDJEN • Schnitt MIGUEL LOMANA



 Bundesministerium

ATELIER
ORLANDO

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KULTUR
NIEDERÖSTERREICH 

 Land
Wien



SYNOPSIS

Vienna, 2001. CARLA, an Austrian woman in her late twenties and bulimic, became pregnant unintentionally and lives as a single mother under very precarious circumstances. She struggles to have the strength to take responsibility - financially and psychologically - for the baby. While searching for the child's father, Carla meets in her former favorite karaoke bar a non-binary person from Argentina who is dressed as an ASTRONAUT. The two social outcasts establish a closeness in a short time that some people cannot achieve in years in a confined space. The encounter with the Astronaut gives Carla a new perspective on her reality and the courage to make the most important decision of her life.



DIRECTOR'S

MARIANO CABACO

NOTES

The human brain automatically organizes people and things into categories to make the world easier to understand for themselves. Discrimination, misunderstandings and fears are mostly the result of this. **ASTRONAUTS** deals with questions that are drastic and still hard to make for women today. When the external circumstances are precarious, a lot of feelings of guilt come up when having a child. The first baby hatch was launched in Vienna in 2001 to help parents in such hopeless situations. Being able to bring your child to such a safe place, where they are well looked after, is an important socio-political and women's rights achievement that is just as important today as it was 20 years ago.

Two strangers from different cultures meet in absurd circumstances - a Karaoke Bar in Vienna-, as outcasts of society. But their cultural differences give them the space to change their perspective on their personal realities. Their initially bumpy conversation gradually develops into a mutual deep understanding of the importance of accepting oneself independently of social norms, judgments and conventions. This encounter turns the two into accomplices in the confrontation with the volatility of existence.



CAST

CARLA
ASTRONAUT
BABY
BARTENDER
HOTDOG BOOTH EMPLOYEE
MAN AT HOTDOG BOOTH
WOMAN 1 AT HOTDOG BOOTH
WOMAN 2 AT HOTDOG BOOTH
CYCLIST
EXTRAS

Suzie Léger
Mariano Cabaco
Noah Menclik
Robert Binder
Peter Esterwitsch
Rudolf Krenn
Hedwig Thuner
Heidemarie Manzl
Laura Kralik
Ulrike Kreuzer
Lily Fassl
Julia Klein
Dorothea Kercz



SUZIE LÉGER

Suzie is an Austrian-Canadian actress, artist and punk rock singer. She studied at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting Conservatory program and at the Susan Batson Studio with the renowned acting coach herself, both in New York.

In **ASTRONAUTS**, Suzie plays her first leading role, travelling on the challenging journey of Carla.

Suzie is also the founder of production hub **ATELIER ORLANDO** and the front woman of the American punk rock band **WHAT WOULD TILDA SWINTON DO**. Her awards and prizes include the Ö1 talent award, the **START** grant from the Austrian chancellery, the main prize of the Russian Videoart Festival **Now and After**, the prize for best short in the category "Gender constructions" at the Vienna Women's Film Festival, the Young Female Artist prize of **Bildrecht GmbH**.

Currently, Suzie is working on several projects. Among them, she plays the leading role in a Brazilian-German Independent film, and is producing a TV show about the extinguished female artists in the women's movement at the turn of the century.



CARLA

MARIANO CABACO

Mariano was born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he studied Theatre and Art History.

He then moved to Paris where he reconnected with his passion for Film and decided to start his studies in Film Making in Prague.

Mariano also participated in several projects as an Art Director. And this is his third job as a director after the multi awarded short film SONNTAG.

After a long time without performing, Mariano went to New York where he took classes with Susan Batson and he decided to join this adventure also giving life to the challenging role of the ASTRONAUT.

He is currently working on the development of the script of his debut feature film.



ASTRONAUT



WRITERS

MARIANO CABACO & SUZIE LÉGER

Suzie and Mariano met at the Susan Batson Studio of Acting in New York in the beginning of 2020 and decided to work together. Both of them wanted to create a project that reflects the big topics of gender identity, feminism and cultural disparities narrated in a personal story. It's the first film that Suzie has written and Mariano's 4th one.

