



LA VIDA ES MUY BONITA
PERO SIEMPRE SE ACABA
AL FIN

The spirit of his late bandmate comes to find Emiliano, inviting him to play his instrument in the afterlife. But the old man is not ready to leave. With the help of a young drummer, he discovers in music a bridge between life and death, where the ephemeral becomes eternal.





*"With the death, my soul is captivated, and you can guess that I am in love.
Life is very beautiful, but it always ends."*



Emiliano, an old musician from San Basilio de Palenque, resists leaving

As his body fades, the voice of his friend Rafael calls to him from beyond. But something still holds him back: his music, his people, his memories.

The film paints a portrait of a community fighting to keep its soul alive against the tide of forgetfulness. Youths inherit ancestral songs, shadows murmur from another age, and one question haunts it all: can music triumph over death?



Franki

Franki is full of energy, humor, and a deep commitment to preserving his community's traditions. He shares a playful yet profound bond with Emiliano, exchanging jokes but also discussing serious matters of heritage.

Recognizing the dangers facing his culture, Franki created the first drum school in Palenque. This act was revolutionary in a community where music has traditionally been learned through observation. He believes that, in today's world, distractions and modern influences threaten the continuity of their traditions. By formalizing music education, Franki hopes to ensure the survival of Palenquero musical heritage for future generations.





Emiliano

Emiliano is a man of the land, speaking in a slow, poetic manner, steeped in rural wisdom. Though age has taken its toll, his spirit remains strong, especially when he talks about music and life in the countryside. He still dreams of returning to the mountains despite his physical limitations.

Deeply rooted in mystical beliefs, Emiliano speaks of plants with special powers and respects the "adelantados" or "zánganos"—healers and sorcerers who wield ancestral knowledge. He believes in the power of repeated phrases and prayers, viewing them as conduits to an invisible yet omnipresent force. To Emiliano, magic is interwoven with daily life, and rituals serve as a connection to the unseen world beyond.

Our film weaves together documentary narrative and visual poetry, drawing us into the spiritual realm of San Basilio de Palenque. Shot in black and white, its imagery transforms the ordinary into the sacred, portraying death not as an ending but as a journey and inheritance. Music, shadow, and reflection merge to unveil portals to the unseen and the quiet magic that lives within the everyday.



TEASER



La Région
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes



Scam*



PROCIREP
ANGOA

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