



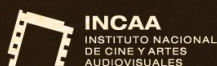
Luciana Grasso
Inés Estévez

vera and the pleasure of others

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY

Romina Tamburello and Federico Actis

PEZ CINE with the support of the NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CINEMA AND AUDIOVISUAL ARTS with the support of the GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF SANTA FE and the MUNICIPALITY OF ROSARIO presents VERA AND THE PLEASURE OF OTHERS with LUCIANA GRASSO INÉS ESTÉVEZ DAVID ZOELA ESTEFANÍA NICOLÓ CARLOS RESTA MARIANO RAIMONDI cinematographer LUCAS PÉREZ camera operator ROMINA FERRREYRA set designer LUCAS COMPARETTO (AADA) costume designer LAURA PERALES makeup FLORENCIA BRID hairstyles SERENA FENTY direct sound AGUSTÍN PAGLIUCA (ASA) assistant director FEDERICO RODRÍGUEZ SEVESO production manager DÁMARIS RENDÓN sound director SANTIAGO ZECCA (ASA) composer PABLO CRESPO editor DANALÍ RIQUELME color grading GONZALO GRECO associate producers ROMINA TAMBURELLO TOMÁS FOSTER GUSTAVO ACTIS executive producer SANTIAGO KING written and directed by ROMINA TAMBURELLO and FEDERICO ACTIS



Municipalidad
de Rosario



FILM INFORMATION

TRAILER

INTERNATIONAL TITLE:

VERA AND THE PLEASURE OF OTHERS

ORIGINAL TITLE:

VERA Y EL PLACER DE LOS OTROS

GENRE: **COMING OF AGE**

COUNTRY: **ARGENTINA**

DURATION: **103'**

RELEASE YEAR: **2023**

FORMAT: **DCP 4K - COLOR**

ASPECT RATIO: **2.39:1**

SPEED/FRAME RATE: **24fsp**

SOUND FORMAT: **Stereo + 5.1**

LANGUAGE: **SPANISH**

SCREENWRITERS / DIRECTORS:

ROMINA TAMBURELLO - FEDERICO ACTIS

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

SANTIAGO KING

WORLD PREMIERE:

27th Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival, 2023

DOMESTIC PREMIERE:

