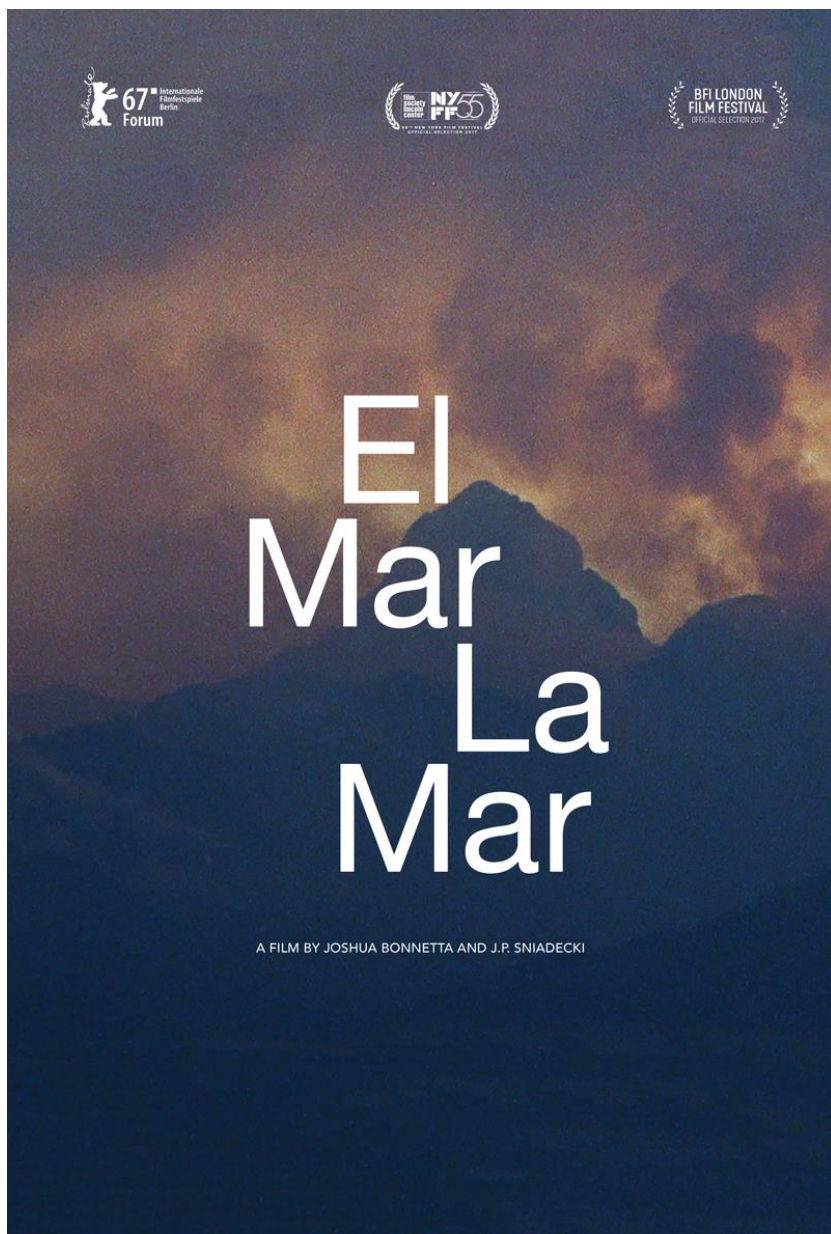


A CINEMA GUILD RELEASE



2017 / 94 minutes / 1.85:1, pillar-boxed / 16mm to DCP / Dolby Digital 5.1
In English and Spanish with English subtitles

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Press Materials:

http://www.cinemaguild.com/theatrical/elmar_press.htm

SYNOPSIS

An immersive and enthralling journey through the Sonoran Desert on the U.S.-Mexico border, EL MAR LA MAR weaves together harrowing oral histories from the area with hand-processed 16mm images of flora, fauna and items left behind by travelers. Subjects speak of intense, mythic experiences in the desert: A man tells of a fifteen-foot-tall monster said to haunt the region, while a border patrolman spins a similarly bizarre tale of man versus beast. A sonically rich soundtrack adds to the eerie atmosphere as the call of birds and other nocturnal noises invisibly populate the austere landscape.

Emerging from the ethos of Harvard's Sensory Ethnography Lab, J.P. Sniadecki's attentive documentary approach mixes perfectly with Joshua Bonnetta's meditations on the materiality of film. Together, they've created an experience of the border region like nothing you've seen, heard or felt before.

CREW

Directors Joshua Bonnetta, J.P. Sniadecki
Directors of Photography Joshua Bonnetta, J.P. Sniadecki
Editors Joshua Bonnetta, J.P. Sniadecki
Sound Design Joshua Bonnetta, J.P. Sniadecki
Sound Joshua Bonnetta, J.P. Sniadecki
Production Design..... Joshua Bonnetta, J.P. Sniadecki
Producers..... Joshua Bonnetta, J.P. Sniadecki

SELECT FESTIVALS & AWARDS

Official Selection – Berlin International Film Festival, 2017
Official Selection – San Francisco International Film Festival, 2017
Official Selection – New York Film Festival, 2017
Official Selection – BFI London Film Festival, 2017
Official Selection – Vienna International Film Festival, 2017
Official Selection – Chicago International Film Festival, 2017
Official Selection – AFI FEST, 2017
Official Selection – International Documentary Festival Amsterdam, 2017
Winner – Caligari Film Award, Berlin International Film Festival
Winner – Best Film, Dokufest Kosovo
Winner – Best Film, Curitiba International Film Festival
Winner – Universities Prize, IndieLisboa

DIRECTOR BIOS & FILMOGRAPY

Joshua Bonnetta

Joshua Bonnetta (b.1979) is a Canadian visual artist and sound artist who works primarily in analogue film across installation, performance and theatrical exhibition. His film works have been exhibited at the Toronto International Film Festival, ICA London, BFI London Film Festival, Berlin International Film Festival, New York Film Festival and AFI Fest, as well as many other festivals, museums and galleries around the world. He lives and works between New York City and Upstate New York. He is an Associate Professor at Ithaca College where he teaches experimental film, video art and sound art. www.joshuabonnetta.com

Recent work

Low Islands (2018)
El Mar La Mar (2017)
Remanence I-IV (2015)
Strange Lines and Distances (2013)
American Colour (2012)
Long Shadows (2011)
Parting (2010)

J.P. Sniadecki

J.P. Sniadecki (b. 1979) works between China and the United States as an artist and anthropologist whose films explore collective experience, sensory ethnography, and the possibilities of cinema. His work is in the permanent collection of New York's Museum of Modern Art and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and has been exhibited at the Shanghai Biennale, the Whitney Biennale, the Shenzhen Biennale, the Centre George Pompidou and the Guggenheim, as well as at international film festivals, such as Berlin, BFI London, Locarno, New York, AFI, Viennale, Mar del Plata, and Beijing Independent Film Festival. Co-founder of the traveling screening series "Cinema on the Edge," which showcases independent Chinese film, he has written articles for *Cinema Scope* and *Visual Anthropology Review* and the edited volume *DV-Made China*. A 2017 Guggenheim Fellow, he currently teaches in the Documentary Media MFA program at Northwestern University.

Filmography

El Mar La Mar (2017)
The Iron Ministry / 铁 - 道 (2014)
Yumen / 玉门 (2013)
People's Park / 人民公园 (2012)
Foreign Parts (2010)
The Yellow Bank / 黄浦 (2010) short
Demolition / 拆 - 迁 (2008)
Songhua / 松花 (2007) short