

SEGARRA FILMS presents

CATALUNYA ÜBER ALLES!

A film by RAMON TÉRMENS

JOEL JOAN JORDI DAUDER BABOU CHAM GONZALO CUNILL BELÉN FABRA VICKY PEÑA

BORIS RUIZ ÀNGELS BASSAS DIANA IULIANA PAULA JIMÉNEZ DAVID ARRIBAS PRODUCTION ORIOL BOSCH VÁZQUEZ PRODUCTION ALBERT ARRIBAS FORCADA EDITING MARIA ALSINA ALTZIBER SANZ PRODUCTION ELODIA LÓPEZ PRODUCTION VÍCTOR H. TORNER ANNA TÉRMENS
PRODUCTION GLISSANDO PRODUCTION DANIEL RODRÍGUEZ XAVI SAUCEDO JORDI MONRÓS PRODUCTION DAVID ARRIBAS PRODUCTION DANIEL FARBALDO RAMON TÉRMENS PRODUCTION VÍCTOR H. TORNER RAMON TÉRMENS PRODUCTION RAMON TÉRMENS

WWW.SEGARRAFILMS.CAT

WWW.CATALUNYAUBERALLES.CAT

Amb la col·laboració de



Generalitat de Catalunya



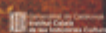
Departament de Llerida



Ajuntament de Llerida



Administració d'Àrea de Llerida



STORYLINE

An ex-convict, an unemployed immigrant and a successful businessman are the three main characters of this portrayal of inner Catalonia. Three stories showing a conflicting society forced to reinvent itself or collapse.

SYNOPSIS

The plot of "Catalunya über alles!" is made up of three stories with shared characters and a common location: an inner Catalonia village. The time is the present.

In the first story, an ex-convict who has served a 19-year prison sentence for rape returns home to reintegrate into society. Through his eyes, we see the new reality in the village: the weekly market taken by immigrants, and a politician who rails against this new reality in his speeches. Soon, all the eyes and prejudices will be on him.

The second story is about a Sub-Saharan immigrant hit by the crisis. He needs a job, no matter which, so as to provide for his family. He finds his "opportunity" in a debt collection company, whose employees are dressed in the Catalan typical outfit. His first assignment will be to chase a defaulting politician, the one who wants to kick immigrants out of the village.

In the third story, a wealthy family returns home earlier than planned, and catches an Albanian Kosovar burglar in it. The house owner and the criminal begin a fight that ends with the death of the burglar. The last shot is at point-blank range. From that moment, the businessman becomes the focus of a media circus: social avenger or murderer.

THE DIRECTOR
RAMON TÉRMENS

Born in 1974 and native from Bellmunt de Segarra (Lleida, Spain), he graduated in Philosophy at the Universitat de Barcelona, and completed a three-year Direction Program at the Centre d'Estudis Cinematogràfics de Catalunya (C.E.C.C.) Film School. He made his debut in filming working as a Co-Scriptwriter and Co-Director of "**Joves**" (2005), a film that received 3 Awards for the "*Premis Ciutat de Barcelona 2005*" (later called "*Gaudí*"). He worked in Los Angeles as a commissioned scriptwriter until he managed to make his first film as a solo director, "**Negro Buenos Aires**", which was released worldwide at the *Mostra de Cinema Llatinoamericana de Catalunya de Lleida*, in Spain. He is also the Co-Scriptwriter of "**Trash**", a film directed by Carles Torras.

In 2010, Ramon Térmens and Victor H. Torner founded Segarra Films, a film production and distribution company based in Barcelona.

**DIRECTOR'S
NOTES**

This film came up from the crime pages of newspapers. The stories I recount are based on true events. I put them together and they resulted in a hard, ironic and, in many ways, alarming mix.

The first thing that stands out in this movie is the title: "Catalunya über alles!". "Catalunya" is Catalonia, and most people know what that means (although its meaning keeps being controversial), but "über alles!"... what the heck is "über alles!"? The answer is very simple: it is a German phrase that means "above all". It used to be part of the German national anthem ("Deutschland, Deutschland über alles!"), but it is not anymore. And, basically, that's because it was made popular by the Nazis.

Isn't it excessive to compare the current situation in Catalonia to that in Germany in the 1930s? It depends on the point of view. In the last regional elections, held on 28 November 2010, 75,321 people gave their vote to a party whose website contains the following statement (I translate from Catalan): "Locals come first, Catalonia is for the Catalan people. The only solution for immigration is repatriation".

