

A young woman with short brown hair, wearing a pink hood, a grey knit turtleneck, and a white and blue winter jacket with yellow accents, is shown in a snowy, wooded landscape. She is looking off to the side with a slight smile. The background consists of snow-covered ground and bare trees under a pale sky.

# LA OMISIÓN

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a film by Sebastián Schjaer



## **SYNOPSIS**

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In a snowy and industrial city in the south of Argentina, Paula, a 23-year-old girl from Buenos Aires, starts an intense job hunt with the sole purpose of saving money. The lack of a job, a home and a stable emotional environment will end up turning that search into a personal and introspective journey. She will have to deal with the hard living conditions in the south as well as with the unsolved aspects of her life, which will gradually be revealed. She knows she is shouting, but she can't hear herself.



# BIOGRAPHY

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Sebastián Schjaer was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1988. He majored as a filmmaker at Universidad del Cine, where he taught for five years. He has worked as an editor in both feature and short films directed by Matías Piñeiro, Martín Rejtman, Pablo Agüero and Gael García Bernal. He is currently developing his second feature, "Las mañanas y las noches".

# FILMOGRAPHY

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## Short films:

-2013: "Mañana todas las cosas"

Cinéfondation Selection Cannes Film Festival

-2015: "El pasado roto"

Quinzaine des Réalisateurs Cannes Film Festival

## Feature films:

-2018: "La omisión" is his first feature film.





## CAST

**Paula** Sofía Brito

**Manuel** Lisandro Rodríguez

**Malena** Malena Hernández Díaz

**Pilar** Victoria Raposo

**Diego** Pablo Sigal

**Laura** Laura López Moyano

## CREW

**Written and directed by** Sebastián Schjaer

**Produced by** Melanie Schapiro

**Co-Producers** Juan Pablo Miller, Denis Vaslin, Lautaro Brunatti

**Associate Producers** Jamal Zeinal Zade, Dan Weschler

**Assistant director** Agustín Gagliardi

**Director of Photography** Inés Duacastella

**Production designer** Fabiana Gallegos

**Sound recorder** Lucas Larriera

**Production Manager** Ezequiel Pierri

**Music** Manuel González Aguilar

**Sound Design** Pablo Lamar

**Editor** Sebastián Schjaer



## NOTES FROM DIRECTOR

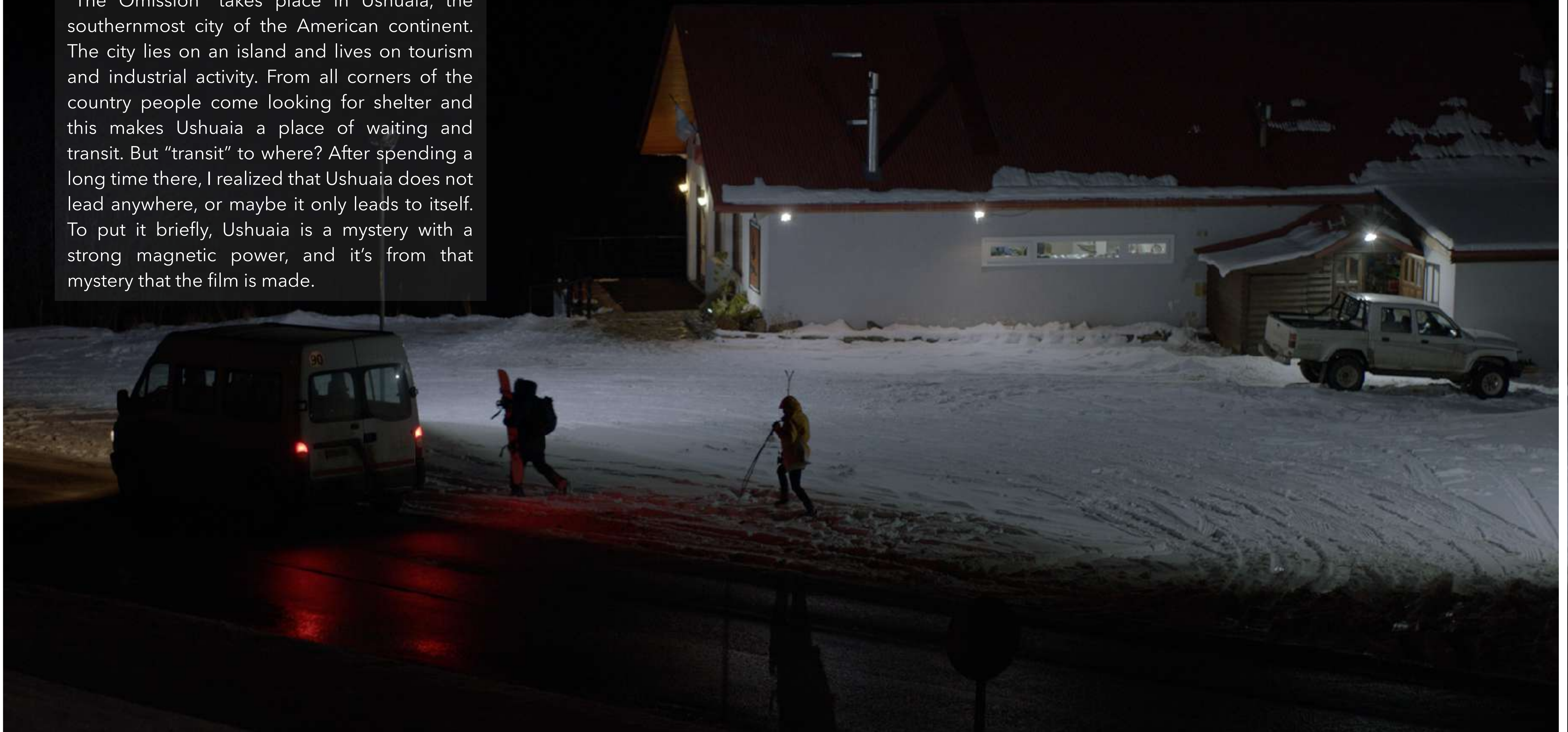
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### THE TITLE

