

DIRECTED BY GABRIELA PENA & PICHÓ GARCÍA

WHERE THE SILENCE IS HEARD



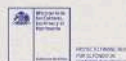
A GRIETA CINE PRODUCTION

IN COPRODUCTION WITH CINE MATRIZ - GRIS MEDIO WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY GABRIELA PENA CO-DIRECTED BY PICHÓ GARCÍA
PRODUCED BY GABRIELA PENA & PICHÓ GARCÍA CO-PRODUCED BY GABRIELA SANDOVAL - EFTHYMIA ZYMVRAGAKI
EDITED BY GABRIELA PENA & PICHÓ GARCÍA CO-EDITED BY MELISA MIRANDA - TIN DIRDAMAL
ORIGINAL MUSIC SANTIAGO JARA SOUND DESIGN CLAUDIO VARGAS - FLORENCIA TRUJILLO
COLOR LUNA SÁEZ GRAPHIC DESIGN MONTSE PENA

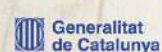


Cine
Matriz.

GRIS MEDIO



Institut Català de les
Empreses Culturals



Produced by Gabriela Pena & Picho García (Grieta Cine)
In co-production with Efthymia Zymvragaki (Gris Medio) &
Gabriela Sandoval (Cine Matriz)

WHERE THE SILENCE IS HEARD

Chile/Spain, 2026, 94 min.

A film by
Gabriela Pena & Picho García

World premiere



PRESS NOTES

Press materials can be downloaded [HERE](#)

Contacts

Production

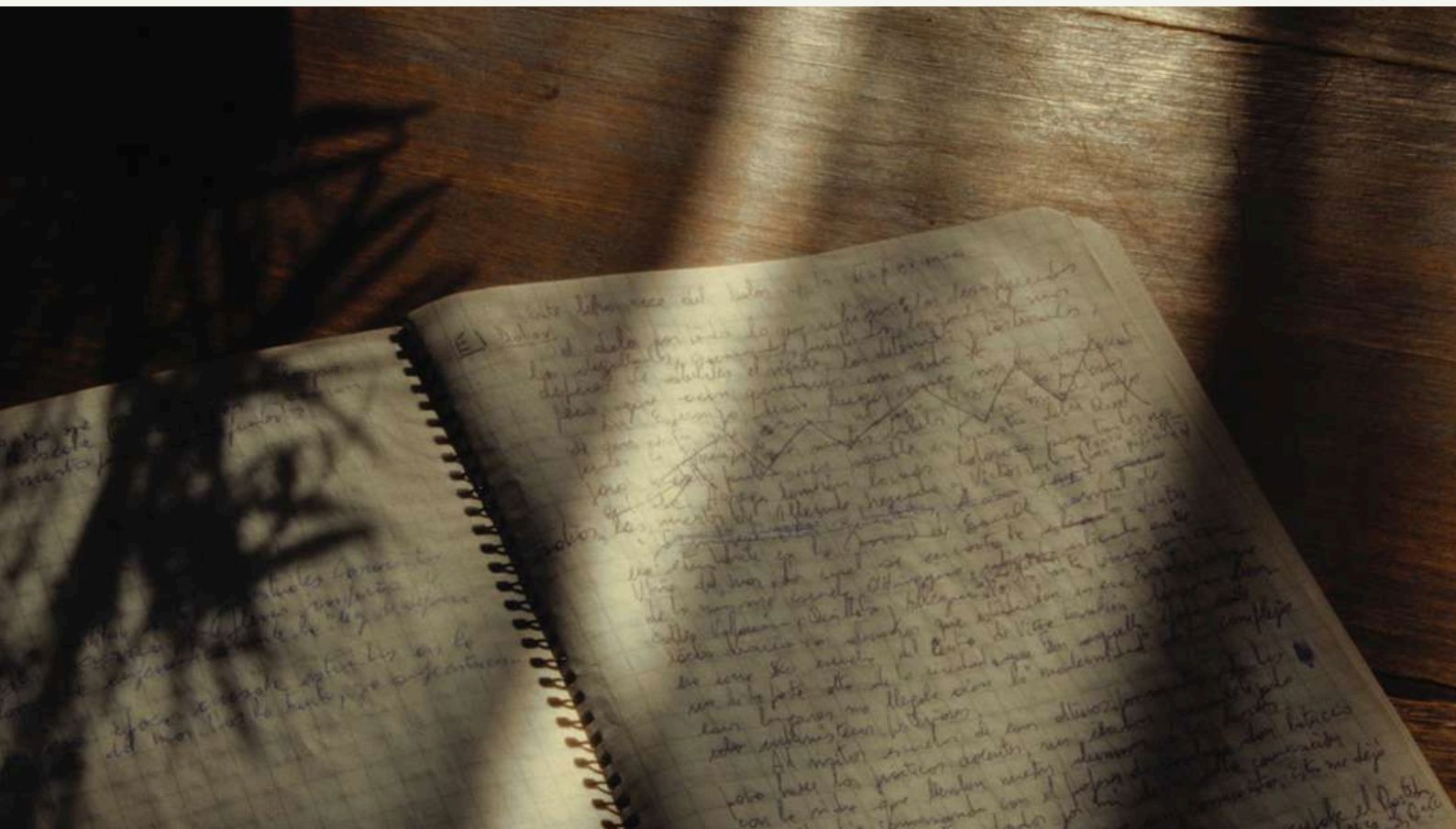
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Logline

