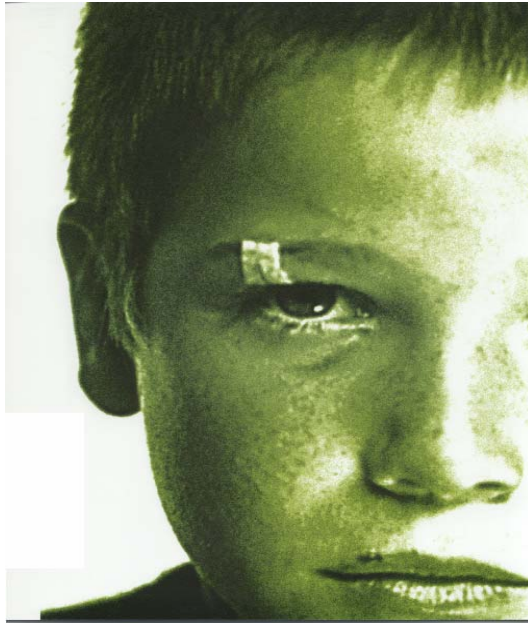




EL BOLA

A Film by ACHERO MANAS



SPAIN, RUNNING TIME: APPROX. 87 MIN.

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SYNOPSIS

Pablo (El Bola) is a 12-year old boy raised in a violent and unforgiving environment. Embarrassed by his family life, he retreats from his classmates, engaging them only through a dangerous game. The arrival of a new boy at school, from whom he learns a new definition of friendship, leads to the discovery of a family where communication and love prevail over domination and violence. The film poignantly parallels the lives of a caring father unable to connect with his willful son, and that of distant Pablo (El Bola) and his abusive father who is incapable of giving him the love he needs, replacing it with something far more sinister. One imprints his son in an improbably gentle manner with a tattoo stylus, the other brutally with his fists. Told through both the children's and adults' points of view, Achero Manas's El Bola is a stirring narrative that lodges in the memory.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Achero Manas' directorial debut, El Bola, propelled him to the forefront of a new class of groundbreaking Spanish directors. The winner of four prestigious Goya Awards (Spain's Oscars) including Best Picture and Best Emerging Director, Manas' film vividly brings viewers into a world of fathers and sons in which perception doesn't always match reality. Manas urgently and honestly addresses this subject through both the children's and the adults' point of view. Film Movement is proud to present Achero Manas' El Bola exclusively to you.

CAST

Pablo (El Bola - "Pellet") -	Juan José Ballesta
Alfredo -	Pablo Galán
Jose (Padre de Alfredo) -	Alberto Jiménez
Mariano (Padre de El Bola) -	Manuel Morón
Laura (Asistente Social) -	Ana Wagener
Marisa (Madre de Alfredo) -	Nieve de Medina
Aurora (Madre de El Bola) -	Gloria Muñoz
Alfonso (Amigo de Jose) -	Javier Lago
Juan -	Omar Muñoz
Abuela de El Bola -	Soledad Osorio

CREW

Producer -	Tesela, P.C.
Director -	Achero Mañas
Executive Producer -	José Antonio Fález
Screenwriter -	Achero Mañas
Associate Producer -	Francisco Lázaro
Director of Photography -	Juan Carlos Gómez
Art Director -	Satur Idarreta
Production Designer -	Goldstein & Steinberg
Music -	Eduardo Arbide
Sound -	Goldstein & Steinberg
Editor -	Nacho Ruiz Capillas
Make-up Artist -	Susana Sánchez
Costume Designer -	Mar Bardavio

ABOUT THE CAST

JUAN JOSÉ BALLESTA

Juanjo is an intelligent, determined and mischievous 12 year-old with a great deal of natural presence and sensitivity. While Juanjo has previous television credits, “Pellet” is his first experience in a full-length feature. “Pellet” is a very complex character with serious family problems and playing the lead role was very challenging. Juanjo is sure that he wants to continue acting and is willing to meet the demands of an acting career while continuing his studies.

PABLO GALÁN

Pablo had no previous experience in the industry, except for entertaining the audience during his older sister’s school plays. He was selected from more than 1.600 children to play the role of Alfredo. Pablo won the BMX Spanish Championship this summer, is a good student and is undecided about his future as an actor although, as he puts it: “I wouldn’t trade this experience for the world”.

