

## **ALMA ACTIVITY REPORT NOVEMBER 2021**

ALMA has at present 810 members across the country, increasing by 4% since November 2020 and sustaining a yearly trend of growth. The percentage of growth is lower, due to the greater initial figure and the limited community of writers in the country.

We still acknowledge a very high rate of satisfaction with activities, services, and information, along with the legal services provided by ALMA.

We have entered the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of our University master's degree in Screenplay and Scriptwriting ALMA- Carlos III University of Madrid, one of the 5 best master courses in communication in the country.

### **Key issues in progress**

#### **Writers of unscripted shows**

ALMA has been paying close attention to the different status and the fragile situation faced by unscripted show writers in several aspects.

The Guild has been carrying out work meetings with these writers and developed several actions to study and improve their position.

#### **Collective agreement for non-freelance writers**

Negotiations with Producers' representatives have resumed.

#### **Statute for the Artists and Creators**

The Government has created an inter-ministerial Commission and working groups on each matter (taxation, social security, and labor) in which ALMA takes part.

#### **Legal report**

The regular activity in review, consulting and negotiation of contracts has increased this year. Legal inquiries are more focused on contractual terms and market uses, and consultation in contractual vigilance have grown by 258%.

Our members keep providing more information about their contracts to the guild.

The results of this legal service continue to be to the highest level of satisfaction for members of ALMA.

Tomás Rosón, Legal advisor of ALMA, has been recognised by the Spanish Film Academy for his trajectory in the legal assistance to writers for over thirty years.

### **Events and cultural activities**

#### **Film series: Write and go on (*Guión y seguido*, Film Academy, October 2021)**

Due to the pandemic restrictions in public activities indoors, this cycle had only one screening. The activity consists of the screening of a classic film, followed by a closing discussion with that film's writer or current writers who have a particular relationship with the original writer or with the film.

#### **Guionistas de Goya (Screenplays for an Award) (Madrid, March 2021)**

This encounter with the media and the nominees to Best Original Screenplay and Best Adapted Screenplay for the 2021 Awards of the Spanish Academy of the Film Arts and Sciences (Goya Awards).

The award-giving ceremony was postponed due to the pandemic, and the encounter was also later than the usual dates. ALMA was able to gather most of the nominees and received extensive coverage by the media.

#### **Screenwriting conferences at the University of Málaga (March, April 2021)**

Under request by the Communication School of the University of Málaga, ALMA organised two conferences to unveil professional details on the following subjects:

- Young writers: How to best make your entry in the professional pathway:  
By Diego Pinillos (March)
- The Script of Daily Series: By Macu Tejera and Laura Molpeceres (April)

### **Writers Guild of Spain Awards (Madrid, March 2021)**

ALMA presented the awards to the best screenplays of feature documentary, feature film comedy, feature film drama, daily series, comedy series, drama series and created a new category separating unscripted show: entertainment programmes and contests. The Honorary Award of 2021 was bestowed on four writers whose work in feature film comedy was key to the restyling of that genre in Spain: Yolanda García Serrano, Manuel Gómez Pereira, Juan Luis Iborra y Joaquín Oristrell . The ceremony was streamed and open to members of the guild and media outlets. It finished with a press conference also streamed and with participation of journalists who attended, and via Telegram.

### **Workshop with participants in the Spanish Film Academy Residency for Creators (Madrid, April 2021)**

With the cooperation of the Film Academy and three members of the Guild who were part of the 2020-21 Residency, and overview and information were offered to candidates to the 2020-22 edition, on the application process and the day-to-day life of the Residency, and how to enhance their possibilities to take part in the experience.

### **ALMA Course on Programmes Writing (Online, April, May, and June 2021)**

Consisting of ten sessions, hosted by ten of the most successful unscripted show writers in the country, the attendance and satisfaction were very high and fulfilled the goals of the activity, although our members value quite much on-site professional events.

### **Unscripted programmes: 'That's how they wrote it' (Madrid, July-December 2021)**

ALMA has created a new activity through which we offer a view of the work behind the creation and broadcast of unscripted programmes of great success. The activity begun in July explaining the secrets, techniques, and know-how of

the most watched contest in Spanish TV, on air since the year 2000. It was presented by Borja Pérez, script coordinator (or head writer), and the longest standing member of its writers' room, Roberto Angulo.

There is a second programme in preparation for its presentation in December.

### **Conecta FICTION 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Pamplona, September 2021)**

ALMA maintained our cooperation with this initiative, to facilitate members' and the Guild's presence in the most prominent international series market of Spain. It covers the Ibero-American, European, and of course Spanish territories connecting talent and broadcasters and producers.

