

# MAMITA YUNAI

A Film by Peter Avilés



# MAMITA YUNAI

A Film by Peter Avilés



# LOGLINE

**THE STRUGGLE OF A MAN A HIS FRIENDS  
TO SURVIVE THE HARSH CONDITIONS OF  
THE RAILWAY WORKERS pg THE UNITED  
FRUIT COMPANY**



# PRESENTATION

This film is based on the book “Mamita Yunai”. That phrase is the ironic nickname that Spanish-speaking workers used to refer to the company that employed them and that dominated the banana industry: the United Fruit Company. Yunai was the closest they could get to saying "united" and they considered the American company as an evil mother. The author, Carlos Luis Fallas (CaLuFa), wrote this semi-autobiographical story in the first half of the 20th century.

Nobel Prize winner Pablo Neruda was the biggest admirer of this book and was responsible for its success. This neorealism book has been translated into many different languages and has been printed many times in Latin America, Europe, and Asia.



This film has influences from the new Latin American cinema of films such as Central Station (Brazil), The Secret of her Eyes (Argentina), The Herodes Law (Mexico), and many other creations from this region.

Over the years, this book has created a fan base that continues to grow. This novel is one of the mandatory reading books for Costa Ricans during their school years.

Mamita Yunai has been featured in Theater and Radio in recent years so it is time for her film debut.



# SINOPSIS



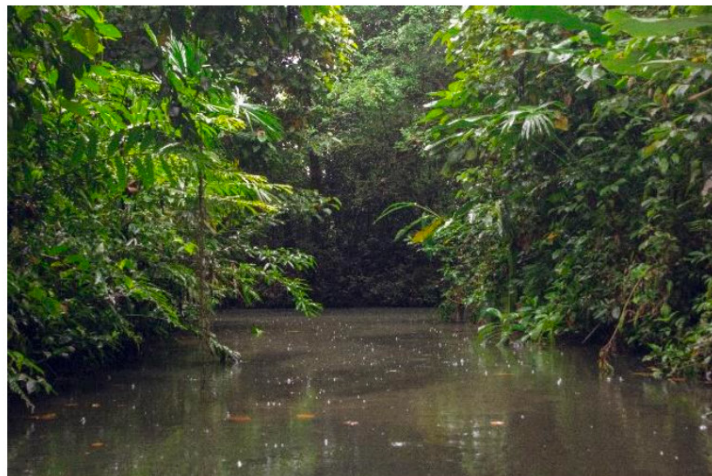
This is the story of José Fco. Sibaja (a.k.a. Sibajita) and the memories of his days as a lineman working for the United Fruit C° at the beginning of the XX Century. Sibajita remembers those days during his visit to Herminio, his best friend, who is in jail. Those hurtful days have marked them and made the men they are now.

The abuse, the hunger, the sickness... all come to their minds while recalling those awful days when they lost some of their humanity working in the forsaken town of Andromeda in the Caribbean of Costa Rica.

# MOOD BOARD









# DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

## PETER AVILES

Film and TV producer with extensive experience in fiction films, documentaries and advertising. He studied audiovisual production in Brazil and Costa Rica. His productions have been developed in different Latin American countries.

Most relevant works:

“Identity taken”, fiction feature film / 2018 / Mexico (filmed in Costa Rica and Mexico)

“The happiest place in the world”, fiction feature film / 2015 / Costa Rica

“GW 100% Tico”, documentary feature film / 2014 / Costa Rica

“AE: apocalypse earth”, fiction feature film / 2012 / USA (filmed in Costa Rica)

“Firearms in Latin America”, documentary feature film / 2011 / Costa Rica (filmed in Costa Rica, El Salvador and Venezuela)

“Looking for the wave”, fiction feature film / 2009 / Costa Rica

“Gestation”, fiction feature film / 2008 / Costa Rica

“House arrest”, fiction feature film / 2007 / Costa Rica

“The last commander”, fiction feature film / 2006 / Costa Rica (filmed in Costa Rica and Nicaragua)

“El camino”, fiction feature film / 2005 / Costa Rica (filmed in Costa Rica and Nicaragua)

“Caribe”, fiction feature film / 2003 – Costa Rica

“From the mud to the south”, documentary feature film / 2002 / Nicaragua (filmed in Costa Rica and Nicaragua).

University for Peace, United Nations, TV Producer, 1998-2000, Costa Rica

Between 2000 and 2020, he has also produced a large number of corporate and educational documentaries, video clips, as well as more than 300 advertising commercials.

# WRITER

## MARIA DEL POZO

She has participated in more than thirty films as an actress, screenwriter, producer, director and assistant director with different directors such as Felipe Cazals (Mexico), Ignacio and Gabriel Retes (Mexico), Carlos Azpurua (Venezuela), Ciro Durán (Colombia), Alberto Isaac (Mexico), Juan Luis Buñuel (Spain), Gustavo Fallas (Costa Rica), Esteban Ramírez (Costa Rica), Manuel Escalante (Mexico), Soley Bernal (Costa Rica) and James Scurlock (USA).

Among his most outstanding films are EL BULTO, with which he won as a screenwriter the awards for best screenplay awarded by the VIII Latin American Film Festival of Trieste, Italy and WELCOME WELCOME, winner of best screenplay at the XIV International Festival of Gramado, Brazil. Both films were deserving of multiple awards both in Mexico and at different International Film Festivals.

With the film La Ciudad para Vivir, she received the Ariel for Best Actress and has been nominated for the films Mujeres Insumisas and La Nave de los Sueños.

He has participated as a member of the Jury in the International Film Festivals of Gramado, Trieste and Puerto Rico. It has more than ten filmed scripts: Identidad Tomada, El Bulto, Bienvenido Welcome, Bienvenido Welcome II, Buscando la Ola, Arresto Domiciliario, La Mudanza, among others.

In 2019 he filmed three films: Identidad Tomada, as a screenwriter, under the direction of Gabriel Retes; Los Vecinos, as an actress, directed by Diana Cardozo and Ambar, as script consultant and assistant director, by Costa Rican director Esteban Ramirez.

In July 2021 he receives the Gaviota International Award for his career of more than forty years.

# ž s p e v d f s

## /p i o o z ' - p s s b m f t

Audiovisual Producer with vast experience in the Advertising Audiovisual Sector. He has produced Spots for Costa Rica and the Latinamerican Regio for brands like BBDO, DDB, McCann Erickson, Publimark, Saatchi&Saatchi among others.

He coordinates the Chapter of the Costa Rica Audiovisual Industry of the Chamber of Technology of Costa Rica where he has developed projects like the creation of the Film Friendly Zones of Costa Rica. He also was among the collaborators of the text of the Film Incentives Law of Costa Rica.

Some of his most relevant works are:

- Production of Several Advertising Spots and transcreation material for Hogarth WW including brands like Coca Cola Company, Kellogs, Heinz, Davivienda and others.
- Ride with Norman Reedus - Left/Ride Productionn / AMC - Audio and Voice Over - Costa Rica Episode.
- PBS - Sesame Street - Season 52 - Birds / Nature
- PBS - Sesame Street - Season 53 - Cocokie Monster Foodie Truck - Beans
- PBS - Sesame Street - Season 54 - Cocokie Monster Foodie Truck - Papaya
- Photograph Sessions for Nescafé World Campaign 2017



# STATUS

Ž " ° 'ž " Ž . %- \$|Ž †

