

# ANITA

A Film by Marcos Carnevale

Director of *Elsa & Fred*



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# ANITA

## BRIEF SYNOPSIS

Anita Feldman (Alejandra Manzo), a young woman with Down syndrome, lives a happy, routine life in Buenos Aires, being meticulously cared for by her mother (Norma Aleandro). But one tragic morning changes everything when Anita is left alone, confused and helpless when the nearby Argentine Israelite Mutual Association is bombed. As she wanders through the city, she learns not only to care for herself, but touches the lives of those around her, from an alcoholic to a family of Asian immigrants.

## FILM DETAILS

Running Time	104 minutes
Language	Spanish
Country	Argentina
Subtitles	English
Medium	35 mm
Aspect Ratio	1:85:1
Sound	Dolby Digital
Genre	Fiction/Drama

# CREDITS

## Cast

Norma Aleandro	<i>Dora</i>
Luis Luque	<i>Felix</i>
Leonor Manso	<i>Nora</i>
Peto Menahem	<i>Ariel</i>
Alejandra Manzo	<i>Anita</i>

## Crew

Director	Marcos Carnevale
Writers	Marcos Carnevale Marcela Guerty Lily Ann Martin
Producer	Marcos Carnevale
Executive Producer	Jorge Gundin
Original Music	Lito Vitale
Cinematography	Guillermo Zappino
Editor	Pablo Barbieri Carrera
Casting	Sabrina Kirzner
Art Direction	Adriana Slemenson
Sound	José Luis Diaz

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## MARCOS CARNEVALE

**Marcos Carnevale** was born in 1963 in Argentina. He began his career in advertising in 1983. In 1991 he started his own production company: Millecento Cinema. Marcos Carnevale created and directed over 300 commercials that have earned him various international awards. Mr. Carnevale's career as a screenwriter of TV series is long and widely acclaimed.

Marcos Carnevale wrote, directed and produced his first feature film in 1996 (“Noche de Ronda”). Until his second film, “Almejas y Mejillones” (2000), Marcos concentrated on screenplays such as Esa Maldita Costilla, Papá Es Un Idolo, or the script for the animation feature “Los Pitín Al Rescate”. In 2003, he finished the script of “El Día Que Me Amen”, and he began working on his third feature film: “Elsa & Fred”, which film was an art house circuit hit on U.S. screens. In 2009, he wrote, directed and produced “Anita”.

“Anita” was the centerpiece film of the 2010 San Francisco Jewish Film Festival at the Castro Theatre in San Francisco. For that occasion Mr. Carnevale prepared the following statement:

“It is a true honor that my film ANITA has been chosen as the centerpiece film of the festival. ANITA is a movie that was born from a personal concern, from taking a glance to the society we live in, towards the men who inhabit it. ANITA represents us all. Anita, the character in the film, is lost in a world that lives in constant confusion, in a world where men hate men, where fights over their territories happen on a daily basis, over the economic interests, over their ideologies, be they religious or political. ANITA does not understand anything of this. And she does not want to understand either. She, as many of the victims of irrationality, has lost the person who linked her with the world; no one less than her mother. ANITA represents all the victims of violence in the world. ANITA is the unjustified pain. ANITA asks for peace. And so do I...

That ANITA travels the world is our way of letting everyone know about our message of peace...  
Thank you...”

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Norma Aleandro (Dora) – Born in Buenos Aires, Ms. Aleandro, won the Cannes Award for best actress in 1985 for her feature role in the Argentine Academy Award winning film “The Official Story”. Ms. Aleandro has worked in several other Argentine films, including the Foreign Language Academy Award nominated “Son of the Bride’ (for which she won the Argentine Film Critics Association Award for Best Supporting Actress), “Sol de Otono” and “El Faro”. Ms. Aleandro has been called the Grande Dame of Argentine Theater and cinema not only for the length of her career but also because Ms. Aleandro brings distinction and nobility to each and all of the roles performed.

