



Presents

„The Mountain“



By Ivan Herrera & Tabaré Blanchard

1. Ivan Herrera



Ivan Herrera, Dominican director and producer, has over 20 years of experience in the audio-visual industry in Dominican Republic. He took part as producer in several European productions (*Affaires Étrangères*, *Où Es-Tu?*, *Ernstfall In Cuba...*). As an assistant-director, he worked on renown Hollywood titles as *Miami Vice*, *The Good Shepherd*, *xXx: The Return of Xander Cage* as well as in the short film “*Bandoleros*” by *Fast & Furious*, directed by Vin Diesel. He also was the producer of the first Dominican movie directed by a woman, “*La Hija Natural*” by Leticia Tonos.

In the world of music videos, he worked with international artists from France, Lebanon, Netherlands, United-Kingdom, Morocco and Latin-America, among others. In 2012, Ivan directed “*El Ave Del Paraiso*”, a short-film that opened Fine Arts Festival in Dominican Republic. That same year he co-directed “*La Montaña*”, a feature film documenting the first Dominican expedition to Mount Everest in the Himalaya. This documentary has been pre-selected for the Goyas 2013. He also worked as a director of photography for documentaries in remote places such as Afghanistan or Indonesia. Recently, he produced TV commercials for “*Beats By Dre*” and musical videos for Little Dragon, Damian Marley, Lenny Kravitz and Skrillex. He also co- produced “*Capture Land*”, a short film by Nabil Elderkin, filmed in Jamaica for the annual convention of The Mandela Foundation in South Africa.

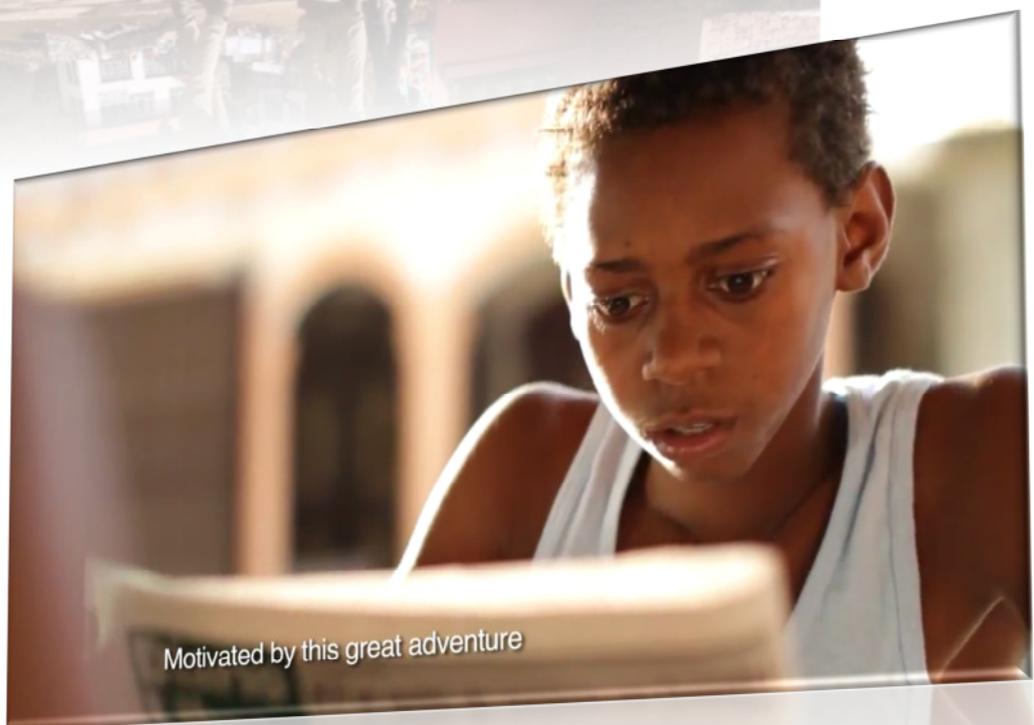


On May, 2011, three dominicans climbed to the top of the world

2. Short Synopsis

In May 2011, history was made when the flag of the Dominican Republic crowned the world's highest mountain, Mt Everest, marking the first Caribbean expedition to reach the mythical peak. That mission inspired three young Dominican boys, fishermen's sons, who set out to conquer the highest mountain in their country, and the Caribbean: Pico Duarte.

The Mountain unites both missions, intercutting one with the other. The result is an epic adventure, built on motivation, inspiration, determination and achievement.



Motivated by this great adventure

3. Long Synopsis

The Movie starts by showing the expeditioners on a plane that flies to Nepal, documenting everything they experience from this point forward.

Before heading to the Mount Everest itself, the expeditioners wander through the city of Kathmandu where they follow cultural traditions that were meant to give blessings towards the ones expediting the regions.

Proceeding towards their actual goal, the Dominican travelers already start having trouble with adapting to the height and temperature even though they have barely even reached the foot of the mountain. One of the expeditioners has yet to endure a sudden flu right from the start, but the adventurers are eager to not give in already.

Inspired by their attempt to climb the world's highest mountain, three Dominican younglings decide to climb the Caribbean's highest mountain: The Pico Duarte.

Throughout the adventure the scenes switch between the lads and their idols. While the scenes in which the expeditioners climb the Mount Everest exacerbate as they get closer to the top, the side story of the younger boys become more and more entertaining as the gap between the intensity of those two stories widens.

Getting closer to the top the Dominican expeditioners need to face barely or even unpassable paths, storms which slow them down and exhaustion which breaks even the toughest of athletes, in combination with thin air that makes it hard to breathe, until ultimately one of the expeditioners has to quit obligatory.

The rest of the team though does not fear facing the dangerous odds until the very end.

4. Agency's statement

“The Mountain” is probably the most entertaining documentary about an expedition towards the infamous Mount Everest there is.

As the movie does not focus on cultural or historical facts like normal documentaries do, the filmmakers decided to intensify the relation between the viewer and the expeditioner.

While climbing the Mount Everest is not something that is unheard of, climbing it as a man who has resided on a tropical island for his entire life is a story of a higher caliber.

By telling the story of the Dominican younglings the viewer realizes the actual gap there is for the expeditioners to overcome between these two extremes: The blazing sun along the exhausting humidity and the mythic peaks of the icy mountain.

No matter the circumstances though, the undeniable motivation of the expeditioners is contagious to the one watching the movie, making it hard to leave the screen until the adventure's official over and of course successful.

„The Mountain“ a timeless and entertaining film that is hardly comparable to most of what's typical for its genre.

Its unique and refreshing concept makes the movie a must see.





From the sea to the sky, we all have a dream

5. Technical Details

- **Written by**
Tabaré
Blanchard
- **Directed by**
Ivan Herrera,
Tabaré
Blanchard
- **Length**
84 minutes
- **Type**
Feature,
Documentary
- **Color**
Color
- **Language**
Spanish
- **Subtitles**
English
- **Genre**
Adventure,
Sport
- **Country**
Dominican
Republic



6. Contact & More

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