

26 FESTIVAL DE MÁLAGA
SECCIÓN OFICIAL
DOCUMENTALES LARGOMETRAJES

I HAD A LIFE

A FILM BY OCTAVIO GUERRA

PRODUCED BY CALIBRANDO PRODUCCIONES CAST JESÚS MIRA AND ELENA MATAMALA DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY CARLOS APARICIO SECOND UNIT
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MARC GONZALO PRODUCTION AND ART DIRECTOR ELISA TORRES EDITOR OCTAVIO GUERRA COLORIST BEATRIZ BORRAZ
CREDITS AND GRAPHIC DESIGNER MARÍA BORRAZ SOUND DESIGNER AND MIXES ÁLEX F. CAPILLA, SERGIO TESTÓN EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ELISA TORRES
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY OCTAVIO GUERRA





I HAD A LIFE

PRODUCED BY
**CALIBRANDO
PRODUCCIONES**

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY
OCTAVIO GUERRA

D.O.P.
CARLOS APARICIO

PRODUCTION
ELISA TORRES

EDITED BY
OCTAVIO GUERRA

SOUND
ALEX F. CAPILLA

ASPECT RATIO
HD 2.39:1

GENDER
NO FICCIÓN

LENGTH
71'

DISTRIBUTION
BEGIN AGAIN FILMS



**A MAN'S STRUGGLE TO NEVER
LIVE ON THE STREETS AGAIN**



SYNOPSIS

Jesús arrives at a housing and employment reincorporation centre, after living on the streets for a decade. Now Jesús' life is full of rules. His struggle doesn't make sense if he is not free to make his own decisions. After years depending on social services he leaves the programme with all of the risks this decision entails. Elena, coordinator of the supervised accommodation, is writing her thesis on the reincorporation of homeless people. When Jesús leaves, her research takes a turn and she focuses her thesis on Jesús' life story. Elena becomes his only emotional support.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I HAD A LIFE seeks to provide a humanist view, an anthropological approach removed from the paternalism towards people who at some point in their lives have spent time on the streets and are now in a reincorporation process. We seek to gain a better understanding of such a complex problem, dependent on a multitude of factors, as homelessness. We do not want our approach to be deterministic or to convey a tragic perspective; like life itself, at times the narrative fabric is ambiguous and contradictory. The themes and subthemes that emerge and intersect in this endeavour are many. The

idea of freedom is implicit in the conflict of each of our characters, the majority of whom are individuals who have been slaves to addiction but who can yearn for their days on the street as a utopian stage when they were on the fringes of any social order. When they begin their rehabilitation or reincorporation process into what could be considered "social normality", they must comply with a series of strict rules, whether in hostels or in the supervised accommodation provided by the social institutions. Basic hygiene rules, restrictive timetables, prohibitions, a new scheduled world that is a distant cry from the routine of the street, and that is established as an unavoidable requirement for their recovery as people. The contradiction is latent in many of

them; they have almost religiously met each and every one of the conditions and demands that they were consistently told would help them to recover and now, having reached a mature phase, they realise that there is no paradise, that they will never become autonomous and that the reward for such a huge effort might not even be worth it. This is an awkward, unknown group, around whom hundreds of preconceived ideas revolve. This documentary seeks to question the prejudice and stigmatisation towards homeless people and bring down these prejudices or, at least, highlight them. To do so there is no better way than giving a voice to and accompanying our protagonists, as well as the social workers and researchers in their everyday work.



Octavio Guerra holds a degree in Information Sciences from Valencia, where he studied the Ibero-American Masters in Film and Television Scriptwriting at the Foundation for Audiovisual Research (FIA). His feature film "Searching for Oscar" premiered at the Berlin Critics' Week. He directed the short documentary "Russians' Machine", nominated for the Goya Awards. He has also been the director of the documentary series "Acción Directa" for TVE and director of the documentary series "Six Dreams" for Amazon Prime, awarded by the National Academy of Television, Arts and Sciences of the United States with the Emmy for the best Spanish-language entertainment programme. He teaches in the Master of Filmmaker for Film and New Media, Barreira A+D & the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome.

OCTAVIO GUERRA

Director





C A L I B R A N D O
producciones

CALIBRANDO PRODUCCIONES is a production company specialised in the documentary and non-fiction genre and has been consolidated in the audiovisual sector for over twelve years. Among its numerous produced works, the non-fiction feature film "Searching for Oscar" stands out, which made its world premiere at the Berlin Critics' Week (Berlinale) and was selected at prestigious festivals such as BAFICI, Göteborg and Raindance.

Other productions include "Russians' machine", nominated for the Goya Awards, "Apache", winner of the Valencian Audiovisual Academy Award, "Sacristán" winner of the Richard Leacock Award at the La Palmas International Film Festival and "Heurtebise", which had its World Premiere at the Gijón International Film Festival. It has also produced "Agua Bendita", selected for more than 50 international festivals, including the Havana Festival.

SELECTIONS AND PRIZES

LABs' & WIPs' Awards:

Semilleru Lab Award - Gijón International Film Festival 2022

DCP Deluxe Award



Plataforma VLC Best Project Award. Docs Valencia 2020



DocsMX Impact Lab Award - DocSur MiradasDoc 2021



Markets, WIPs and LABs:

Agora Docs in Progress - Thessaloniki Documentary Festival 2022



Industry Nebulae - Doclisboa International Film Festival 2022



CREADOC 2021. Laboratorio de Desarrollo de Documentales de Creación



DocsMX Impact Lab



TRAILER

<https://vimeo.com/775031392>



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