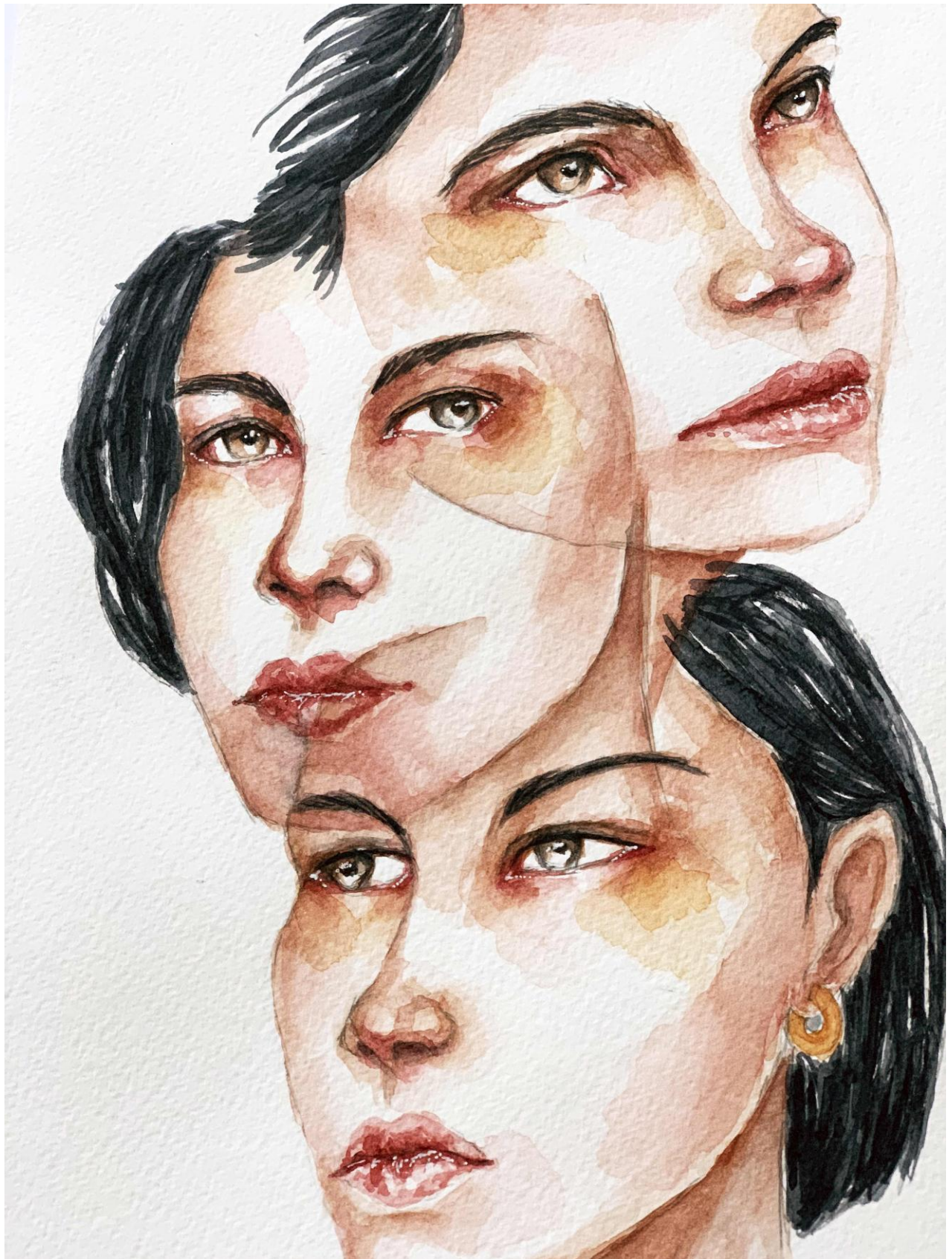


HAF 06 Circa



**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** Philippines

**GENRE | FORMAT | LANGUAGE | RUNNING TIME:** Drama | Digital Format | Filipino | 100 mins

**DIRECTOR:**

Adolfo ALIX JR.