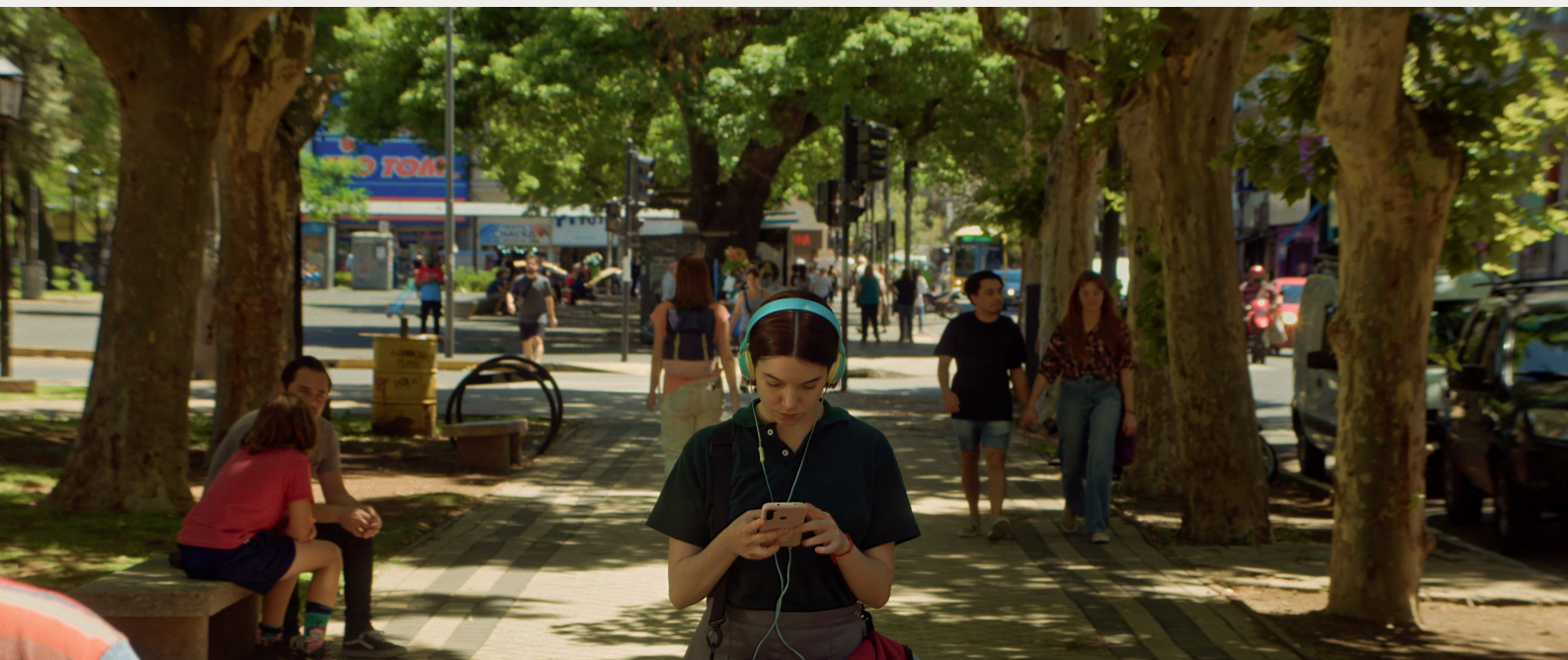
Mar del Plata Film Festival, 2023

LOGLINE

Vera discovers her own sexual desires as she listens to other people's pleasure

SYNOPSIS

17-year-old Vera divides her days between volleyball, school, and a secret hobby: she rents out an empty apartment to teenagers looking for a place to have sex. She steals the keys from her distracted mother, who manages different properties, and organises everything. The teenagers come and go, using the apartment for a few uninterrupted hours. Playing invisible, Vera stays behind the closed door; her own sexual desires unfolding as she listens to other people's pleasure.





VERA AND THE PLEASURE OF OTHERS

Vera and the Pleasure of Others is the debut feature film of directors Federico Actis and Romina Tamburello, who after participating with their short films «The Cable Cars» and «Rage» in different international festivals such as Rotterdam, Guadalajara and the Short Film Corner at Cannes, started developing this project with producer Santiago King of Pez Cine. The project was the winner of the 9th edition of the RAYMUNDO GLEYZER Feature Film Development Contest, along with receiving the award for Feature Film Development of Creative Industries, granted by the Ministry of Culture of Santa Fe province. With the support of the National Institute of Cinema and Audiovisual Arts from Argentina (INCAA), at the end of 2021, film shooting took place in Rosario city, starring performances by Luciana Grasso as Vera and the renowned Argentine actress Ines Estevez in the role of Adriana, her mother.

“We wanted to bring something new to the coming-of-age genre. This film does not judge its protagonist, but instead accompanies her and celebrates her courage to go in search of what brings her pleasure. Vera And The Pleasure Of Others is about female sexuality at different ages, both Vera and her mother are following their desires”

Romina Tamburello and Federico Actis

(article published in [Screen](#))

BIOS

SCREENWRITER AND DIRECTORS

Romina Tamburello

Romina Tamburello is an actress, screenwriter and director. She is the author of the plays “Black Eyed Women” and “Jet Lag”. She is a scriptwriter for the fiction series “Round” and director of the short film “Rage”, which participated in the Short Film Corner at the Cannes Film Festival. In addition, she wrote and directed the documentary series “Catalina, the Woman with the Flag” for Encuentro Channel. She recently published her first novel, “The Devil’s Widow”, and is a showrunner for its television adaptation.



Federico Actis

Federico Actis is a director, screenwriter and producer at Pez Cine. He is the director of the fiction short film “The Cable Cars” and the documentary feature “The Architecture of Crime”. He has worked as a scriptwriter for the cultural television channels Santa Fe Signal and Encuentro. He is an alumni of Berlinale Talents, and is currently developing his next feature film, “The Men of the Plain”.



BIOS

PRODUCER

Santiago King

Santiago King is a director and film producer. He directed the award-winning short film “Around the Corner” and the television fiction series “DEC, Democracy in Construction”. He is production director of the “Sports Profiles” animations part of the feature film “Fontanarrosa, what is called an idol.” And producer of the series “Catalina, the woman with the flag” for Argentinian Cultural Television and of “Maternidark” series.

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

Vera and the Pleasure of Others is a film about desire, sex, teenagers, and female masturbation. It is a film about the right to discover one's own pleasure, beyond the gaze and expectations of others. Vera, the film's protagonist, with all the contradictions and fears of a teenager, is on this journey. At the same time her mother, Adriana, must also address her own desire in the film. In parallel, and across their different generational perspectives, it becomes an important point in the life of both female characters. We accompany Vera on her discovery, which is wandering, at times difficult, but also bright, uplifting and fun. Vera does not find all the answers about her desire, neither do we, but she teaches us that enjoyment requires ongoing questions and courage.

INTERVIEW WITH ROMINA TAMBURELLO AND FEDERICO ACTIS

How would you describe the film's protagonist, Vera?

