

DOS PATRIAS

TWO HOMELANDS



Costa Rica- Cuba-EEUU | documental | 70 min | Español | 2023

Directed and produced by:

Hilda Hidalgo Xirinachs

Executive production:

Carlos Quesada & Christina M. Fetterhoff

With the participation of:

Aymara Nieto Muñoz, Eduardo Cardet

Concepción & Xiomara Cruz Miranda

Production companies:

INSTITUTO SOBRE RAZA, IGUALDAD Y DERECHOS HUMANOS y
PRODUCCIONES LA TIORBA

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TAGLINE

I have two homelands: Cuba and the night. Or are they one and the same?
Jose Marti

LOGLINE

An intimate look at the life of three activists and political prisoners who confront the Cuban government from within today.

SYNOPSIS

For a long time, Cuba represented hope. In a Latin America plagued by violence and repressive regimes, the island was considered a symbol of resistance and social justice. But there is another Cuba...
Dos Patrias unveils the stories of Aymara, Eduardo and Xiomara – three activists and political prisoners in today's Cuba.



LONG SYNOPSIS

In Cuba, those who promote democratic reforms, defend the right to freedom of expression or even go out to march peacefully, are imprisoned.

Aymara Nieto Muñoz, Eduardo Cardet Concepción and Xiomara Cruz Miranda knew what they would face if they raised their voices against the Cuban regime. For expressing their ideas peacefully, they were accused by the Cuban State of contempt and unjustly imprisoned.

Arbitrary arrests, unjustified dismissals, acts of repudiation, defamation on the web and in the media, accusation of false crimes, criminal proceedings without guarantees and forced exiles, are some of the measures that the Cuban State exercises against activists.

In the context of the demonstrations of July 11, 2021, the repressive measures were extended to the entire population and the persecution of activists intensified.

Aymara and Xiomara are part of the Ladies in White group, Aymara is also a member of the Patriotic Union of Cuba and Eduardo is the National Coordinator of the Christian Liberation Movement, three of the oldest opposition movements in Cuba.

Who are they? What do they defend? What are they willing to sacrifice?

In Dos Patrias, Aymara, Eduardo and Xiomara tell their story as activists and political prisoners in today's Cuba.



KEY WORDS

activism | political prisoners | repression | dissent | freedom of expression | Cuba | human & civil rights | women stories



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

How many days would I be willing to go to prison for defending my ideas? This was one of the first questions I asked myself during the research for Dos Patrias. Xiomara was in prison 1,215 days, Eduardo 1,095 and Aymara has been in prison for 1,651 days (and counting). Losing freedom to defend it seems an unsolvable paradox.

Who are these people who confront the Cuban State? What moves them? How do they resist? What are they up to?

I knew Cuba long before making this documentary. There I studied cinema and my great-grandparents formed a family there. Cuba has always been very close to my heart. The process of making Dos Patrias was stark for me.

For a long time, Cuba represented hope. In a repressive and violent Latin America, Cuba was a symbol of resistance and social justice.

