

# Emilio Santoyo

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## BIOGRAPHY

Emilio Santoyo (Mexico, 1990) lives and works in the Netherlands. He grew up in the suburban town of Cuautitlán, where he worked in film production before becoming interested in producing his own artistic work. He has BFA film studies in CENTRO de Diseño, Cine y Televisión (Mexico) and MA in the Master of Film - Artistic Research in and through Cinema, in the Nederlandse Filmacademie (Netherlands). He has worked as creative advisor in films by Guillermo Arriaga, Bahman Ghobadi and Marcelino Islas. He is a beneficiary of the Mexican Institute of Cinematography "Film Creators Incentive Program" and winner of the XV National Film Script Contest. During his career, he has been selected in residencies and workshops such as the *Match Me!* of the Locarno International Film Festival (Switzerland), the Ventana Cinemad (Spain), the Bolivia Lab (Bolivia), the International Meeting of Producers of the Cartagena de Indias International Film Festival (Colombia), the Ibero-American Meeting of Emerging Filmmakers of IBERMEDIA (Guatemala), the TYPA Foundation Analysis Workshop (Argentina), the Platform MX of the DocsMX Festival (Mexico) and in different editions of the Gabriel Figueroa Film Fund (Mexico). He produced the films "**The charity**" by Marcelino Islas (2015), awarded for best film at DISTRITAL and winner of two Mexican academy "Ariel" awards, as well as "**I don't want to be dust**" by Iván Lowenberg.

He is the director, producer and screenwriter of the short film "**The perfect absent**" (2019), selected at the Morelia International Film Festival and Shorts México, as well as "**Ana's desire**" (2019), winner of various international awards and selected in more than forty festivals, among which are the Mostra de Sao Paulo (Brazil), the New Latin American Film Festival of Havana (Cuba), the Zaragoza Film Festival (Spain), the Cabos International Film Festival (Mexico), Cinequest (USA) and the Author Film Week of Lugo (Spain), among others. He co-directed the collective feature film "**Silver heart**" (2023), commissioned by the Taxco Film Festival and Shorts Mexico. Emilio is part of the Talents 2020 program, organized by the Berlinale (Germany), the Mexican Screenwriters Union TINTA and has been an evaluator for the FOCINE Mexican fund and a jury in various film competitions. He founded the production company ANOMIA and currently works in post-production on his third and fourth feature film as a director: "**This savage beast**"; winner of the FOCINE Mexican production support and "**Vera, Vera, Vera (or the behaviour of broken hearts)**".

## EDUCATION

2022-2024 Master – Artistic Research in and through cinema – Netherlands Film Academy (The Netherlands)  
2010-2014 Bachelor's Degree (Honours) in Film and Television – Center for Design, Film and Television (Mexico)

## FILMOGRAPHY

(Writer, director and producer)

**2025** *Vera, Vera, Vera (Or the behaviour of broken hearts)* (in post-production) – 80 min  
**2025** *This savage beast* (in post-production) – 95 min  
**2023** *Silver heart* (Collective work) – 87 min  
**2019** *Ana's desire* – 79 min  
**2019** *The absent perfect* – 13 min

## AWARDS AND HONOURS

**2022** Winner of the scholarship "Support for Professionals of Culture and Art for Postgraduate Studies Abroad (AFPE)" granted by CONACYT – SACPC, Mexico.  
**2022** Winner of the FOCINE Feature Film Production Support, Mexico for *This savage beast*  
**2021** 6 Crystal Screen Awards (Best Film, Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Actress, Best Post-Production, New Talent) – Cristal Screen Awards, Mexico for *Ana's Desire*  
**2021** 4 Nominations (Best Photography, Best Art Design, Best Editing, Best Soundtrack) – Crystal Screen Awards, Mexico for *Ana's Desire*  
**2021** Special Mention to the direction and script – Dreamanila IFF, Philippines for *Ana's Desire*  
**2021** Best Film – Quetzal International Film Festival, Mexico for *Ana's Desire*  
**2020** Best Foreign Film, Oriana Award - Sant Andreu de la Barca International Film Festival, Spain by *Ana's Desire*  
**2020** Best Performance and Best Photography – Austral International Film Festival, Argentina for *Ana's Desire*  
**2020** Best Mexican Film – International Author Film Festival, Mexico for *Ana's Desire*  
**2020** Tenango Award – Hidalgo International Film Festival, Mexico for *Ana's Desire*  
**2020** Best short film – León International Film Festival, Mexico for *The Perfect Absent*  
**2015** Best Feature Film Script, XV GIFF National Script Contest for *Ana's Desire*