Vera is a 17 year old teenager who dares to seek out what gives her pleasure. She has an illegal enterprise; she rents an empty flat to other teenagers so that they have a place to have sex. At first she does it for the money, but then she discovers it is a channel for her own sexual desire. Vera enjoys listening to the pleasure of others until she can understand what her own desire is.

What were the themes that you wanted to explore?

This is a film about desire. Many times, especially in Argentinean cinema, desire and sexual fantasies are treated in a sordid way, with certain taboos or moral judgements. We wanted to show joyful sex, vindicate the right to enjoyment, and remove the shame that female masturbation has

been stuck with for a long time. We don't judge the illegality of Vera's little "business" because we have a protagonist who goes after her desire whatever the cost, and we want to accompany her in this search.

Why did you decide to tell a story about teenagers?

The story came from anecdotes of our own adolescent experiences, from conversations in which we confessed where we went to have sex when there was no privacy, or a space of our own, since we lived with our parents. But there is also another reason; we believe that teenagers have a particular relationship with fear at this time in their lives. Risk is the driving force for Vera to transform the pleasure of others into her own.

Did you encounter challenges, when incorporating sensual and erotic scenes in this film?

This was the great challenge of the film. And in that a co-direction of both genders was key, the challenging moments were calmed by the support we had from the whole team. The film has a lot of sex scenes, a lot of intimacy. It was a challenge from the beginning: first to be able to write them as screenwriters, we had many talks about this, and then how to carry them out as directors. The first thing we did was a casting in which, although the protagonists had to look 17 years old, they were all over 20. There was a lot of preparation and conversation with the actors beforehand, a bonding work in which they had to get to know each other.

We then decided that for filming the sex scenes there would be an all-female team. The microphone operator, the assistant director and the camerawoman were with Romina inside the set. Federico, with the rest of the male team, stayed at the monitors giving directions from there. This was very important for the care of the cast and allowed the camera to find those moments of intimacy, to get the luminosity that the film is aiming for.

What did you want to bring to the coming-of-age genre?

Vera does not find all the answers to her questions about sex in the film, not even at the end. If anything, more questions are opened up for her. The emphasis is not on whether Vera likes women or men, but on listening. We wanted to build a character that is difficult to pigeonhole or classify.

Can you tell us about the mother's role in the film?

It is in this empty flat that both the mother and daughter will address their sexuality. Adriana is not only a mother burdened by routine, but also a woman of desire. Although Adriana does not discover something new about her sexuality, as Vera does, she follows her instinct and allows her desire to take control. This film is about the courage to try new things, to take the risks involved in searching for what is good for you, and the possibility of making mistakes in the process. Both female characters, at different points in their lives, are discovering themselves as sexual beings and must accept this in each other.

Did your different gender perspectives play a role when working together on this film?

We think so, although we don't know exactly in what way. Surely our different gender perspectives and our constant talks (and debates) have enriched our point of view: nobody knows exactly what sex or pleasure is because it is different for each one of us. And trying to represent that in a film narrative has been a constant exchange of views. This whole process was even more extensive and shared with the actors and actresses who created and embodied the characters. This is not the work of a single person, not even of two directors, this film is the result of a larger collective process.

How does this film fit into conversations about feminism, for you?

We feel that feminism has made progress in many of its struggles, but there are still battles to be fought. One of them is female pleasure: that masturbation is not a taboo or something to be ashamed of. All over the world, and at this moment especially in Argentina, the conservative political right is going against the rights and self-determination of women. This film is a daily cry of rebellion, that of a teenage girl who can transform her world.

CAST & CREW

vera

and the
pleasure
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Vera - **LUCIANA GRASSO**

Adriana - **INÉS ESTÉVEZ**

Martín - **DAVID ZOELA**

Nadia - **ESTEFANÍA NICOLÓ**

Roberto - **CARLOS RESTA**

Directors: **ROMINA TAMBURELLO & FEDERICO ACTIS**

Screenwriters: **ROMINA TAMBURELLO & FEDERICO ACTIS**

Executive Producer: **SANTIAGO KING**

Cinematographer/DoP: **LUCAS PÉREZ**

Camera Operator: **ROMINA FERREYRA**

Set Designer: **LUCAS COMPARETTO (AADA)**

Sound Director: **SANTIAGO ZECCA (ASA)**

Direct Sound: **AGUSTÍN PAGLIUCA (ASA)**

Editor: **DANALÍ RIQUELME**

Composer: **PABLO CRESPO**

Costume Designer: **LAURA PERALES**

Makeup: **FLORENCIA BRID**

Hairstyles: **SERENA FENTY**

Production Manager: **DÁMARIS RENDÓN**

Assistant Director: **FEDERICO RODRÍGUEZ SEVESO**

Production company: **PEZ CINE**

International sales: **M-APPEAL**



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