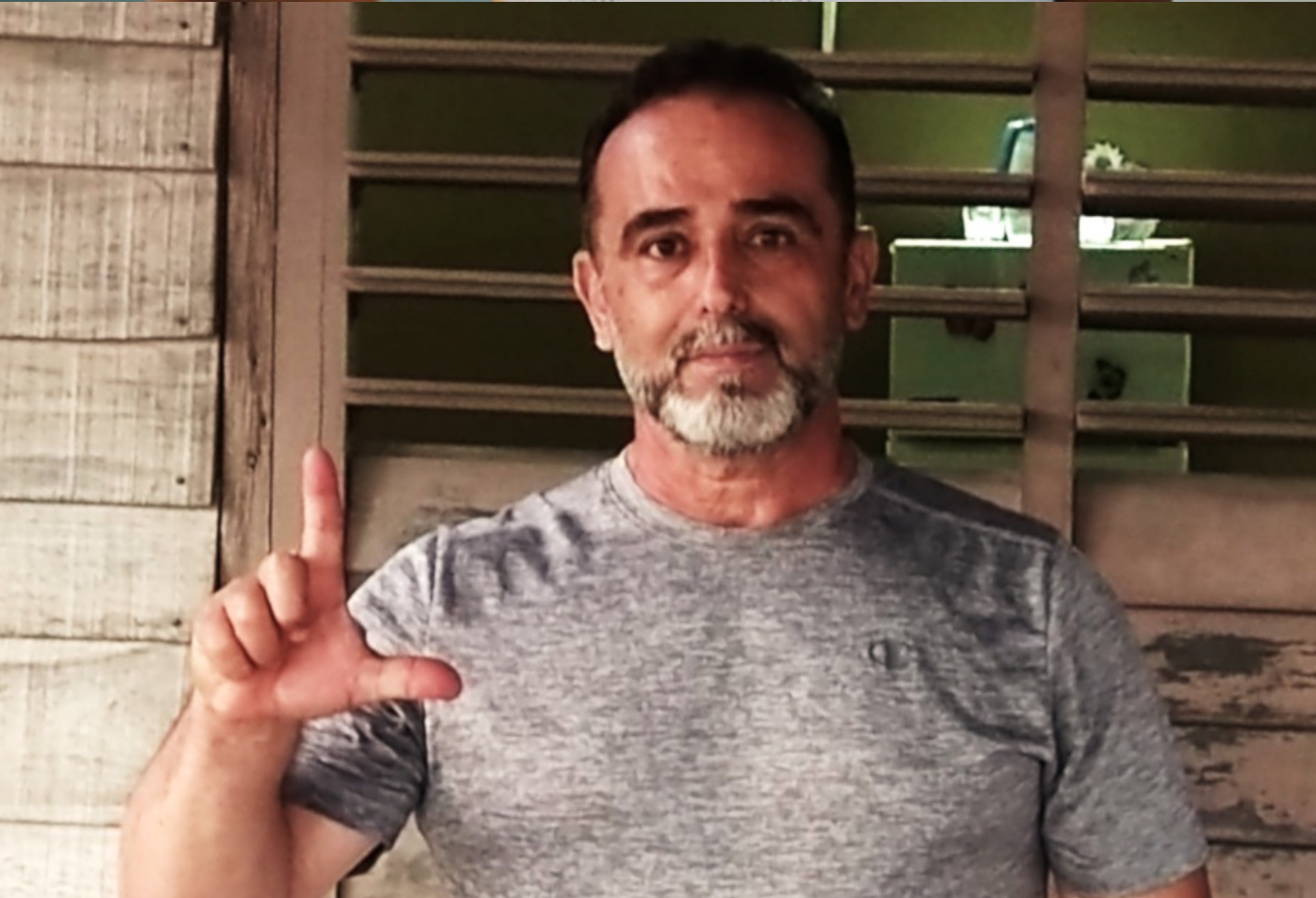
But there is another Cuba...

Xiomara, Eduardo and Aymara were violently arrested by officers of the Ministry of the Interior dressed in civilian clothes. They were subsequently charged with crimes they did not commit such as "disrespect", "resistance" or "public disorder". They were then prosecuted before biased courts and finally arbitrarily sentenced to imprisonment in which they continued (or continue) to be mistreated.

Beatings, punishment cells, denial of medical treatment, prohibition of visits and legal assistance, cruel and degrading treatment... The violations of the rights of Xiomara, Eduardo and Aymara have been fully documented before the international bodies that watch over Human Rights. Why do they remain unpunished? What would be necessary for justice to be done? How much more can Xiomara, Eduardo and Aymara and their families endure? What will happen to them and them when the movie is released?

More than answers, Dos Patrias leaves a trail of questions.

Hilda Hidalgo Xirinachs



CREDITS

Original title: Dos Patrias

International title: Two Homelands

Country of origin: Costa Rica / USA

Running time: 70 min

Year of production: 2022

Original Language: Spanish

Directed and produced by: Hilda Hidalgo Xirinachs

Written by: Tobías Ovares Gutiérrez & Hilda Hidalgo Xirinachs

Executive Producers: Carlos Quesada & Christina M. Fetterhoff

Production Manager: Noe Elizondo Chaves

Production Coordinator: Nicole Villalobos Mora

Editors: SET & Hilda Hidalgo Xirinachs

Director of Photography: Ramón Leiva

Original Music: Dominic Hirschkind Hidalgo

Animation: Promise Entertainment - Alejandro Cambronero Sánchez & Hanson Guillén Aguilar

Sound: SET & Hilda Hidalgo Xirinachs

Sound Design: SET & Talicia Castro Hidalgo

Mezcla 7.1 Carlos Aguilar. A Tropics Company

DI colorist: Talicia Castro Hidalgo

Editing assistants: Talicia Castro Hidalgo, Mauricio Esquivel Fallas & Raúl Sánchez Guzmán

Accounting: Patricia Castro - Creación Conjunta

Local production in Cuba: Anónimo

Music and Voice Recording Studio: Bamboom Estudio - Alejandro Salazar Chavarria

Narration: Hilda Hidalgo Xirinachs

With participation of:

Aymara Nieto Muñoz

(Member of Damas de Blanco and Unión Patriótica de Cuba)

Eduardo Cardet Concepción

(National Coordinator of the Movimiento Cristiano Liberación)

Xiomara Cruz Miranda

(Member of Damas de Blanco)

An their families:

Ismael Boris Reñí

Doselin Silbeyra Nieto

Rihanna Boris Muñoz

Griselda Niños Medina

Miriam Cardet Concepción

Clara Iznaga Cruz

Laritzta Diversent

(Executive Director Cubalex)

María Claudia Pulido

(Acting Executive Secretary for Monitoring, Promotion and Technical Cooperation.