**PRODUCER:**

Didier COSTET

**HAF GOALS:**

Funds, Co-producers, Sales agents, Pre-sales

**BUDGET:**

US\$ 226,400

**SECURED BUDGET:**

US\$ 20,000

**DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY**

2017 *Madilim ang Gabi (Dark is the Night)*

2013 *Death March*

2011 *Isda (Fable of the Fish)*

2009 *Manila*

2008 *Adela*

2006 *Donsol*

**ONE-SENTENCE SYNOPSIS**

Doña Atang, one of the great Filipino film producers, asks her children to call all the actors she has worked with for a reunion to celebrate her centennial.

**SYNOPSIS**

Doña Atang, the pivotal matriarch of the Philippine film industry, who has produced some of the best films of the silent era of Philippine cinema, is sick and bedridden. Nevertheless, she is going to celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and wants to call all the actors she has worked with in the past for a reunion to celebrate her centennial. Her grandson, Michael tries to organize everything and record the event as it is important for the legacy of his family. Colorful characters abound at the reunion. Some have quitted showbiz to lead quiet, private lives. Some are wealthy, but more are struggling economically. Some are healthy, while a number of them suffer with illness. As the actors only talk of a bygone era, old wounds are opened and some confrontations are inevitable. Doña Atang is also looking for the unfinished film of one of her beloved directors.

As the reunion concludes, they all go their separate ways. The matriarch is left alone in her veranda but sees a memory of the big studio parties she hosted before. Michael, meanwhile, may have found the lost reels of the unfinished film. Or has he?

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

“There is no end. There is no beginning. There is only the infinite passion of life.” – Federico Fellini.

2018 marks the centennial of Philippine cinema. From the first light coming from the projector of the first film about the life of our national hero Dr. Rizal, cinema has evolved in multiple ways. *Circa* is a film in which I want to confront the demons surrounding old and the new forms of cinema. Of what is pure and classic, of what is new and stylistic. I am interested in knowing the ghosts of the past and how the simple wish of a dying woman can open up a Pandora's box full of memories, emotions, pains and unresolved issues about what we love and hate about cinema. The interplay of actors and various characters during the reunion will create a microcosm of what used to matter about the craft of filmmaking. Michael represents the new filmmaker. He looks at old films as references for what he aspires to do but it is important to live cinema more than evoke a past. In the end, Doña Atang may be cinema personified – her dying wish, perhaps, what films are all about.

## DIRECTOR

### **Adolfo ALIX JR.**

Born October 1978 in Makati City, Philippines, he graduated with a degree in Mass Communications. He started as a scriptwriter for films and television. Since his debut as a director, he has become one of the promising Filipino filmmakers with his films screened at various international film festivals including Cannes, Toronto, Rotterdam, Busan, Warsaw, Moscow and Mar del Plata among others. In 2010, Alix was listed by The Hollywood Reporter in its *Next Generation Asia*, which features the top 20 young entertainment personalities in the region deemed “the best and the brightest among their peers”.

## PRODUCER

### **Didier COSTET**

Founded by Didier Costet and dedicated to world cinema and art-house fare, Swift Productions has been discovering and following such critically acclaimed and talented filmmakers as Brillante Mendoza and Oliver Hermanus. In 2008, Didier Costet produced Mendoza's *Serbis*, the first Filipino film selected for the Cannes competition since 1984. In 2009, he produced Mendoza's *Kinatay*, which won the Cannes Best Director Prize. His latest production is the third feature film directed by Oliver Hermanus. Entitled *The Endless River* (2015), the film became the first South African film to be in official competition at the Venice Film Festival.

## **PRODUCTION COMPANY**

### **Swift Productions**

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