Returning to a house abandoned in exile, a granddaughter traces three generations of memory to understand how love, fear, and silence are inherited.

Short synopsis

Gabriela returns to her family home in Chile, left behind after exile. Between her grandparents' tenderness and her mother's emotional distance, she begins to question how love can endure when shaped by fear, absence, and silence.



Synopsis

Gabriela grew up listening to the story of a country they had to flee, of a grandfather who survived, and of a home left behind. In time, she came to understand that a part of her mother remained trapped inside those walls, and that this invisible absence shaped the distance between them.

Fifty years later, Gabriela decides to travel to the city of Valparaíso to reopen the doors of that house and confront what was left unresolved. Among cracked walls and inherited silences, she restores the lost home and recovers a long-suppressed emotional story, shaped by exile and the violence of the Chilean dictatorship.

In the tender reunion with her grandparents and in the now physical distance from her mother, she must decide whether to keep hiding her feelings or, for the first time, break the cycle of wounds that has shaped three generations, and finally come to understand her mother — and herself.





Director's statement

Gabriela Pena & Picho García: This film began with Gabriela's need to confront what she had inherited: the weight of exile, dictatorship, and the silences that shaped her family. As part of the third generation, she carried fragments of a wound that was not hers, yet one that deeply marked her most intimate relationships. Filming became a way to accompany her grandparents' fragility and, above all, to face the distance with her mother, the relationship where the consequences of trauma were most visible.

Picho, the film's co-director, somehow belongs to the same historical inheritance, but from the other side: that of persons who remained in the country during and after the dictatorship. His perspective brings the presence of a parallel experience shaped by the shared past. Within the film, he accompanies Gabriela not only as a filmmaker but also as a partner, anchoring the story in the present and opening a space for connection.

The birth of our son gave the film its clearest meaning: within a history marked by what is carried across generations, we have witnessed the beginning of a fourth, already present in every image of the film.

Producer's statement

Efthymia Zymvragaki: This film resonated with me from the very beginning because it approaches inheritance not as a historical concept, but as something embodied – something that quietly shapes the ways we love, distance ourselves, and attempt to repair. Gabriela's need to confront the legacy of exile, dictatorship, and silence is not framed as an act of investigation, but as an intimate necessity. As a producer, I was drawn to the emotional precision of that gesture.

What moved me most was the film's position within the third generation: carrying fragments of a wound that is not directly lived, yet deeply internalized. The camera becomes a space of accompaniment, toward the grandparents' fragility, and toward the complex, often painful distance between mother and daughter. The film does not seek resolution; it seeks presence. It allows trauma to be observed in its everyday consequences.

Picho's presence as co-director introduces a vital counterpoint. As someone who does not belong to this lineage, he embodies the possibility of connection beyond inherited history. His gaze anchors the film in the present and transforms it into a shared act of care. The film is not only about what is transmitted unconsciously, but also about what can be consciously rebuilt. The birth of their son reframes everything. In a story shaped by generational weight, the arrival of a fourth generation brings both vulnerability and hope. It reminds us that inheritance is not only about wounds, but also about the responsibility – and possibility – of transformation.

As a producer, I believe in films that hold space for complexity without simplifying it. This project does precisely that: it stays close to fragility, to love, and to the delicate work of breaking silence.

About the directors

Gabriela Pena & Picho García

Gabriela Pena & Picho García are filmmakers, producers, and editors. Creative duo and founders of Grieta Cine, a production company based between Valparaíso (Chile) and Barcelona (Spain). Sundance Institute and Chicken & Egg Films Fellows.

