

# **An Independent Portrait**

A film by Jose Muniain

## **Director-Producer**

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## **Director's statement**

I've always been attracted to films where the action plays out in real-time, a concept that evolves as you watch, the excitement of witnessing a moment where something real is happening.

That's how I approached "An Independent Portrait". I wanted to create a situation and let it evolve in an unscripted way. Luckily I found the right people to go along on this ride, starting with Robert Young, who inspired and supported me throughout the whole process. Robert, Félix de la Concha and the entire crew were very generous in accepting my invitation to be part of this project.

## **Bio**

Born in Bilbao (Spain) in 1960, I moved to Pittsburgh in 1997 with my wife Sarah and my kids Louisa and Jon.

I have been a producer for 20 years, working in many different areas including commercials, broadcast design, opening titles for TV programs and installations.

Most of my career took place in Madrid where I founded a company, Ostra Delta in 1988 and produced projects for TV stations in Europe: TVE, Canal+, France 2-3, VTM, RTL. ETB. During that time I received several awards from the BDA (Broadcast Design Association).

Now I'm working as a producer and creative director at PMI in Pittsburgh. During this time I have produced trade shows, commercials, award shows and promotional videos for clients like Dollar Bank, Highmark, and Marconi or Samsung.

I have also collaborated with visual artists, including Michael Lotenero in the installation project, "Navarro," which mixes different media -painting, video and audio - to create an experience in which the process of creation is an integral part of the resulting artwork. This is been show at Filmmakers Media Tonic, DC Independent film Festival an Amoda (Austin Museum of Digital Art).

Samponia Way: City of Asylum is a short documentary about the exiled Chinese poet Huang Xiang and the organization City of Asylum/Pittsburgh. They provided sanctuary to literary writers exiled under threat of death, imprisonment, or persecution in their native countries, so that they can continue to write. It is currently showing in Human Right Festivals.  
[http://current.com/items/77137502\\_samponia\\_way\\_city\\_of\\_asylum](http://current.com/items/77137502_samponia_way_city_of_asylum)

An Independent Portrait is my first long form documentary.