

# News

## Latin American Competition

# 3 questions for Adriana Lestido

*ERRANTE. La conquista del hogar is one of the titles that makes up the Latin American Competition and its director accepted the challenge of talking about the creative processes behind the film.*



**Was the idea of registering your experience in the Arctic Circle already agreed upon from the beginning of the trip or did it happen once you arrived at the place?**

The idea came from a previous trip I made alone to the winter of Tromsø (northern Norway) to record the Northern Lights on video. I stopped at a secluded little cabin by the sea, on the outskirts of town. Beyond the magical beauty of the auroras, I physically felt something very special to be close to the Earth's magnetic pole. In those weeks, the idea of traveling alone around the Arctic Circle and making a film in which I could express the transformation of nature through all the seasons, no matter how long it took, was conceived. I thought of it as an inner journey, nature as a mirror. Also as a journey to my center to achieve my own transformation. The film emerged, then, basically as a vital need to be able to connect with my less dense being from seeing and from what it would mean to travel through extreme and unknown places, alone, facing all the obstacles that this entailed.

**The film mixes the elegant shots of nature with phrases from various writers. How did you manage the inclusion of those texts in the narrative of the documentary?**

I clarify that elegance has never interested me, neither in my work nor in that of others. But, on the other hand, I am interested in the life that an image can transmit whatever its expressive medium. In relation to the texts, from the beginning I was clear that I would include quotations as a common thread and that these would have to belong to what came to me during the process of making the film. I am always attentive to what is presented when I am working. I believe in the importance of what comes up when you are immersed in a creative process. Whether by association, by accident, or by chance... The prior idea is the base image for what may arise. In that sense, then, I am interested in what comes to me and what I feel is related to what I am doing. Specifically, the quotes belong to books that I read on my trips as well as to songs, films, texts that came to me while I was editing the film. Also, the music heard in a couple of scenes was the music I was listening to while recording them.

**People do not appear in the film, and we can only notice their presence**

## through lights or constructions. What is the reason for this decision?

It was also basic that there was no human presence: only traces, footprints. This was part of the same premise of traveling alone with a camera, tripod and microphone, without any company or technical team, or any kind of support. In absolute freedom. To be alone in those immensities. One is born and one dies in solitude, overwhelming one's self in the void of the unknown. That's what it was about for me, going through the necessary transformation to be able to be reborn lighter. The conquest of home is just that: wandering until loosening the roots of the past and reaching my abode. Nature was my instrument and my restraint. The proposal did not admit human presences. In some way I also wanted to erase my own humanity in order to merge with the landscape. Listen to the voice of nature. Be that.



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