



# ALOFT

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a film by claudia llosa

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EVEN IN THE COLDEST PLACE ON EARTH, FORGIVENESS CAN BRING YOU WARMTH



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## #01 SYNOPSIS

ALOFT tells the story of a struggling mother, Nana Kunning (Jennifer Connelly) and her evolution into a renowned artist and healer. When a young journalist (Mélanie Laurent) tracks down her son Ivan (Cillian Murphy) 20 years after Nana abandoned him, she sets in motion an encounter between the two at the very edge of the earth that will bring the very meaning of their lives into question, and force them to contemplate living life to its fullest, despite the distance between them and the uncertainties littering their paths.

Healing will bring warmth, even in the coldest place on earth.







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## #02 DIRECTOR'S NOTES

A mother who abandons her child for the common good; a son who abandons himself and his own ability to feel in order to bear the weight of tragedy; and a woman who abandons her life to follow her one obsession of curing herself. Three characters reveal themselves to us, reflecting on the difficult balance of creating a full life while assuming its fragility and uncertainties.

*Aloft* journeys through the worlds of art and nature to explore the meaning of healing and death as it forces us to confront the immensity of such concepts as love, order, chaos and faith, which at times are impossible to understand through rational thinking alone. Does art heal? Is nature a variable? Aristotle said that humans feel pain when they act against their nature. (Cycles, seasons, renovation and change). In the end, we learn that understanding our own nature is the most difficult task in life and that, perhaps, art can help us by offering the possibility of catharsis and sublimation.

Nana Kunning (Jennifer Connelly) explores that conception through her acts, aware that the exploration is not to be found in the piece of art (the object) itself, but in the process of its creation. *Aloft* forces the viewer into that journey. The same journey that Ivan, her son, (Cillian Murphy) will embark upon to find her. A journey to the infinite, into the absolute whiteness where there is nowhere to hide. A journey back to ourselves.

