



SONG WITHOUT A NAME (Canción sin nombre)

22nd
Year!

Autumn
Season
2020

Release: 2019

Cert (UK): NC, F

Country: Peru

Language: In Quechua and Spanish with English subtitles

Runtime: 1 hour 37 mins

Director: Melina León

Written by: Melina León, Michael J. White

Cinematographer: Inti Briones

Cast: Pamela Mendoza, Tommy Párraga, Lucio Rojas



Most seasons we have a film which comes over as poetry in motion, which would be beautiful to look at even if there were no story; *'Song without a Name'* is this season's poem.

Based on real events in the 1980s in Peru, Georgina - an indigenous Quechuan living near Lima - scrapes a living selling potatoes. When her baby is due, she hears an advert for a free clinic where she goes to give birth, but the baby disappears and she is left fruitlessly begging the police to help before turning to the media. Although the film makes it clear that this

is not unusual for the poor people of this area, *'just when you think that León is going to steer the film into the terrain of a conventional investigative thriller, she remains fixated on exploring loss and pain on an intimate and personal scale'* - Steven Scaife, Slant Magazine.

Filmed in glorious monochrome *'the film remains grandly composed, with spectacular tableaux that make the Peruvian hillsides look like scenes from a John Ford western. Georgina becomes a silhouette slipping down barren mountains; when she enters the newspaper offices, the walls appear to entrap her'* - Teo Bugbee, New York Times.

Melina León is a Peruvian director, based in Lima and New York. This is her first feature film: originally shown at Cannes, the film has gone on to be a big hit at 90 film festivals around the world, winning 32 awards along the way.

