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FILM FACTORY

A feature film based on  
an original story by ISABEL COIXET

# IT SNOWS IN BENIDORM

NIEVA EN BENIDORM





# KITSCH & EXCESS

ISABEL COIXET, Director

Benidorm has always intrigued me. That mixture of Blackpool hooligans, pensioners from Imerso doing aquagym, shots for 1 euro, traffickers, families, kitsch, roast chicken, beans on toast, Elvis imitators, impossible buildings, karaoke, bingo, town bands, excess, constitutes priceless material for any story teller. And often you don't even have to invent a story because the oily asphalt of the city offers you an endless flow of anecdotes that can give rise to a symphony, an opera or this film, IT SNOWS IN BENIDORM.



# SYNOPSIS

After being forced to retire, Peter, a man of routines and few joys, decides to go to Benidorm to visit his brother Daniel with whom he has little contact.

But when he arrives in Benidorm, Daniel seems to have vanished. Peter will then discover that his brother owns the Benidorm Club, where a group of dancers make exotic and burlesque performances. Among them, Alex, a beautiful woman with an enigmatic past, who will steal his heart. In the search of his brother, Peter will confront dangers involving real estate mafias and unpaid debts.

Benidorm will be one more protagonist in this story, a place sometimes beautiful, sometimes dangerous and gloomy that will be the background of a romantic love story in its twilight.





# CAST

TIMOTHY  
SPALL

SARITA  
CHOUHURY

CARMEN  
MACHI

PEDRO  
CASABLANC

ANA  
TORRENT

# PENNER



# THE DIRECTOR

ISABEL COIXET is one of the most prolific film directors of contemporary Spain, having directed twelve feature-length films since the beginning of her film career in 1988, in addition to documentary films, shorts, and commercials. She has harvested 8 Goya® Awards either to Director, Scriptwriter, Production Supervisor or to Best Film.

## FILMOGRAPHY

- 2019 Foodie love
- 2018 Elisa y Marcela
- 2017 The bookshop
- 2016 Spain in a day
- 2015 Talking about Rose. Prisoner of Hissène Habré
- 2015 Nobody wants the night
- 2014 Learning to drive
- 2013 Another me
- 2013 Ayer no termina nunca
- 2012 Marea blanca
- 2011 Escuchando al Juez Garzón
- 2010 Aral. El mar perdido
- 2009 Map of the sounds of Tokyo
- 2008 Elegy
- 2007 Invisibles: Cartas a Nora
- 2006 París je t'aime (Bastille)
- 2005 The secret life of words
- 2004 Hay motivo! La insoportable levedad del carrito de la compra
- 2003 My life without me
- 1998 A los que aman
- 1996 Things I never told you
- 1989 Demasiado viejo para morir joven
- 1984 Mira y verás





# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

For years I traveled to Benidorm to gather material for a documentary I was determined to make about a controversial building, the “Lugano Tower”, a 500 ft. skyscraper, considered the tallest residential building in Spain.

In 2007, only days after its inauguration, “Lugano Tower” started to show signs of decline. Gas leaks, water leaks, broken pipes, flooding from the sewers, doors that didn’t close, elevators that were permanently out of order... There were complaints, residents’ associations at loggerheads with the construction company, residents at loggerheads with each other... In my investigations I came across a sordid world where no one emerged blameless: neither the owners (some of them members of the local mafia),

nor the construction company, nor the city council (which had allowed the tower to be built on a terrain that bordered on and extended into a nature park.

I explored the world of English pubs with erotic shows from noon, where young couples with little children drank beer like there was no tomorrow. And meanwhile, a few yards away, in disgusting tapas establishments, groups of pensioners from Vigo chorused songs by Isabel Pantoja. Both worlds, that of the English and that of the Imerso pensioners, coexist without ever mingling. In their midst, another underground world swarms with criminals, traffickers, bribe takers, members of mafias from all of Europe.

After receiving a series of threats –veiled and not so veiled– I decided to abandon the project, but I went back to my desk with inspiration and the intention of expressing all that I had seen, heard and experienced in Benidorm, this time as fiction.

When I wrote IT SNOWS IN BENIDORM, I always had the idea of making a feature film that would allow me to explore the different and multiple interpretations of Daniel whose brother Peter is the protagonist of the story. It would also allow me to explain in depth the personality of a series of fascinating characters who move in the no less fascinating world of Benidorm.



# PRODUCTION COMPANY

## EL DESEO

Founded in 1985 by Pedro and Agustín Almodóvar, the Spanish film production company has produced films by the Manchego director as well as features by other renowned Spanish and Latin American directors such as Guillermo del Toro, Alex de la Iglesia and Lucrecia Martel, among others. Its production list includes

LAWS OF DESIRE (La ley del deseo), WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN (Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios), TIE ME UP! TIE ME DOWN! (Átame), THE SKIN I LIVE IN (La piel que habito), I'M SO EXCITED (Los amantes pasajeros), JULIETA, and PAIN AND GLORY (Dolor y gloria).





# TECHNICAL ASPECTS

Director and writer	ISABEL COIXET
Genre	DRAMA, THRILLER
Status	COMPLETED
Duration	117 min
Language	ENGLISH, SPANISH
Nationality	SPAIN
Production company	EL DESEO (PEDRO and AGUSTÍN ALMODÓVAR)
Spanish release	11th December 2020, by Bteam Pictures

International sales

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