

GABO: THE CREATION OF GABRIEL GARCIA MARQUEZ

An Icarus Films Release
Directed by Justin Webster

"A biography with the narrative tension of an investigation"
—El Espectador

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LOGLINE

The true story of Gabriel Garcia Marquez, winner of the 1982 Nobel Prize for Literature and author of globally acclaimed books including *100 Years of Solitude*.

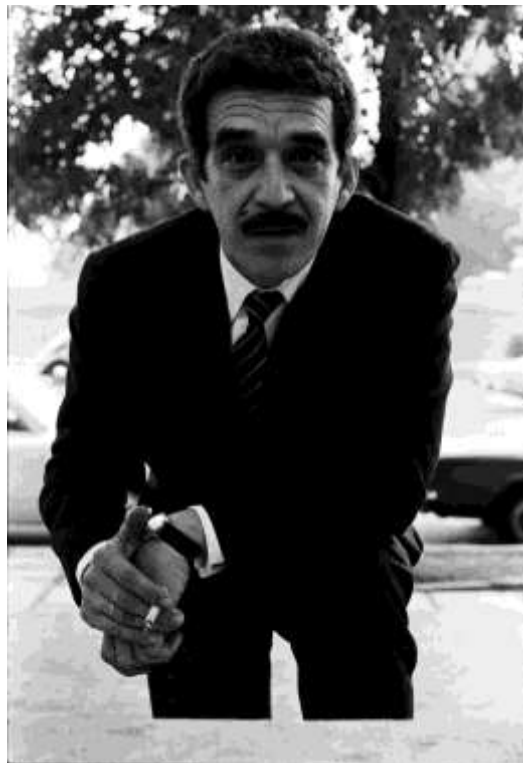
SYNOPSIS

How did a boy from a tiny town on the Caribbean coast become a writer who won the hearts of millions? How did he change our perception of reality with his work?

The answers lies in the incredible story of Gabriel García Márquez, the 1982 Nobel Prize winner in Literature.

A law-school dropout and political journalist who grew up in the poverty and violence of northern Colombia. García Márquez became the writer of the globally celebrated and critically-acclaimed books including *Love in the Time of Cholera* and *100 Years of Solitude*.

Gabo: The Creation of Gabriel García Márquez includes former American president Bill Clinton and former Colombian president César Gaviria among interviewees discussing the writer's life and legacy. The film follows the life of the author, known as "Gabo" to all of Latin America, as his sensual, "magical" sensibility leads him to the forefront of the political struggles of the 1970s and 1980s and into the hearts of readers across the world.



IN THE PRESS

"Not only a journey through Gabo's life, but also through Colombia's contemporary history." —*Dixon Moya*

"A biography of Garcia Marquez with the narrative tension of an investigation."
—*El Espectador*

"A documentary that reflects on the idolatry the Nobel Prize laureate inspired."
—*El Periodico de Catalunya*

The Seattle Times

***Gabo: The Creation of Gabriel García Márquez Captures His Magic* 4/4 Stars!**

This deeply informative and moving documentary presents all sides of the Colombian author: Nobel laureate, journalist, powerful influence in Latin American politics.

President Obama recently ended America's diplomatic chill with Cuba, but in the highly detailed yet moving documentary profile *Gabo: The Creation of Gabriel García Márquez*, former President Clinton explains that rapprochement almost happened in his administration.

His personal relationship with the Nobel laureate — whose novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude" had a profound impact on Clinton — led to discussions with the Colombian author about normalizing relations with Cuba. Congress prevented it, but the story is one of many examples of Márquez's deep influence on Latin-American politics as well as the worlds of literature and journalism.

His intertwined roles on the world stage are described in *Gabo* through numerous interviews with friends, biographers and family, as well as archival footage of the writer. Born in a tiny town on the Caribbean coast and largely raised by grandparents, Márquez, who died in 2014, tried on different personas as a searching young man, writing his unappreciated first novel in his early 20s and taking a full two decades to find the inspiration for his magic-realism classic "One Hundred Years."

Along the way, and while he continued to cement his reputation as a literary giant, Márquez — often reluctantly — occupied other public roles.

A wealthy non-Communist, he nevertheless nurtured a friendship with Fidel Castro that helped free some of Cuba's imprisoned writers. During Colombia's era of terrorism funded by Pablo Escobar, Márquez helped keep endangered journalism alive.

Above all, we see his sly wit and plain-spoken charm, his unwillingness to wield his famous name as a political weapon, his intense gaze on human mysteries and his refusal to accept death as fair. —Tom Keogh

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Justin Webster has a continuing passion for crafting non-fiction narratives. He developed this first, as a writer, while working as a reporter for The Independent in London the early 90s, having graduated in classical literature from Cambridge University. After moving to Barcelona, as a freelance nonfiction writer, he began working regularly with leading photographers, and at the same time, he became an independent producer/director for news features and short documentaries. In 2004 he directed his first feature length documentary, *FC Barcelona Confidential*, which won several international awards and soon became a classic football film, for its access and character-driven, observational, narrative style.

Since then, Webster has directed a series of award-winning films, all produced by Sumpta Ayuso, founding partner of JWP, on subjects as diverse as the lives of jihadi terrorists, or the inspiring work of a transplant doctor, or the photographic testimony to the drama of African emigration, or a story of love, murder and political conspiracy in Guatemala. The films are either interview-driven and investigative, or observational, following an unfolding story, but are all driven by the passion for discovering the right characters, and finding the compelling narrative through which to tell a real story.

FILM CREDITS

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|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Director: | Justin Webster |
| Producer: | Kate Horne |
| Director of Photography: | Lucas Gath |
| Assistant Director: | Kristina Rodemann |
| Editor: | Judit Mendez Puig |
| Line Producer: | Simon Hernandez |
| Music: | Laro Basterrechea |
| Executive Producers: | Sumpta Ayuso, Agnus Macqueen |
| Running time: | 88 minutes |
| Production Year: | 2014 |
| Country: | Spain |

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