



# Pielera

A FILM BY ASTRID VALENCIA & JULIO RAMOS

# LOGLINE

A tapestry of female memory, transforming the scars of colonization into a ritual of healing and autonomy.

# SYNOPSIS

Rooted in the depths of Veracruz, "Pielés" transforms the scars of conquest into a feminine act of healing, reconciling the past to reclaim autonomy.

STILL  
PHOTOS



# DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

Pieles emerges from the dialogue between body, camera, and territory. From the very beginning, it was essential for us to start from the personal and the intimate: family stories, inherited memories, and the experiences that live within the body. From this intimate place, the project gradually expanded into a collective dimension, allowing us to observe a shared historical wound and, through the creative act, imagine its potential healing.

Veracruz is a central axis in the development of this work. Not only because it is the birthplace of its creators, but because of the profound historical weight it carries. As one of the first ports of the Americas and the territory through which Europe first entered what is now Mexico, Veracruz represents the beginning of a forced cultural fusion, marked by war, dispossession, and pain. These wounds did not remain in the past; they were passed down through generations, particularly through women's bodies, as explored in Pieles.

We chose to speak primarily through image and symbol. While verbal language exists, we trust that the body and the image have the power to transcend words. Pieles was constructed through delicate layers, gradually overlapping gestures, movements, atmospheres, and memories until forming the project as a whole. The script did not precede the body; it emerged from it. Choreography became the starting point for accessing the interpreters' living sensations and memories, and little by little, the images that shape this surreal world began to appear.

Ultimately, Pieles seeks to listen to history as told through the living voice of a Veracruz born female body, one that carries within it the experiences of mothers, daughters, and grandmothers. A body that remembers, that aches, and that, through movement, attempts to heal the lineage inscribed on its skin.

# CREW BIOGRAPHIES



## DIRECTOR-COREOGRAPHER

Astrid Valencia from Veracruz, Mexico has over fourteen years of experience in body-based practices. Trained in Mexico and Italy, her practice moves between choreography, film, and visual storytelling. Her work has been presented at international festivals across Latin America, Europe, Asia, and the United States. She has been a recipient of grants such as Jóvenes Creadores, PECDA Veracruz, and ENARTES. Astrid's ongoing work investigates the body as a site of memory, resistance, and poetic transformation.



## DIRECTOR

Julio Ramos. Filmmaker from Veracruz, México. His work includes *The Condemned* (Winner of Vancouver Film School scholarship), *Midnight in Xico* (Best Latin American Short Film at FantLatam 2025), and *Falso Vacío*, premiered at the prestigious Cinedans in Amsterdam. His films have been screened in Italy, Spain, Iceland, Netherlands, and Brazil. He is currently interested in exploring processes connected to plants, clay, and chess. Through these practices, he engages with ideas of growth, materiality, strategy, and time, allowing natural rhythms and thoughtful structures to inform his creative approach.



## PRODUCER

Leticia Domínguez from Puebla, México is a multidisciplinary artist, educator, choreographer, and cultural manager with over ten years of experience in cultural project leadership and the development of educational programs through the arts for vulnerable populations. She specializes in contemporary dance and community-oriented projects, with an extensive professional background in arts fundraising, festival production, performing arts production, and audience development. She remains actively engaged in continuous academic and professional training.



## DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Luis Cardel is a Director of Photography, creative director, and experience designer whose work centers on emotion, presence, and atmosphere. His practice approaches visual storytelling as a lived experience, integrating body, space, light, and rhythm. As a DOP, his short films have screened internationally, including at the Cannes Short Film Corner and Cinedans Amsterdam 2024. His work extends into the design of immersive narrative experiences across physical, digital, and hybrid environments. He currently leads large-scale cultural projects, exploring memory and perception through cinematic and sensorial spaces.

# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Original Title: Pieles

English Title: Pieles

Genre: Dancefilm - Experimental - Fantasy

Length: 10:11

Aspect ratio: 2:35:1

Camera: RED

Format: 2K

Language: Spanish

Subtitles: English

Year: 2026

Country of production: México

## CREW

Written and Directed by: Astrid Valencia, Julio Ramos

Choreography: Astrid Valencia

Producer: Leticia Dominguez

Cinematography: Luis Cardel

Production Design: Nazaret Cacari Cauich

Costume: Alicia Ferreira, Mariel Hernandez

Editing: Javier Hernandez

Music: Sam Katz

VFX Artist: Dominic Ortega, Paulo Apodaca

Color Grading: Luis Veco

## CAST

Margarita Peña Pineda

Diana Laura Vivanco Martínez

María Eugenia Hermida Ruiz

Sofía Giselle Carmona Hernández

Amairani Gabriel Juan

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