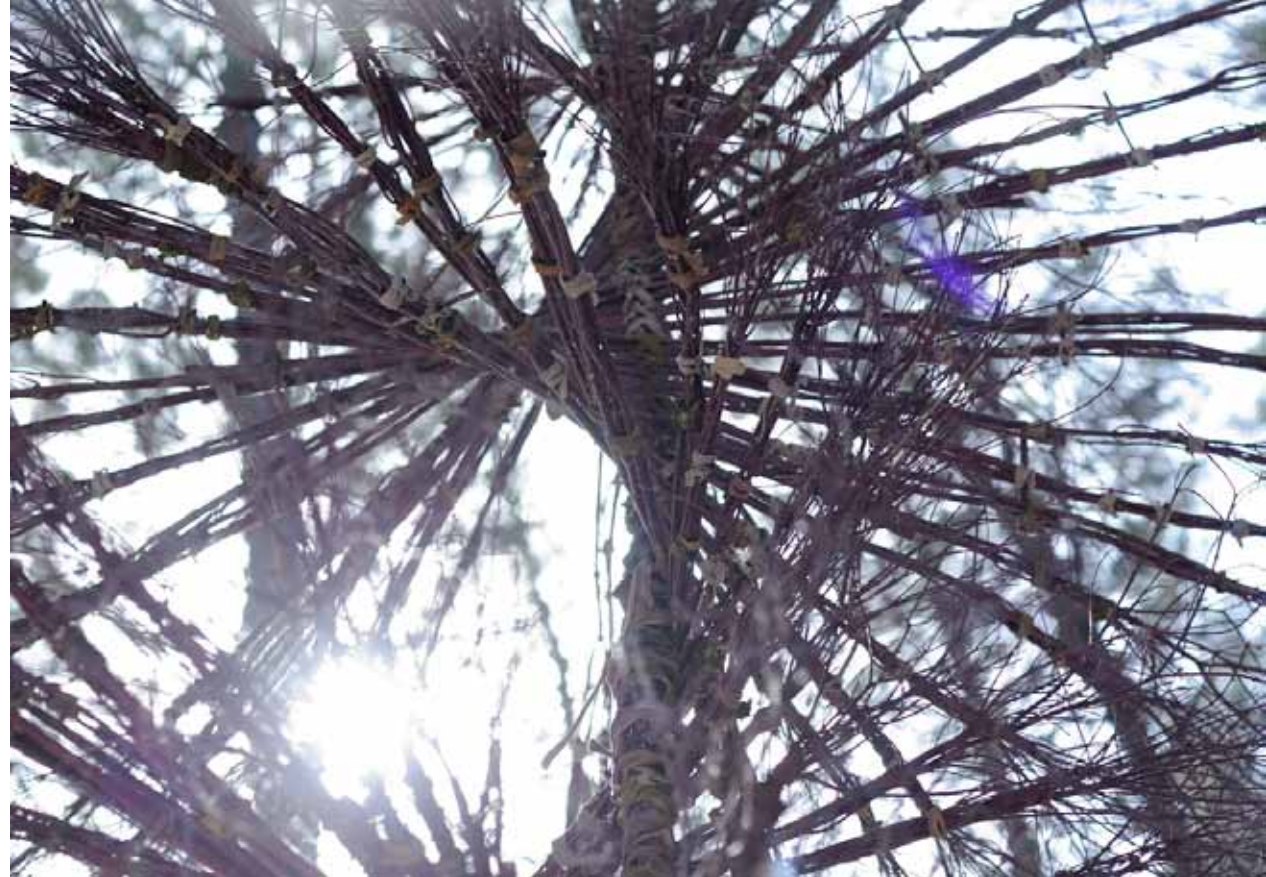
Claudia Llosa



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## #03 CAST

NANA .....	JENNIFER CONNELLY
IVAN .....	GILLIAN MURPHY
RESSEMORE .....	MÉLANIE LAURENT
NEWMAN .....	WILLIAM SHIMELL
IVAN (10).....	ZEN McGRATH
GULLY.....	WINTA McGRATH
ALICE.....	OONA CHAPLIN
IKE.....	PETER McROBBIE
HANS.....	IAN TRACEY
LANCE.....	ANDY MURRAY





**NANA**

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JENNIFER CONNELLY

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“Noah” (2012) by Darren Aronofsky  
“Blood Diamond” (2006) by Edward Zwick  
“A Beautiful Mind” (2001) by Ron Howard  
(Oscar® Award - Best Actress in a Supporting Role)  
“Requiem for a Dream” (2000) by Darren Aronofsky

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**IVAN**

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CILLIAN MURPHY

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“Inception” (2011) by Christopher Nolan  
“The Wind that Shakes the Barley” (2006) by Ken Loach  
“Batman Begins” (2005) by Christopher Nolan  
“28 Days Later” (2002) by Danny Boyle

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**RESSEMORE**

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MÉLANIE LAURENT

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“Beginners” (2010) by Mike Mills  
“Inglourious Basterds” (2009) by Quentin Tarantino  
“Je vais bien, ne t'en fais pas” (2006) by Philippe Loret  
“De battre mon coeur s'est arrêté” (2005) by Jacques Audiard

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**NEWMAN**

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WILLIAM SHIMELL

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“Amour” (2012) by Michael Haneke  
“Certified Copy” (2010) by Abbas Kiarostami.

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**IVAN (10)**

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ZEN McGRATH

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**GULLY**

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WINTA McGRATH

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**ALICE**

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OONA CHAPLIN

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"Game of Thrones" (2012-2013), HBO Television  
"The Devil's Double" (2011) by Lee Tamahori  
"Imago mortis" (2009) by Stefano Bessonni  
"Quantum of Solace" (2008) by Marc Foster

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## #04 DIRECTOR

Director, screenwriter and producer Claudia Llosa was born in Lima, Peru on November 15th, 1976. After studying Information Sciences at the University of Lima, she completed a Masters in Screenwriting at the TAI school in Madrid.

Her debut film, MADEINUSA, premiered in the official competition at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival, and won several international awards, including the FIPRESCI Prize of International Critics at the Rotterdam Festival and Best Latin American Film at the Malaga Film Festival, amongst others.

