

ALONSO BERNAL

Alonso was born in Seville, Spain. Since his was a young child he has been passionate about cinema and, ever since the age of six when he stumbled across a film shoot directed by Ana Mariscal¹, he has tried to show up to any shoot that was within his reach. This includes Vittorio de Sica and Carmen Sevilla's live performance in "Pan, amor y Andalucía", when he was still just a child. Then came "Feria en Sevilla" and "La novia de Juan Lucero", the latter representing a turning point in his life because it was shot, merely by coincidence, in the workplace of his father. This allowed him to watch the actors for several days, not only from afar but up close where he could better observe their work. He witnessed the "Lawrence of Arabia" shoot, where he was impressed by the live performance and was only a short distance away from Peter O'Toole. He also saw the shoot for "That Obscure Object of Desire," directed by Luis Buñuel and starring Fernando Rey and was present at the "The Wind and the Lion" shoot with Sean Connery.

After studying a different degree, he enrolled in the Escuela Superior de Arte Dramático² and onto a cinema course at Cineclub Vida, alternating it with theatre performances like León Felipe's "El pastel del bautizo" and Bertold Bretch's "Aventura del Sr. Mokinpot."

Finally, still at a very young age, he managed to get a job as an extra in films such as "Les chevaux du soleil," a French production starring Alfredo Mayo, and "Reds" directed by Warren Beatty.

In 1996, he worked with Imperio Argentina³ on the series "El Séneca" for Canal Sur TV⁴. The director of Agrupación Álvarez Quintero, a historical company in Seville, was also hired as an actor for this series. On seeing his performance, he wanted Bernal to play the leading role in his next project, a proposal which he turned down as it would have meant giving up any possible cinema or television work.

In 2003 he worked on the series "Is Harry on the Boat?" for Sky 1, shot entirely in English. He was also cast for the iconic Canal Sur TV series, "Arrayán", where he played an important supporting role, more specifically the father of the main character which made him more well-known, especially in Andalusia.

Following this he was hired for more television and cinema roles; "Padre Coraje" directed by Benito Zambrano, "Summer Rain"⁵ by Antonio Banderas and "Guante blanco" for TVE1, amongst others.

In 2013, he worked on the Swedish film "En plats i solen" (A Place in the Sun), by the producer of the series "Millennium". Shot in Swedish and in English. In the same year and in 2012, he worked on the "Cuéntame como pasó" series for TVE1.

He has also done extensive work in television and press advertising, as well as in operas such as "La Favorita" and "Carmen".

¹ Spanish film actress, director and screen writer (1923-1995)

² Drama academy in Seville (public higher education)

³ Argentinian professional singer and movie actress (later became a Spanish citizen)

⁴ A public broadcasting company in Andalusia

⁵ Originally "El camino de los ingleses"