Five members of the guild enjoyed a free pass and accommodation through a pitching contest organised by ALMA and Conecta FICTION.

### **Film series: 'Somebody wrote it' (Madrid, September to December 2021)**

In partnership with the Cineteca of the city of Madrid, ALMA continued the screening of recent, successful films followed by a conversation with its writers, to increase visibility for feature film writers in a coordinated manner with our social media campaign #NoSeEscribenSolas (Somebody wrote it) which claims for complete reporting of the names who write shows, series, and films. This year only two sessions could be successfully organized, after the improvement of the pandemic circumstances after the summer.

- September: *Operación Camarón*, written and presented by Josep Gatell and Manuel Burque.
- October-December: *La boda de Rosa*, written by Alicia Luna and Icíar Bollaín, presented by Alicia Luna.

### **ALMA Course on Creating and Selling Series: From the Sales Document to the Pitch (Madrid, October 2021)**

A carefully thought-through course intended to help writers focus on the way to reflect their series project in a sales document, dealing with the relevant points to make them ready to pitch-and-land with investors.

Josep Gatell, a writer highly experienced in the creation and development of feature film and series, was the coordinator and the teacher of the programme, with Alejandra Sabá, executive from Movistar Plus, who addressed the sales document session. In the final class, the projects were pitched to executives from producing companies and VOD platforms, who provided feedback on the proposals and presentations.

### **Writing TV Unscripted Shows (*Guionistas de programas 2021*, Madrid, October 2021)**

Twelve writers of podcasts and unscripted shows broadcast on TV, cable and on demand platforms, presented the peculiarities of their work to fellow writers and media outlets. The encounter was streamed for the public, echoing the main headlines and the stories behind.

#### Streamed programmes

Carlos Cascos (*Gen Playz*)  
Bea Esos (*Esto es un late*)  
Ana Macías (*Yu no te pierdas nada*)  
Epi Martín (*Los felices veinte*)

#### TV Programmes

- Óscar Arenas (*Nadie al volante*)
- Carolina Franquiz (*Alta tensión*)
- Joserra Fudio (*Drag Race España*)
- Dani Rodríguez (*Cero en historia e Ilustres ignorantes*)

#### Podcasts

- David Barreiro (*El rey del cachopo, GAL: el triángulo*)
- Pilar de Francisco (*Qué grandes son*)
- Dinah Robledillo (*Payasos y fuego*)
- Javier Valera (*Buenismo bien*)

## Serial Writers (*Guionistas en serie 2021, Madrid, November 2021*)

Eleven writers of fiction series of great success and recently premiered were the ambassadors to the specifics of their professional work in those. This year, the three panels discussed the most expected releases, female protagonists, and remakes on Spanish shows from years back.

### The most expected releases

Manuel Burque (*Vida perfecta*)

Daniel Castro (*Venga Juan*)

Claudia Costafreda y Ana Rujas (*Cardo*)

Juan S. López (*La casa de papel*)

### Great female protagonists

Ángela Armero (*Ana Tramel*)

Israel del Santo (*Lola*)

Marina Pérez (*Valeria*)

Noemí Redondo (*Dolores: la verdad sobre el caso Wanninkhof*)

### The year of remakes

Irma Correa (*Alba, Si lo hubiera sabido*)

Carlos García Miranda (*Física o química: el reencuentro, Los protegidos: el regreso*)

Alberto Marini (*Historias para no dormir*)

Abram Sastre (*Los hombres de Paco, El Internado: Las Cumbres*)

## Festivals and awards

- **MECAL Festival Barcelona** | April 2021 | ALMA decides and presents the Award to the Best Screenplay of Spanish Short Film. 2021 it went, *ex aequo*, to Alex Rademakers (*Gran Premio*) and to Iker Esteibarlanda and Nazareth Torres (*Before I die*)
- **FesTVAl** | September 2021 | Round Table: *Writing Contest Shows*, with Carlos Muriana (board member and presenter), Isabel Arranz (*El Cazador*), María Eskisabel (*Esto no es normal*) y Paco Bravo y Raúl Zafra (*Family Feud*)
- **Spanish Cinematography National Award** | September 2021 (ALMA appoints a member of the jury)
- **Madrid Film Festival** | September-October 2021 (ALMA sponsors the festival and presents the Best Screenplay Award)
- **Navarra Tierra de Cine** | September 2021. ALMA selects two tutors to help writers who won the contest improve their screenplays to shoot short films.
- **International Film Festival of Gijon (FICX)** | November 2021 (ALMA sponsors the festival and presents the Best Spanish Screenplay Award)
- **Julio Alejandro Award (SGAE)** | November 2021 (ALMA appoints two members of the selection committee, and a member of the jury to this screenplay award)