Their feature documentary *Where the Silence is Heard* is set to premiere in 2026 in the CPH:DOX Next:Wave Award Competition (Denmark) and at FICG in the Ibero-American Documentary Competition (Mexico).

Their hybrid short film *Familia* ❤️💎 premiered at the 2024 True/False Film Festival (US) and screened at Camden IFF (US), among others. In Chile, it received multiple jury and audience awards, including Best Short Film at SANFIC.

Pena's debut documentary feature *Zoila*, produced by García, premiered at SANFIC (Chile) and received First Prize at FIDBA in the Gender and Generations Competition (Argentina). The pair are currently focused on Ibero-American co-productions.



Selected filmography

2026 *Where the Silence is Heard*
dir. Gabriela Pena & Picho García
documentary feature, 94 min.

2024 *Familia* ❤️💎
dir. Picho García & Gabriela Pena
hybrid short film, 19 min.

2021 *Zoila*
dir. Gabriela Pena, prod. Picho García
documentary feature, 77 min.

About the producers

Gabriela Sandoval

Gabriela Sandoval is a producer, founder of SANFIC, and director of SANFIC INDUSTRIA. She has produced documentary and fiction features premiered at festivals such as Berlinale, IDFA, Visions du Réel, San Sebastián, BFI London Film Festival, and Guadalajara.

Her producing credits include Nanni Moretti's *Santiago, Italia* (David di Donatello Award), Lissette Orozco's *El Pacto de Adriana* (*Adriana's Pact*, Berlinale Panorama), Francina Carbonell's *El cielo está rojo* (*The Sky Is Red*, IDFA, Best Documentary at Guadalajara), Patricia Correa's *Otra piel* (*Still Stares*, BAFICI, FICG), Sergio Castro San Martín's *La mujer de barro* (*The Mud Woman*, Berlinale Forum), and David Albala's *Pacto de Fuga* (*Jailbreak Pact*), one of Chile's most successful recent box office hits.

Since 2015, she has led distribution at Storyboard Media, releasing over 50 titles. She currently serves as Vice President of FIPCA.



About the producers

Efthymia Zymvragaki

Efthymia Zymvragaki is a producer, director, writer, and cinematographer exploring spaces of intimacy between and within people. She holds an MA in Artistic Productions and Research from the University of Barcelona's Faculty of Fine Arts, trained in photography at the Institut d'Estudis Fotogràfics de Catalunya, and earned a degree in Psychology from the University of Crete.

An alumna of IDFAcademy, Circle Women's Doc Accelerator, dok.incubator, and EURODOC, she has participated in major forums including IDFA Forum, Cannes Marché du Film, East Doc Platform, and DOK Leipzig. She is a member of DAE, EWA, Dones Visuals, and DOCMA.

As producer and DOP, she worked on Isabel de Ocampo's *You Will Be a Man* (2018) and co-produced David Rane and Neasa Ní Chianáin's *In Loco Parentis / School Life* (2016). Her debut feature *Light Falls Vertical* premiered at IDFA 2022 (Envision Competition), was nominated for Best First Feature, shortlisted for the EFA Documentary selection, and nominated for the Feroz Arrebato de No Ficción (2024).





Credits

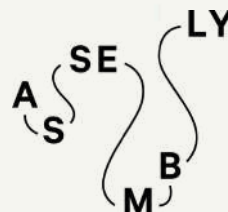
Crew

Director/Scriptwriter	Gabriela Pena
Co-director	Picho García
Editors	Gabriela Pena Picho García
Co-editors	Melisa Miranda Tin Dirdamal
Sound Design	Claudio Vargas
Music	Santiago Jara
Colour grading	Luna Saez
Producers	Gabriela Pena, Grieta Cine (Chile, Spain) Picho García, Grieta Cine (Chile, Spain)
Co-producers	Gabriela Sandoval, Cine Matriz (Chile) Efthymia Zymvragaki, Gris Medio (Spain)
Social characters	Gabriela Pena Sergio Tapia Marlene Hummel Andrea Tapia Picho García

Supporters & Partners

With the support of the Audiovisual Fund of the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage (MINCAP) in Chile, the Film and Audiovisual Arts Institute (ICAA) in Spain, and the Catalan Institute for Cultural Companies (ICEC) in Catalonia.

In association with the Sundance Institute and Chicken & Egg Films.
With the support of Open City Documentary Festival's Assembly Lab.





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Gris Medio, Cine Matriz