After Mariano left New York, they continued writing on *ASTRONAUTS* from different continents and eventually met up again in Austria for the film shoot with a completely international film team.

For them, it was important to show through the story, how communication between two people can work despite the absence of a common language.

Even a quick encounter - that lasts only for a few minutes- with a complete stranger can change your life 180 degrees. Both characters are outsiders and become accomplices in the confrontation with the volatility of existence, but their cultural differences bring them the space and courage to change their perspective on their personal realities.





CINEMATOGRAPHY

HANS SELIKOVSKY

Mag. Johann Selikovsky's worked on over 300 films, TV series and documentaries including collaborations with Falco, Queen and the Rolling Stones. He was nominated for a GOLDEN GLOBE, won the PRIX DES BIBLIOTHEQUES, GOLDEN CAMERA AWARD, and the main prize at the CINÉ-

MA DU RÉEL in Paris, among others. Johan Selikovsky produced Ulrich Seidl's debut film Good News, was voted one of the 10 best documentaries worldwide by the festival management under Werner Herzog at the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam.

PRODUCTION DESIGN

MIMI VIOLETTE & BEN SASSON

Mimi and Ben are an artist-couple with experience in art direction, photography, production, props and graphic design for low to high budget projects. Between the both of them they have done design work notable on SPIDERMAN: FAR FROM HOME (2019), on Ron Howard's National Geographic TV series, GENIUS (2017), with Jeffrey Rush and Emily Watson... Also on the series BRITANNIA featuring Kelly Reilly (TRUE DETECTIVE) and David Morrissey (THE WALKING DEAD), and on Lee Tamahori's EMPEROR with Adrian Brody. Mimi has also

been part of the design team of Xavier Dolan's THE LIFE AND DEATH OF JOHN F DONOVAN with Kit Harrington (GAME OF THRONES), Jessica Chastain and Natalie Portman.

Besides the work in their film industry, that is a full-time father, plus a consultant of Art Direction to rising film students. Mimi is a professor of Art Direction at Prague Film School and the Film Academy of Miroslav Ondricek in Pisek (FAMO) since 2011.

SOUND

PETAR MRDJEN

Petar is a Serbian - Swedish sound maker. He composes for film and theatre, notably Playdurizm (2020), T.E.A.R's (2018) and in collaboration with Mariano Cabaco on his previous short Sonntag (2019). He performs under the musical projects Insert/Airtime, and Polyethylentereftalát.

EDITING

MIGUEL LOMANA

Miguel works as a film and video editor established since 2018 in Barcelona. Before that, he studied Audiovisual Communication in Bilbao and completed a Film Editing Postgraduate course at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra. he has worked as an assistant editor for various music videos, advertisements and two feature-documentaries. ASTROUNAUTS is his first fiction project as a film editor.



SPECS

SPECIFICATIONS TITLE
ASTRONAUTS

SCREENING FORMAT
4:3

PRODUCTION COMPANY
ATELIER ORLANDO

ASPECT RATIO
1:2,38

RUNNING TIME
18:04

SOUND
STEREO, LINEAR PCM,
48KHZ 24 BIT

SHOOTING FORMAT
ARRI ALEXA 2,5 K

COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION
AUSTRIA

YEAR
2021

LANGUAGE
GERMAN AND SPANISH

SUBTITLES
ENGLISH, SPANISH
FRENCH



ATELIER ORLANDO

Founded in 2020 by Suzie Léger, the production company is named after the gender-fluid, superhuman heroine of Virginia Woolf's famous novel, which paved the way for a rethinking of gender identity and feminism. ATELIER ORLANDO works transnational and focuses on stories that break cultural habits of artistic expressions. Projects that offer innovative perspectives on social norms across countries and continents are sought and presented to the audience in the form of entertainment. We specialize in stories about women and the LGBTQ + community.





CONTACT

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