Luis Luque (Felix) – Luque is a well-known Argentine film and television actor, with over 60 appearances to date. He has been nominated for several Argentinean Film Critics Association Awards and has won the Malaga Spanish Film Festival’s Award for the Best Latin American Actor for his role in “On Probation” in 2005.

Leonor Manso (Nora) – Manso won the Argentine Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Award for the Best Supporting Actress for her role in “Anita” in 2010. Ms Manso, a native to Buenos Aires, has appeared in over 50 Argentine films and/or television productions.

Peto Manahem (Ariel) – Manahem is an Argentine writer/actor who has appeared in many television shows in Argentina along with several films. He has written or collaborated on two of those scripts.

Alejandra Manzo (Anita) – “Anita” is Ms. Manzo’s debut on screen.

# ANITA

## The True Story of the AMIA Bombing

There actually was a bombing of the Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA) (a Jewish Community Center) located in Buenos Aires on July 18, 1994. This bombing came nearly two years after a terrorist bomb also destroyed the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires, an incident which killed 29 and wounded over 200. Argentina is home to the largest Jewish community in Latin America, estimated at a population in excess of 200,000.

On July 18, 1994 a Renault Trafic Van bomb loaded with explosives was detonated in front of the AMIA, killing 85 people and wounding hundreds. No suspects have ever been convicted of this act, although many theories as to who was responsible have surfaced over the years. In November 2005, Argentine prosecutor Alberto Nisman charged 21-year-old, Lebanese, Ibrahim Hussein Berro as the suicide bomber who blew up the AMIA. Nisman stated the man belonged to Hezbollah and, according to Nisman, relatives identified the man from photographs. The probe into the bombing, he said, had not ruled out an Iranian connection. In October 2006, Nisman and fellow prosecutor Marcelo Martínez Burgos formally accused the government of Iran of orchestrating the bombing and Hezbollah for carrying it out.

The Argentine government issued a decree in 2005 accepting a share of the blame for the failure of the investigations into the attack. In October 2009, Federal Judge Ariel Lijo charged Argentina's former president Carlos Menem with instigating several crimes related to the bombing investigation, including concealing evidence and abuse of authority. Menem's brother Munir Menem, former intelligence services chief Hugo Anzorregui, retired judge Juan Jose Galeano, former deputy secretary of intelligence Juan Carlos Anchezar and former commissioner Jorge Palacios were also charged with obstructing the first government probe into the 1994 bombing.

Commemorating the scene of the AMIA bombing on the calle Pasteur are 85 trees Pasteur between Cordoba and Corrientes, one representing each life that was lost the day of the bombing. A plaque at the base of each tree commemorates those who died...David Barriga... Jacoba Chemaue... Monica Feldman De Goldfeder... etc.

# ANITA

## AWARDS

**Winner – Best Actress (Alejandra Manzo)  
Providence Latin American Film Festival 2011**

**Winner – Audience Choice Award  
Lenore Marwil Detroit Jewish Film Festival 2011**

**Winner – Audience Choice Award  
Chicago Latino Film Festival 2011**

**Winner – Directors' Choice Award  
Best Story of Inspiration  
Sedona International Film Festival 2011**

**Winner – Jury Prize  
Best International Film  
Sonoma International Film Festival 2011**

**Winner – Audience Award  
Best Narrative Feature  
Wisconsin Film Festival 2011**

**Winner – Audience Award  
Best Narrative Feature  
Los Angeles Jewish Film Festival 2010**

**Winner – Audience Award  
Jewish Film Festival of Dallas 2010**

**Winner – Audience Award  
Best Narrative Film  
Pittsburgh Jewish Israeli Film Festival 2010**

**Winner – Audience Choice Award  
Best Feature Film  
Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival 2009**

**Winner – Best Supporting Actress (Leonor Manso)  
Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences of Argentina Awards 2009**