Her second film, THE MILK OF SORROW, was selected in the official Berlinale competition in 2009, and received the Golden Bear for best film, as well as the International Critics award (FIPRESCI). THE MILK OF SORROW was also the first Peruvian film nominated for a Best Foreign Film Oscar.

Recently, Claudia has directed the short film LOXORO for the TV series FRONTERAS, produced by TNT with the collaboration of other Latin American directors. LOXORO won the Teddy Award at the 2012 Berlin International Film Festival.

Awards for THE MILK OF SORROW include: Guadalajara International Film Festival (Best Picture, Best Actress: Magaly Solier); L'Etoile de Caux Festival, France (Gran Prix); Gramado Film Festival, Brazil (Best Picture, Best Director, Film Student Jury Winner); Bogota Film Festival (Best Picture); Femmes de Salé International Film Festival, Morocco (Gran Prix); Festival Du Nouveau Cinema, Montreal (Best Picture, Best Actress: Magaly Solier); Havana Film Festival, Cuba (Best Picture, Best Art Direction).

Awards for MADEINUSA include: Havana Film Festival 2003 (Best Script); Rotterdam International Film Festival (FIPRESCI Award); Mar de Plata International Film Festival (Best Latin American Picture); Recontres D'America Latin Film Festival, Toulouse, France (Prix Spécial du Jury); Cine de Cearà Film Festival, Brazil (Best Script, Best Cinematography); Lima International Film Festival, Peru (Best Debut Picture, Conacine Best Peruvian Picture); Hamburg International Film Festival, Germany (Hamburg Film Critics Award); Women's Film Festival, Cologne, Germany (Best Debut Feature).







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## #05 PRODUCTION COMPANIES

### WANDA VISIÓN (JOSE MARÍA MORALES)

WANDA FILMS, founded and owned by Jose María Morales and Miguel Morales, was created in 1992, and specialized in the production and distribution of films, mainly in Europe and Latin America. In 1997, they created WANDA VISIÓN, a 50/50 partnership between Wanda Films and Rem Vision.

Production credits include more than 60 feature films, from directors such as Claudia Llosa (“LA TETA ASUSTADA”: Oscar nominee for the Oscar 2010 for the Best Foreign Language Film; Berlin Film Festival 2009. Golden Bear for the best Film; “MADEINUSA”). GERARDO OLIVARES (“LA GRAN FINAL”: Berlin Film Festival 2006. Official Selection out of competition. Berlinale Special. “14 KILÓMETROS”: Valladolid Film Festival 2007 (SEMINCI). Golden Spike for the Best Film, Best Music, Best Photography; “ENTRELOBOS”). CARLOS CARRERA (“El crimen del padre Amaro”: Oscar nominee for the Oscar 2003 for the Best Foreign Language Film). FERNANDO PÉREZ (“La Vida es Silbar”: Goya Award 1999 for the Best Spanish Language Foreign Film. “Suite Habana”: San Sebastian Film Festival 2003. Opening film out of competition; La Havana International Film Festival. Best Director, Best Music, Best Sound, FIPRESCI Award. “Madrigal”: Berlin Film Festival 2007. Official Selection out of competition; La Havana International Film Festival 2007. Special Jury Award, Best Art.) and DANIEL BURMAN (“TODAS LAS AZAFATAS VAN AL