## SELECTION IN FESTIVALS AND SHOWS

2024 Artistic Research Week Eye Filmmuseum Amsterdam - *Vera, Vera, Vera (or the behaviour of broken hearts)*  
2023 Shorts Mexico - *Silver heart*  
2023 Taxco International Film Festival, Mexico - *Silver heart*  
2023 Paloma Itinerante International Film Festival, Mexico - *The Perfect Absent*  
2022 Mexican Film Festival 2022 "The projector", Singapore - *Ana's Desire*  
2022 Durango International Film Festival, Mexico- *Ana's Desire*  
2022 Oruro International Film Festival "Diablo de Oro", Bolivia - *Ana's Desire*  
2021 Ensenada International Film Festival, Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2021 Dreamanila International Film Festival, Philippines - *Ana's Desire*  
2021 León International Film Festival, Mexico (Opening Film) - *Ana's Desire*  
2021 Zsigmond Vilmos International Film Festival, Hungary - *Ana's Desire*  
2021 Santiago del Estero Film Fest, Argentina - *Ana's Desire*  
2021 Taxco International Film Festival, Mexico (Opening Film) - *Ana's Desire*  
2021 Tequila International Film Festival, Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2021 Panoramica, International Independent Film Festival, Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2021 International Film Festival "El cine transformado por nosotras", Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 National Day of Mexican Cinema, Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Zaragoza Film Festival, Spain - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 La Paz International Film Festival FICLAPAZ, Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Merida and Yucatan International Film Festival, Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Icaro, International Film Festival in Central America, Guatemala - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Author Film Week of Lugo, Spain - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Film Script Festival, Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Raíces de Chivilcoy International Film Festival, Argentina - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Hola México Film Festival, USA - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Quito Latin American Film Festival, Ecuador - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Mexico City Independent Film Festival, Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2020 Cinequest Film & Creativity Festival, USA - *Ana's Desire*  
2019 International Festival of New Latin American Cinema of Havana, Cuba - *Ana's Desire*  
2019 Los Cabos International Film Festival, Mexico - *Ana's Desire*  
2019 Mostra Internacional de Cinema – Sao Paulo International Film Festival, Brazil - *Ana's Desire*  
2019 Morelia International Film Festival, Mexico - *The Perfect Absent*  
2019 Shorts Mexico, Mexico - *The Perfect Absent*  
2019 Taxco International Film Festival, Mexico - *The Perfect Absent*  
2019 Ventana Sur (Films in Progress), Argentina- *Ana's Desire*  
2019 Los Cabos International Film Festival (Gabriel Figueroa Film Fund), Mexico - *Ana's Desire*

## SELECTIONS IN WORKSHOPS AND RESIDENCIES

2024 Artistic Research Week Eye Filmmuseum, Netherlands  
2023 Eccentric Pedagogies & Artistic Research, Netherlands  
2023 Art Knowledges: daily rituals and aesthetic practices, Netherlands  
2021 Gabriel Figueroa Film Fund, Mexico  
2021 DocsLab – Docs MX, Mexico  
2021 MX Platform, Mexico  
2021 MAFF (Málaga Festival Fund & Co-production Event), Spain  
2020 Talents Guadalajara – Berlinale Talents, Mexico  
2020 Ibero-American Meeting of Emerging Filmmakers -Ibermedia, Guatemala  
2018 MICA (Film and Audiovisual Industry Market), Mexico  
2017 First and Second Film Analysis Workshop (TYPA Foundation), Mexico  
2016 *Match Me!* – Locarno International Film Festival, Switzerland  
2016 Ventana CineMad, Spain  
2016 International Meeting of Producers – Cartagena de Indias International Film Festival, Colombia  
2016 Bolivia Lab, Bolivia  
2015 Incentive Program for Film Creators (IMCINE) - Project Development Support, Mexico

## PARTICIPATIONS AS A JURY

2022 Tequila International Film Festival, Mexico – *Mexican Fiction Feature Film Competition*  
2022 Taxco International Film Festival, Mexico – *Documentary Short Film Competition*  
2021 Support Program for Script Writing and IMCINE Project Development – *Script Writing Development of plotlines*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**2022** SAE Institute, Mexico – *Direction and Production for final project I, 9th quarter.*

**2022** Centro ADM, Mexico – *Program in cinematographic processes, Module 5*

**2021** CENTRO de Diseño, Cine y Televisión, Mexico – *Direction, 2nd semester*

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS / TEXTS / REVIEWS

**2021** “La potencia del cine mexicano”, [book](#) by Jorge Ayala Blanco (CUEC-UNAM, Mexico)

**2020** “Boundless Attraction: *Ana’s Desire*”, [article](#) by Gary M. Kramer (Film International, Sweden)

**2020** “*Ana’s Desire*: a transgressive slow burn” [article](#) by The movie gourmet, (USA)

**2018** “Emilio Santoyo on *Ana’s Desire*: talking about Sex in Mexico” [interview](#) by John Hopewell (Variety, USA)

## LINKS TO PROFESSIONAL PROFILES ON THE WEB

IMDB <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm4667340/>

Nederlandse Filmacademie <https://www.filmacademie.ahk.nl/en/graduates/2024/student/emilio-santoyo/>

Berlinale Talents <https://www.berlinale-talents.de/bt//talent/emilio-santoyo/profile>

<https://www.directoriorealizadoresficm.com/realizadores/santoyo-emilio/?lang=en>

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/emilio-santoyo-espino-84606240/?originalSubdomain=mx>

Mostra <https://43.mostra.org/en/diretores/7108-Emilio-Santoyo>

Filminlatino <https://www.filminlatino.mx/director/emilio-santoyo>

Artistic Research <https://artisticresearchweek.filmacademie.nl/2024/research-projects/emilio-santoyo/>