From the beginning, I was interested in focusing on the emotions and feelings of the characters. I felt that the only way to get closer to those emotions was through the most indirect possible way: evoking, suggesting the drama rather than getting directly into it. I was interested in talking about Paula's pain, the impossibility to gain access to it and, above all, the difficulty of understanding it psychologically. In "The Omission" there is no truth to get, no centre to reach. The film revolves around itself in the same confused and lost way as Paula does.

## THE SOUTH

"The Omission" takes place in Ushuaia, the southernmost city of the American continent. The city lies on an island and lives on tourism and industrial activity. From all corners of the country people come looking for shelter and this makes Ushuaia a place of waiting and transit. But "transit" to where? After spending a long time there, I realized that Ushuaia does not lead anywhere, or maybe it only leads to itself. To put it briefly, Ushuaia is a mystery with a strong magnetic power, and it's from that mystery that the film is made.





### **PAULA**

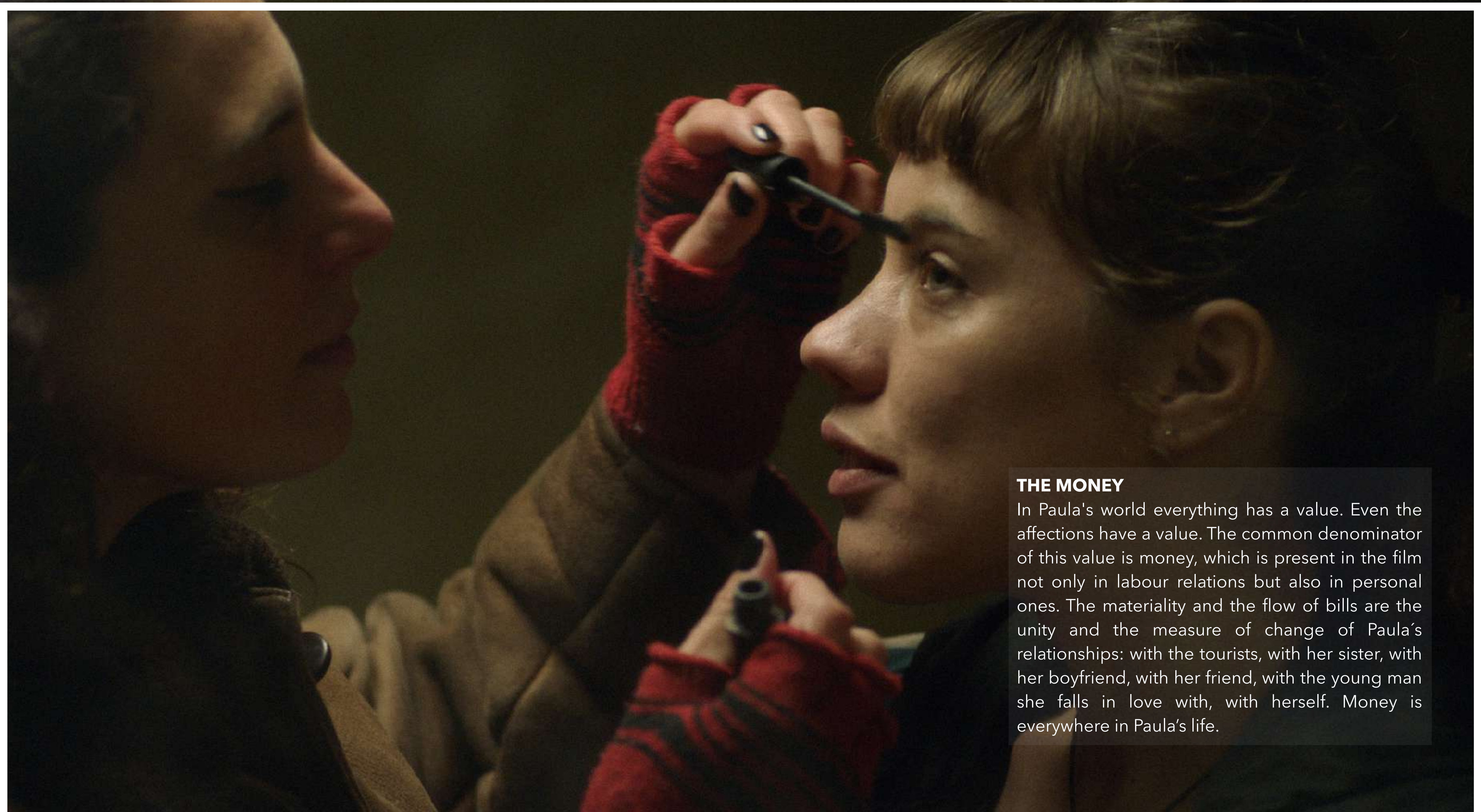
In this city of transit to nowhere, Paula always lives alone, halfway between her sister, daughter and boyfriend. She is always "between" things, always moving, always without a fixed point. That's the reason why all the situations that involve her emotionally take place in anonymous spaces: on routes, at service stations, in cars, in hotel rooms. Even her job is to move people from one place to another. In that endless drift, Paula feels comfortable. She could continue her life like that, but there's a moment when she is forced to decide, to act, to resolve. At that moment, the different parts of the film come together and end up returning the image of a broken mirror. At the end, everything is omitted, but everything is there.





### **THE TOURISM**

Being a tourist means, necessarily, to be just passing through. In every place of the world, there are "the locals" and "the tourists". Paula is neither one nor the other: she lives in an undefined area, in a parenthesis. She is a local for tourists and a tourist for locals. This double condition forces her to live in a place of anonymity. And it's from that anonymity that she tries to reconstruct herself, to rethink herself and to rearm herself. Ushuaia is for Paula a kind of a zero point: a place and a time from which it is possible to start again.



### **THE MONEY**

In Paula's world everything has a value. Even the affections have a value. The common denominator of this value is money, which is present in the film not only in labour relations but also in personal ones. The materiality and the flow of bills are the unity and the measure of change of Paula's relationships: with the tourists, with her sister, with her boyfriend, with her friend, with the young man she falls in love with, with herself. Money is everywhere in Paula's life.



## TECHNICAL DETAILS

Original title: La omisión

English title: The Omission

Duration: 90 minutes

Aspect ratio: 1.85

DCP 5.1

Year: 2018

Countries of production: Argentina, The Netherlands, Switzerland

Production company: Trapecio Cine

Co-production companies: Tarea Fina, Volya Films, Tronco, Bord Cadre films

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# CONTACT

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