CIELO”: Berlin Film Festival 2002. Panorama Section. “EL ABRAZO PARTIDO”: Berlin Film Festival 2004. Silver Bear for the Jury Award; Silver Bear for the Best Actor. “EL NIDO VACÍO”: San Sebastian Film Festival 2008. Silver Shell for the best Actor, Jury Award for the Best Photography. “DERECHO DE FAMILIA”). JAIME ROSALES (“LA SOLEDAD”: Cannes Film Festival 2007. Un Certain Regard; Goya Award 2008. Best Film, Best Director, Best New Actor. “TIRO EN LA CABEZA”: San Sebastian Film Festival 2008. FIPRESCI Award. CARLOS SORIN (“HISTORIAS MÍNIMAS”: San Sebastian Film Festival 2002. Special Jury Award; Goyas Award 2003 Best Spanish Language Foreign Film. “BOMBÓN, EL PERRO”: San Sebastian Film Festival 2004. FIPRESCI award. “EL CAMINO DE SAN DIEGO”: San Sebastian Film Festival 2004. Special Jury Award. “LA VENTANA”: Valladolid Film Festival 2008. FIPRESCI Award). ARTURO RIPSTEIN (“ASÍ ES LA VIDA”. “PROFUNDO CARMESÍ”. “LA PERDICIÓN DE LOS HOMBRES”: San Sebastian Film Festival 2000. Golden Shell for the best Film; Silver Shell for the Best Script). LUIS PUENZO (“La puta y la ballena”. Malaga Film Festival 2004. Closing film). LUCÍA PUENZO (“XXY”: Cannes Film Festival 2007. Director’s Fortnight Best Film Award and Youth Award. Goyas Award 2008. Best Spanish Language Foreign Film; Ariel Award 2008. Best Iberoamerican Film award. “EL NIÑO PEZ” Berlin Film Festival 2009. Panorama Section. “WAKOLDA” Sur Awards 2013 Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences of Argentina, 10 awards).

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## ARCADIA MOTION PICTURES (IBON CORMENZANA)

Arcadia Motion Pictures (AMP) was created in 2005 with the goal of producing high quality feature films with European upcoming creative talent, top cast and international potential. In addition, AMP is pioneer in structuring new private sources of funding, both nationally and internationally, for its projects. Created in 2008, Arcadia Capital's aim is to promote private investment in audiovisual productions through Spain's tax shelter, combined with international financing.

AMP has produced "14 Days With Victor", directed by Roman Parrado and starring Margo Stilley, Fernando Tielve and Joe Dixon (Official Selection at Sitges Film Festival 2010), "Are you there?" directed by Roberto Santiago and based on a play by Javier Daulte and "Jackboots on Whitehall" an animation movie directed by the McHenry brothers (Best animated feature film at Sitges Film Festival).

The company's more recent movies are "Aloft" by Claudia LLosá; "Mariah Mundi & The Midas Box" starring Michale Sheen, Lena

Headey, Sam Neill and Aneurin Barnard; "Blancanieves", by Pablo Berger, the film that won 10 Goya Award, represents Spain as Foreign Language Film for the Oscars 2013, also was the winner of the Special Jury Award and the Silver Shell for Best Actress in San Sebastian International Film Festival and presented with great US reviews at Toronto International Film Festival; "Blackthorn" directed by Mateo Gil starring Sam Shepard, Eduardo Noriega and Stephen Rea presented at Tribeca International Film Festival and winner of 4 Spanish Goya Awards and "No rest for the wicked" directed by Enrique Urbizu presented at San Sebastian International Film Festival and winner of 6 Spanish Goya Awards included Best Film.

Arcadia is currently in postproduction of "Oliver's Deal" by Barney Elliott, starring Stephen Dorff, Alberto Ammann, Carolos Bardem and David Strathairn. Also Arcadia is in preproduction of "Don't grow up" directed by Thierry Poiraud and in development of "Project Lazarus" written and directed by Mateo Gil and "Prodigious" directed by Román Parrado.

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## BUFFALO GAL (PHYLLIS LAING)

Buffalo Gal Pictures is an independent production company with experience in feature film and television. Since we started in 1994 under the direction of President and Producer Phyllis Laing, we have developed and produced many challenging and diverse projects by forging collaborative relationships with creative talent and building successful co-production partnerships.

Recently we completed, the international feature film "Aloft", starring Jennifer Connelly, Cillian Murphy and Mélanie Laurent and directed by Academy Award nominated Claudia Llosa, which is being enthusiastically anticipated by international buyers. In the past year Buffalo Gal Pictures has also completed production on a Sony Pictures' film entitled, "Heaven Is For Real," starring Greg Kinnear, and "Strings" starring Josh Duhamel.



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## MARK JOHNSON

### EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Mark Johnson is both an Oscar (“RAIN MAN”) and an Emmy (“BREAKING BAD”) winner who has produced over forty films and television shows.

