

ALMA (Autores Literarios de Medios Audiovisuales) is the **Spanish Writers Guild** founded in 1989 by renowned authors. It currently has more than 300 affiliated writers both from film and television. This year the union celebrates its 25th anniversary.

The main activity of ALMA focuses on claiming fair salaries, developing a collective agreement for our industry, fighting for copyright, and making the writers to be in forums where laws which affect film and television industry are created. For this we have a board composed by 14 members, all professional screenwriters plus volunteer members, a lawyer and an employee who coordinates the work of communication and management of the Guild.

We set up meetings with writers, directors and invite producers and writers to organize international master classes. We also organize a Masters Degree in Screenwriting for Film and Television with the Carlos III University of Madrid, deliver an annual Award for Best Television Series Script at the FesTVal de Vitoria, and an ALMA Award for Best Screenplay at the Malaga Film Festival. We also maintain good relationships and collaborate with collecting societies SGAE and DAMA, and the other writers associations of our country and specialized media industry. We are strong on the Internet through our website, Facebook, Twitter and the Portal audiovisual ALMA. During 2013-14 we performed activities such as:

#### Master classes

We organized two master classes with creators, executive producers and Emmy Award winners from US television Greg Daniels and André & María Jacquemetton (Mad Men) focused on how a TV series is created, written and kept alive in the US market. These master classes were are open to all European professionals and were possible thanks to the support and collaboration of entities such as Fundación SGAE, DAMA, Canal+ and the Embassy of the United States in Spain.

#### Festivals and Awards

ALMA was present in several Cinema Festivals: **Málaga Cinema Festival**, Barcelona **MECAL** Festival, **Vitoria Cinema and Televisión Festival**, **Canal + Tv Series Festival** and **Alcalá de Henares Cinema Festival**. ALMA was also part of the National Cinema Award jury and the SGAE Julio Alejandro Script Award.

# "No se escriben solas" project

"They are not written by itself" is a lobbying campaign lead by ALMA to encourage the media to get the writers authorship and their names recognized in their press releases and industry news.

### National Cinema Award

ALMA is part of de jury of the **National Cinema Award**, which this year has been won by the prestigious scriptwriter and ALMA founder Lola Salvador. It is the second time in 20 years that a screenwriter is awarded with this price.

## Writing Heads Project

"Writing Heads: hablan los guionistas" (Writing Heads: the scriptwriters talk) is the first documentary about scriptwriters ever produced in Spain. It was selected and released on the 22nd of October 2013 at the prestigious Valladolid SEMINCI Festival. This year has been projected at the **New York Film Academy** and the **University of Connecticut**. It also has been **released on DVD**.

#### Microfusión

ALMA and Microteatro (Micro-theater) collaborate in Microfusión, an initiative that brings together **novice writers with directors and actors** so they can create and produce five micro-theater plays. Micro-theater consists of short 15 minute performances with audiences of no more than 15 spectators.

## Minimum Rates Agreement

ALMA is negotiating with FAPAE (the Spanish Producers association) and the two main Spanish Trade Unions a minimum rates agreement of payment for writers.