

OFFICIAL SELECTION
hotdocs
2021 OUTSPOKEN. OUTSTANDING.

MAGALUF GHOST TOWN



A film by **Boogaloo** written and directed by **Miguel Ángel Blanca Pachón**

Boogaloo Films in coproduction with **Little Big Story** & **Mosaic** with the participation of **Movistar+**, **France Télévisions**, **RTS** & **IB3** with the support of **ICEC**, **CNC** & **ProciRep** present a film produced by **Bernat Manzano Vall**, **Miguel Ángel Blanca Pachón**, **Valérie Montmartin**, **Miguel Eek** director of photography **Raúl Cuevas** editors **Javier Gil Alonso**, **Miguel Ángel Blanca Pachón**, **Ariadna Ribas** sound recording **Cosmic D'allessandro** sound design **Iban R. Gabarró** production manager **Laura S. Llorens** production coordinator **Montse Pujol Solà** music **Sara Fontán** & **Edu Pou** international sales **Taskovski Films**

BOOGALOO

LITTLE
BIG
STORY

Mosaic

M+

francetélévisions

RTS

IB

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3C

Institut Català de les
Indústries Creatives

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INDÚSTRIES CREATIVES

PROCIREP

III
Institut Ramon Llull

Catalan
Films

Y&R
Y&R

BEGIN AGAIN



A FILM PRODUCED BY
BOOGALOO FILMS

IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH
LITTLE BIG STORY
MOSAIC PRODUCCIONS

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF
Movistar +
France Télévisions
RTS
IB3

WITH THE SUPPORT OF
Institut Català d'Empreses Culturals
CNC

PROCIREP - Société des producteurs et de l'ANGOIA

WORLD SALES
Taskovski Films

Written and directed by
Produced by

Miguel Ángel Blanca
Bernat Manzano, Miguel Ángel Blanca,
Valérie Montmartin, Miguel Eek

Director of photography
Editor

Raúl Cuevas
Javier Gil Alonso, Miguel Ángel Blanca,
Ariadna Ribas

Music
Sound Recording
Sound Design

Sara Fontán, Edu Pou
Cosmic d'Allessandro
Iban R. Gabarró

STORYLINE

Magaluf, Mallorca, a peaceful seaside town that turns into one of the most heavily overcrowded tourist destinations in summer. How do the locals survive in this low-cost tourist paradise?

SYNOPSIS

Strange things are happening in Magaluf: the smell of piss and blood, police cars and ambulances cruising up and down the streets with no one paying them any mind, people shouting in the middle of the night... Magaluf is just a small, peaceful town on the island of Mallorca that many have ventured to call the Balearic Twin Peaks. Its residents are torn between an everyday aura of doom and genuine holiday pleasure, a place that has become the European paradigm of low-cost tourism based on insatiable nightly entertainment. A million tourists invade the streets of Magaluf every summer, as if they were specters transforming public spaces into a theme park where almost anything goes.

Meanwhile, Magaluf's residents try to coexist with the contradictions of this model of tourism that feels like an invasion but that also generates millions of euros for the catering industry, workplaces and opportunities for many people who wouldn't be able to survive anywhere else without Magaluf's characteristics.

Magaluf Ghost Town is an ensemble portrayal of a community during both the off-season and the high season, with a mystery-like tone, close to that of a thriller but without overlooking all the humorous local color, combining documentary and fiction. It is a story that's international in scope about the dreams of a town simply trying to survive in a touristified context, as well as a reflection on what it means to be a tourist in Europe.





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The truth is that I can't really remember if Magaluf is the most wonderful place in the world or a genuine nightmare.

We've been living with the myth of Magaluf for many years. I arrived there myself for the first time in search of that legend, to find out if all that was true. Media outlets have created a very stigmatized story about what this small town in Mallorca is: British tourists, alcohol, fighting, sex, sun and beach. Sensationalist news items on Magaluf have their annual space on TV news programs to keep feeding the monster, even inventing new concepts to make the fiction grow: "mamading" (which roughly translated means something like blow-jobbing), balconing, Shagaluf... Magaluf is a wild party that knows no limits, an image that functions as a recreational attraction but that the locals experience as a curse.

But what exactly is Magaluf?

Or more precisely... What can Magaluf really be?

Magaluf is an ideal set full of neon lights where you can create legends, spin lies and reflect on the forms of representing tourist areas in decline in the collective imaginary.

The constant possibility of something bad happening. Something weird. This is a film of fabulations and disappearances. Everyday storylines that coexist with phantasmagorical situations: a mood of strangeness and tension. In the midst of apparent normality, relations with tourists are approached as the arrival of a mysterious visitor, a vampire, the living dead...

Magaluf Ghost Town is the ensemble story of a town where we will witness the coexistence of several characters with their environment, the portrait of a town that isn't the master of its own destiny, in a tone that swings back and forth between humorous local color and the atmosphere of a horror film.