His recent slate of motion pictures includes “The Chronicles of Narnia” franchise as well as David Chase’s “Not Fade Away”. Previously, he produced Nick Cassavetes’ dramas “My Sister’s Keeper”, starring Cameron Diaz; “The Notebook”, based on Nicholas Sparks’ best-selling novel; Lance Hammer’s Sundance award-winning film “Ballast”; the Tim Allen and Sigourney Weaver sci-fi comedy “Galaxy Quest” directed by Dean Parisot; “The Rookie” directed by John Lee Hancock; Mike Newell’s gangster drama “Donnie Brasco” starring Johnny Depp and Al Pacino; and Clint Eastwood’s “A Perfect World” starring Kevin Costner.

Johnson produced all of the writer-director Barry Levinson’s films from 1982-1994. In addition to “Rain Man”, their diverse slate of acclaimed features includes “Good Morning Vietnam”, “The Natural”, “Tin Men”, “Avalon”, “Diner” (their 1982 debut project,

for which Levinson earned an Oscar® nomination for his screenplay), and “Bugsy”, nominated for 10 Academy® Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director. “Bugsy” also captured a Best Picture Golden Globe® Award.

In television, he was executive producer of the Peabody and Emmy® Award-winning drama “Breaking Bad” since the series began. He is also executive producer of the Sundance Channel’s first scripted series “Rectify”, created by Ray McKinnon, and AMC’s upcoming series, “Better Call Saul”. In addition, he will be executive producing the CBS show “Battle Creek”.

Johnson is a member of the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences where he has served for the past 12 years as the Chair of the Foreign Language Film Selection Committee.









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## #06 PRODUCTION DETAILS

LOCATIONS: Winnipeg, Manitoba (Canada)

YEAR OF PRODUCTION: 2013

SHOOTING FORMAT: 2.2:35

SOUND: Dolby Digital

DURATION: 112 min.

NATIONALITY: Spain / Canada / France

ORIGINAL VERSION: English

PRODUCED BY Wanda Visión (Spain), Arcadia Motion Pictures (Spain) and Buffalo Gal Pictures (Canada) in coproduction with Manitoba Films (Spain) and Noodles Production (France).

With the participation of TVE, CANAL +, TVC.

With the support of ICAA, ICEC, Telefilm Canada, Manitoba Film&Music, CNC, Institut Français, Media and Promperú. With the financing of ICO.





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## #07 CREW

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### CINEMATOGRAPHER / NICOLAS BOLDUC

“An enemy” (2013) by Denis Villeneuve / “Avant que mon coeur bascule” (2012) by Sébastien Rose /  
“War Witch” (2012) by Kim Nguyen / “Eve and the Fire Horse” (2005) by Julia Kwan

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### PRODUCTION DESIGNER / EUGENIO CABALLERO

“The impossible” (2013) by JA Bayona / “Rage” (2009) by Sebastian Cordero / “Resident Evil: Extinction” (2007)  
by Russell Mulcahy / “Pan’s Labyrinth” (2006) by Guillermo del Toro (Oscar® Award - Best Achievement in Art Director).

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## **EDITOR / GUILLE DE LA CAL**

“Fènix 11.23” (2012) by Joel Joan and Sergi Lara / “Mientras duermes” (2011) by Jaume Balagueró / “Exorcismus” (2010) by Manuel Carvalho

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## **MUSIC / MICHAEL BROOK**

“The Perks of Being a Wallflower “ (2012) by Stephen Chbosky / “The Fighter” (2010) by David O. Russell / “Into the Wild” (2007) by Sean Penn

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## **SOUND DESIGNER / FABIOLA ORDOYO**

“Mariah Mundi & The Midas Box” (2012) by Jonathan Newman/ “Blackthorn” (2011) by Mateo Gil / “Map of the Sounds of Tokyo” (2009) by Isabel Coixet/ “La teta asustada” (2009) by Claudia Llosa

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## **LINE PRODUCER / SANDRA HERMIDA**

“The impossible” (2012) by JA Bayona / “Biutiful” (2010) by Alejandro González Iñárritu / “Spanish movie” (2009) by Javier Ruiz Caldera / “El orfanato” (2007) by JA Bayona



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