Inter- American Commission on Human Rights)

Carlos Quesada

(Executive Director. Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights)

Carlos Díaz González

Berta Soler Fernández (Damas de Blanco Leader)

Mikaela Roll Gibert

María Josefa Acón Sardiñas

(Damas de Blanco Members)

Zaqueo Báez Guerrero

(Havana Coordinator Movimiento Nacional Cristiano)

A Production by:

Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights and Producciones La Tiorba



DIRECTOR

Hilda Hidalgo Xirinachs

She is a Costa Rican film director, writer and producer. Her opera prima *Del Amor y Otros Demonios* (Of love and other demons- 2010), based on the novel by Nobel Prize winner, Colombian writer Gabriel García Márquez represented Costa Rica in the category of Best Foreign Language Film at the Academy Awards (Oscars), and at the Goya Awards (Spanish Academy Awards). Her second film *Violeta al fin* (Violet at last- 2017) about a 72-year-old woman willing to break all the rules to hold onto her home and her freedom, premiered at Busan International Films festival and was screened at other 25 films festivals around the world.

With an intimate perspective and sensorial language, her films portrait strong female leading characters who stand up against adversity. Her filmography includes documentaries on social issues, art, gender, and sustainable development, shot at Benin, Bhutan, Costa Rica, Cuba, United States, France, Italy and the Netherlands.

She graduated from the International School of Film and Television (EICTV) in San Antonio de los Baños, Cuba and the Escuela de Ciencias de la Comunicación Colectiva - ECCC (Social Communications School) at Universidad de Costa Rica.

She co-founded and directed the Nueva Escuela de Cine y TV (New Film and TV School) at Universidad Veritas, the first film school in Central America. She teaches directing, acting and scriptwriting and is the Academic Coordinator of Lab ICAM at the ECCC. She is a founding member of the Costa Rican Women Director's Union and the Network of Women Filmmakers of Ibero-America.

She is currently working in Costa Rica as scriptwriter, director and producer at her own company Producciones La Tiorba. Her most recent film is the documentary *Dos Patrias* (2023), about the life of political prisoners in Cuba.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

La niña de los naranjos/ The girl at the orange trees (short film) 1991
A punto de/ On the verge of (documentary) 1992
Sacramento/ Sacrament (short film) 1993
Historia de las mareas/ History of the tides (documentary) 1995
Bajo el límpido azul de tu cielo/ Under your limpid blue sky (documentary) 1997
El barrio (The neighborhood (TV series) (only as director - 15 chapters) 1997
La pasión de nuestra señora / The passion of our lady (short film) 1998
Plaza Siglo XXI/ XXI Century plaza (TV series) (only as director- 3 chapters) 2000
Polvo de estrellas/ Stardust (documentary) 2001
Rio+10/4= (documentary) 2002
La casa de Bernarda Alba/ The house of Bernarda Alba (videodance) 2004
Del amor y otros demonios/ Of love and other demons (feature film) 2010
Violeta al fin (feature film) 2017
Dos Patrias /Two Homelands (documentary) 2023

THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE ON RACE, EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

With headquarters in Washington D.C, the International Institute on Race, Equality and Human Rights is an international, human rights capacity-building NGO that works side by side with activists in Latin America to enhance their ability to promote and protect the human rights of marginalized and vulnerable people who suffer from discrimination based on their national or ethnic origin, their sexual orientation or gender identity. Their objective is to strengthen grassroots organizations, helping them to become political actors capable of promoting structural changes in the countries where the organization works. Their methodology consists of providing technical assistance in order to help their partners monitor and document human rights abuses and increase their advocacy capacity at the national, regional and international levels.

<https://raceandequality.org>



LINKS

TRAILER

<https://vimeo.com/731910150>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9a4ZdJuZ0jU&t=1s>

TEASERS

Teaser #1 11 de julio <https://vimeo.com/773504069>

Teaser #2 Eduardo Cardet <https://vimeo.com/773525162>

Teaser #3 Xiomara Cruz <https://vimeo.com/773540334>

Teaser #4 Aymara Nieto <https://vimeo.com/773554692>

PHOTOS

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13qJ6FYyh8ylBkIngGnxuWDoT0gloN_7A

SOCIAL MEDIA

<https://www.facebook.com/DosPatriasDocumental>

<https://instagram.com/dospatriasdocumental>

MATERIALS

En este enlace están todos los materiales unificados:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1GNMb3380Rcb0wbSGzvfAlAoL4YzM4YnX?usp=share_link

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