Xenophobic discourse has permeated Catalonia (especially the inner areas) and whoever doesn't see it is blind. It isn't just a problem in Catalonia, though. It is quickly spreading across Europe, as it is shown by the growth of extreme right parties in the last election results.

Can cinema change society? Can it save the world? Can it save Catalonia? Obviously, it can't. Whatever is to happen will happen. But I wanted to convey my views on the present situation, in the wake of films such as "Fury" by Fritz Lang, "The Serpent's Egg" by Ingmar Bergman, or "1984" by Michael Anderson.

I cannot imagine how the audience will react to my movie. My intention is to raise questions, not to give answers I don't know. I'm interested in showing the audience a shocking and distressing reality that is already happening around us. A post-production technician told me that this was a "social horror" movie. What a good definition.

PRODUCTION NOTES

Segarra Films was created by Victor H. Torner and Ramon Térmens in March 2010. "Catalunya über alles!" its first feature film, was written in 5 weeks, prepared in 5 additional weeks, and filmed in 5 weeks more.

Roger Corman said that "pre-production starts when the first script draft is finished". That's the spirit that inspired us along the way. Cinema is action, and we are determined by the way we do it. The essence of this movie is immediacy, not seen as a fault but as a virtue. And immediacy is also in the content: it talks about what is happening today and what concerns us now.

We were very lucky to have talented actors and actresses who got very involved in the project. Their commitment was vital to make the production move forward, and their great talent is visible in every single image of the film.

We would also want to thank all the people in Almacelles for all their continuing support and enthusiasm. Everyone in the village did their bit, from the mayor to the real immigrants who appear in the film. More than 500 extras in the film are inhabitants of the village. We were also allowed to film some scenes in the streets of Lleida, and even in its prison. We are especially grateful to the prison managers for their cooperation.

FILM FESTIVALS & AWARDS

- "Biznaga de Plata" Special Jury Award, Malaga Film Festival 2011
- "Biznaga de Plata" Young Jury Award, Malaga Film Festival 2011
- Special Mention to actor Babou Cham, Malaga Film Festival 2011
- "Ciudad de San Sebastián Film Commission" Award 2011
- 35th Montreal World Film Festival. Section: Focus on World Cinema
- 59th San Sebastian International Film Festival. Section: Made in Spain
- 8th Pantalla Pinamar Film Festival, Argentina
- 7th London Spanish Film Festival
- 6th Harlem International Film Festival
- 17th Latin American Film Festival, Lleida (Catalonia)
- 9th Cinema and Work Film Festival, Madrid
- Barossa Film Festival, Australia

CAST
THE CHARACTERS

THE BUSINESSMAN **JOEL JOAN**



THE POLITICIAN **JORDI DAUDER**



THE NEW NEIGHBOR **GONZALO CUNILL**



THE CATALAN DEBT COLLECTOR **BABOU CHAM**



THE MOTHER **VICKY PEÑA**



THE BUSINESSMAN'S WIFE **BELÉN FABRA**



THE MANAGER **BORIS RUÍZ**



THE EX-GIRLFRIEND **ÁNGELS BASSAS**



THE LUXURY ESCORT **DIANA IULIANA**



THE SCHOOLGIRL **PAULA JIMÉNEZ**



THE UNEMPLOYED YOUNG MAN **DAVID ARRIBAS**



CREDITS

Director: Ramon Térmens
Producers: Víctor H. Torner and Ramon Térmens
Screenplay: Daniel Faraldo and Ramon Térmens
Cinematographer: Oriol Bosch Vázquez
Art Director: Albert Arribas Forcada
Costume Designers: Marta Alsina and Aitziber Sanz
Makeup and Hairstyle: Lúdia López
Casting: David Arribas
Editors: Víctor H. Torner and Anna Térmens
Location Sound: Daniel Rodríguez
Sound Designer: Xavi Saucedo
Sound Mixer: Jordi Monrós
Original Music: Glissando*

TECHNICAL DATA

Duration: 101 minutes
Reels: 6
Meters: 2,763
Shooting Format: Digital 4k (Red One)
Screening Format: 1:2.35 in 35mm and DCP
Sound: Dolby Digital
Year: 2011



segarrafilms@gmail.com
Tel. +34 93 408 71 35
www.segarrafilms.cat
www.catalunyauberalles.cat