PRODUCER'S STATEMENT

At Boogaloo we like projects that address current issues with a new look. This is the case of *Magaluf Ghost Town*. Spain and tourism are two concepts that have always gone hand in hand. A European tourist destination, leaders in sun, sand and nightlife... It's been in our cultural DNA for more than 40 years. As neighbors of Barcelona, we have grown up in a city that has suffered processes of gentrification as a result of becoming one of the preferred destinations for tourists from all over the world. Director Miguel Ángel Blanca explored the relationship between "museum cities" and tourist invasions in his piece *La Extranjera* (2015), which premiered at the Seville Festival; or characters with dualities and lives on the edge (*A Place to Rest Your Bones*), always from a very personal point of view and experimenting with format and narrative. But in *Magaluf Ghost Town* this exploration goes one step beyond, reflecting on the low-cost tourism model by crossing documentary with fiction and humorous local color with fantastic cinema. The main characters in *Magaluf Ghost Town* find themselves in love-hate situations that are characteristic of Ulrich Seidl's films, because for them tourism is both a blessing and a curse at the same time.

At Boogaloo Films we have put our faith in director Miguel Ángel Blanca, who has developed his career together with us based on the exploration of new forms of storytelling and the development of new trans-media narratives. *Magaluf Ghost Town* is his most ambitious project to date. It has captured the attention of international festivals and sales agents and has the potential to appeal to viewers from all over the world: despite dealing with a local issue, *Magaluf Ghost Town* addresses a global topic that affects our relationship with tourism and public spaces.





«Like the mostly British sun-seekers who flock to its beaches every summer, these locals are drawn to Magaluf for its air of possibility, even if that romantic ambience is often drowned out by rowdy hordes engaging in beer-fueled frolics and fisticuffs.»

[Variety](#)

«Using a playful blend of documentary and fiction, Miguel Angel Blanca explores the conflicted relationship between the town that earned the nickname 'Shagaluf' and those who make it their home year-round.»

[Screendaily](#)

«*Magaluf Ghost Town* hands us a guilty pleasure, a cinematic *ensaimada* in which each layer offers a different texture.»

[Cineuropa](#)

«A strange, nightmarish vision of the purpose-built holiday resort through the eyes of local residents.»

[Modern Times Review](#)

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Miguel Angel Blanca works in the field of tragicomedy, double lives and everyday obscurity. His first feature length film *Després de la Generació Feliç* (2014) is a found footage home movie piece about the virtues of losing your memory and reconstructing the past from fiction. It is followed by *Un lloc on caure mort* (2014), a documentary about the possibility of managing family, the middle class and punk music, and *La Extranjera* (2015), a documentary-science fiction hybrid that reflects on the tourist invasions in the city of Barcelona.

His latest projects are the feature length film *Quiero lo Eterno* (2017) and the short film *Corre Brilla Luz Luz* (2018), two fables about adolescent nihilism and end-of-the-world fantasy.

He is currently releasing *Magaluf Ghost Town* (2021) a cross between horror and humorous local color in one of the most touristy towns in Mallorca that reflects on the tourist areas in decline and their representation in the collective imaginary.

Filmography:

Magaluf Ghost Town (2021)

Corre Brilla Luz Luz (2018, short)

Quiero lo eterno (2017)

La Extranjera (2015)

Un lloc on caure mort (2014)

Després de la generació feliç (2014)



THE PRODUCTION COMPANY

Boogaloo Films is a Barcelona based creative group that spearheads new forms of production and storytelling. Their commitment involves reflecting on current issues, focusing on the internationalization of young talent, while taking risks and exploring creative and artistic points of view.

Their professional work in the world of fiction and documentaries has earned them well over 50 awards at both national and international festivals such as BAFICI, Gijon International Film Festival, San Sebastian Festival, D'A, FICG, Seville European Film Festival, Zinebi, Cinespaña Toulouse, Festival Márgenes, l'Alternativa, Lima Independent Film Festival and Malaga Festival, among others.

They have co-produced documentaries with other production companies including Les Films d'Ici, Little Big Story, Graffiti Doc, Les Films de l'Oeil Sauvage, Open Society Foundations, Mosaic Producciones and with the broadcasters Movistar+, Televisió de Catalunya, Al Jazeera Documentary, France Télévisions (France 2, France 3 and Via Stella), Radio Canada, IB3 or RTS, among others.





WORLD PREMIERE
HOT DOCS CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL



PROJECT SELECTED AT THE FOLLOWING PITCHING AND WORK-IN-PROGRESS MARKETS:

XII Miradas Doc Pitching Forum (Spain)
DocsBarcelona 2018 - Speed Meetings (Spain)
Foro Lau Haizetara 2018 (Spain)
EDN Docs in Thessaloniki 2019 (Greece)
Sheffield Doc/Fest Meet Market 2019 (UK)
WiP Abycine Lanza 2020 (Spain)
Sitges Industry Hub 2020 - Matchmaking meetings (Spain)
FICXixón WiP 2020 (Spain)

THEATRICAL RELEASE:
To be confirmed

TECHNICAL SPECS

Non-fiction feature
2021 | 90 minutes | V.O. Spanish, English
1.78:1 | color | sound

A Boogaloo Films, Little Big Story and Mosaic Produccions production
with the participation of Movistar+, France Télévisions, RTS, IB3
with the support of Institut Català d'Empreses Culturals, CNC,
PROCIREP - Societé des producteurs et de l'ANGOIA

WORLD SALES AND FESTIVALS

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PRESS ROOM