ALBERTO JIMÉNEZ

Completed drama studies at the Royal School of Dramatic Arts of Madrid and has acted in numerous plays as well as in the following films: “Todas hieren”, “Shooting Elizabeth” and “La Espalda de Dios”. In PELLET, Alberto plays Alfredo’s father, a man whose looks and job could, at first sight, be socially “unacceptable” but who is unable to remain impassive to injustice and violence.

MANUEL MORÓN

Completed Drama studies at the Drama Institute of Seville (Spain) and the Carlos Gandolfo Study (Argentina). His experience on stage is quite broad and his film credits include: “Plenilunio” directed by Imanol Uribe, “Yoyes” by Helena Taberna, “Nadie Conoce a Nadie” by Mateo Gil and “All about my Mother” by Pedro Almodovar. As PELLET’s father, Manuel plays a tormented man who uses violence in order to relieve his own frustrations and problems.

NIEVE DE MEDINA

Nieve de Medina combines stage work with film work. Selected film credits: “Los Aficionados”, “Marta y Alrededores”, “Spanish Fly”, “Dispara”.

GLORIA MUÑOZ

Stage actress, Gloria Muñoz’s film credits include: “Año Mariano”, “Manolito Gafotas”, “El Destino en sus Manos”, “Entre Rojas” and “La Flor de mi Secreto” by Pedro Almodóvar.

ANA WAGENER

Alternating as a stage, film and voice-over actress, Ana Wagener’s film credits include: “Besos para Todos”, “Plenilunio” and “Vísperas”.

JAVIER LAGO

His film credits include: “La Ley de la Frontera”, “Hazlo por Mi”, “Al Límite” and “Terca Vida”.

ABOUT THE CREW

Juan Manas Amyach (Writer/Director)

Juan Manas Amyach, better known as Achero to his friends, a nickname given to him by his little brother, received his first Goya Award for his short film Hunters in 1998. He has received numerous awards for his work as a writer and director of two other short films: Artificial Paradises and Metro. His feature directorial debut, El Bola, propelled him to the forefront of a new class of groundbreaking Spanish directors winning four Goya Awards in 2000 including Best Film and Best Emerging Director.

ACCLAIM

- 4 *Goya Awards* (Spain's Academy Awards) Best Film, Best Emerging Director, Best Original Screenplay, Best Emerging Actor
- Best Film - *Avignon Film Festival*
- "Fassbinder Award" and Best Screenplay - *European Film Awards*
- Special Prize Ocic - *San Sebastian International Film Festival*
- Best Spanish Film granted, *Association of Film Producers* (Spain)
- Best Film granted by the *Andalusian Association of Screenwriters*
- Best Emerging Director granted by the *Actor's Guild of Spain*
- "Alfa Y Omega" Award for Best Film
- Official Selection – *New Directors/New Films Festival*

ABOUT FILM MOVEMENT

Film Movement is an innovative new film distribution company, created as a solution for millions of consumers across the nation whose access to outstanding film is limited by geography, lifestyle or lack of information. Film Movement has members in over 50 states and 1200 cities. Film Movement acquires award winning independent films from the world's top festivals, which they then release each month of the year to members on DVD through a subscription service, and theatrically through The Film Movement Series. Participating filmmakers are able to reach under-served film fans everywhere through Film Movement.

The Film Movement Series is a new theatrical film series featuring some of the best in original world cinema. Created by the team that invented the groundbreaking Shooting Gallery Film Series, Film Movement will release 6 of its 12 films per year in leading independent cinemas in major US cities to help outstanding filmmakers find the audience they deserve. All films are available to members exclusively on DVD upon theatrical release so that they may participate regardless of where they live.

Film Movement has partnered with some of the leading independent theaters in the country to exhibit the Film Movement Series. The schedule includes the following films:

- Wiebke von Carolsfeld's *Marion Bridge*
- Eric Eason's *Manito*
- Scott Hamilton Kennedy's *OT: our town*
- Donovan Leitch & Rebecca Chaiklin's *The Party's Over*
- Tjebbo Penning's *Morlang*
- Mina Shum's *Long Life, Happiness and Prosperity*
- Vicente Amorim's *The Middle of the World*
- Jacques Doillon's *Raja*
- Tony McNamra's *The Rage in Placid Lake*
- Rolf de Heer's *Alexandra's Project*

