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LAGUNA

A FILM BY SHARUNAS BARTAS

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2025 - Lithuania, France - 102 min.
original version lithuanian, spanish

On the Pacific coast of Mexico, in the land Ina Marija had chosen as her home before she died too soon, her father and her younger sister Una embark on a journey retracing her steps. There, amidst the extraordinary and resilient nature of the mangroves — in a Laguna battered by hurricanes yet perpetually reborn — they begin to navigate the tender terrain of grief. Sharunas Bartas, directing the film, lays his emotions bare in an act of transmission, allowing for a reconstruction anchored in the natural cycles of life.

INTERNATIONAL SALES
Shellac
Katharina Boendel
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PRODUCTION
KinoElektron
Janja Kralj
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PRESSE
Matilde Incerti
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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

"As a man and as a filmmaker, I could divide my life into two parts. The first - before I lost my most beloved daughter. The second - after she was no longer with us.

For several years, only the faintest thread, thin as a string, kept me tied to this world. Yet, through the efforts of my loved ones - and my own - I did not break that thread.

After years of filming in Mexico, the film changed radically from its original concept. I believe that's understandable. The film was, after all, begun when my daughter Ina Marija was still alive.

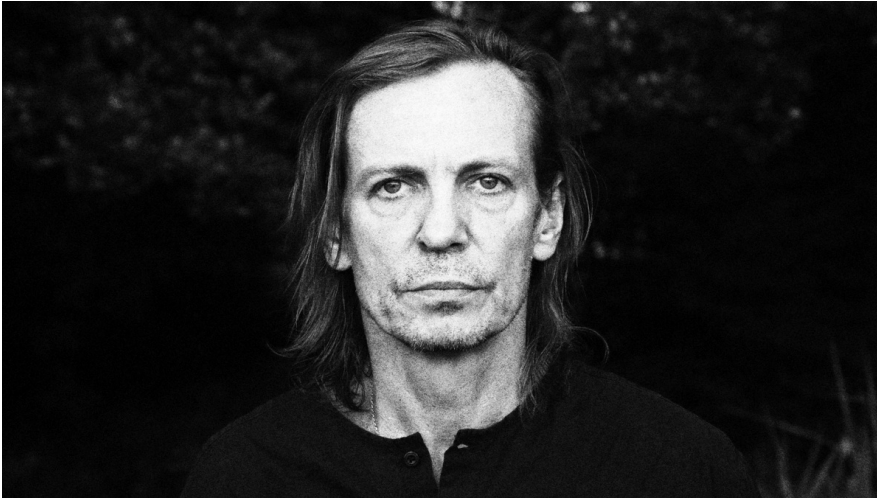
As filming came to an end - or rather, as I finished doing something I no longer needed - suddenly, everything changed. Everything began anew - with my youngest daughter Una Marija, we discovered another beginning, the second part of my life.

With Una Marija's help - and with the support of my loved ones - I finally managed to do what I've always done in all my films. To show people my feelings with absolute honesty.

I found my way back."

Sharunas Bartas,
Vilnius, July 2025.





1990	In The Memory of a Day Gone by
1991	Three Days
1995	Koridorius
1996	Few of Us
1997	The House
2000	Freedom
2004	Children Lose Nothing
2005	Seven Invisible Men
2010	Indigène d'Eurasie
2015	Peace to Us in Our Dreams
2017	Frost
2020	In the Dusk
2024	Back to the Family
2025	Laguna

SHARUNAS BARTAS

Born in 1964 in Siauliai, Lithuania, Sharunas Bartas graduated from the VGIK film school in Moscow.

He founded Studija Kinema in 1989, the first independent film studio in Lithuania. From his very first films, Sharunas Bartas received critical acclaim. *Three Days*, *Korridorius* and *Few of Us* built a rare and sensitive universe, which *Peace to Us in Our Dreams* to reflect, and which *Laguna* is a continuation of.

The Centre Pompidou dedicated a retrospective to the director, adding to those already organized in Poland, Spain, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Peru, Portugal and Belgium, among others.

Sharunas Bartas directed *Back to the Family*, premiered at Rotterdam, and *Frost* and *In The Dusk* both premiered in Cannes, Director's fortnight and Official selection.

Laguna premiered at Giornate degli Autori, Venice.

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WITH

Sharunas Bartas
Una Marija Bartaite
Ina Marija Bartaite
Bryan Ordonez Ruiz

CREDITS

Direction	Sharunas Bartas
Screenplay	Sharunas Bartas, Geoffroy Grison
Photography	Lukas Karalius, Alina Lu
Sound	Simona Venckauskaite, Gabriele Dikciute, Alex Serbulo, Yuri Laguna
Editing	Alina Lu, Lucie Jego
Sound editing	Vladimir Golovnitski
Producers	Sharunas Bartas, Jurijus Stancikas & Alina Lu (Studija Kinema), Janja Kralj (KinoElektron)
Co-producers	Clémentine Mourão-Ferreira (so-cle), Olivier Père & Rémi Burah (Arte France Cinéma)
Associated producer	Bertrand Jacobberger

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