

The Eternal Memory



Chile | 2023 | 85m | 15

Director: Maite Alberdi

Starring: Augusto Gongora, Paulina Urrutia

Plus: **Fabula Rasa** | Clara Dubau | France | 7m

The Eternal Memory is a Chilean documentary that offers a poignant portrayal of the life of a couple, Pauli and Augusto, in which the husband, Augusto, grapples with dementia and Alzheimer's disease. This documentary weaves together a collection of everyday moments complemented by footage from the past to illuminate significant episodes from the couple's early lives and their enduring romance. It serves as a profound window into their love-fueled years, allowing us to become better acquainted with the identities of both characters.

Paulina Urrutia and Augusto Góngora are the central figures in this movie, which is expertly directed by Maite Alberdi, who also penned the script. Additionally, the film boasts the involvement of 19 producers.

In a world where everything moves at a rapid pace and films are often filled with constant action, *The Eternal Memory* takes a contrasting approach. It employs unhurried dialogues and silent scenes to depict the ongoing challenges and profound impact that such a condition has on both individuals, and their relationship.

Despite addressing a challenging theme, this documentary beautifully captures the tenderness and affection that the couple

continue to share. It is heartwarming to witness two elderly individuals choosing to care deeply for one another in spite of the adversities they face.

As you watch this story unfold, you cannot help but reflect, pondering concepts like patience, individualism, the pursuit of a perfect world, and longevity. For instance, Pauli's unwavering patience towards her husband raises profound questions about love and care, values that sometimes seem to have been overshadowed in our increasingly individualistic Western society.

Furthermore, despite the fact that people in Western countries are living longer than ever, a growing number of older individuals are afflicted by severe mental or physical illnesses. Leading audiences to contemplate whether living longer is truly a blessing or a curse.

'Maite Alberdi brings us one of the most heartfelt renditions of life, love, and memory in recent years of cinema,' *Chicago Reader*.

What did you think of the film? Please mark or tear the number.

Please add any further comments here

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Did You Know?

- Aside from the archival footage, the documentary was shot over a span of nearly five years, highlighting the commitment and dedication of the filmmakers to tell this powerful story.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some footage was filmed by Paulina alone, adding a unique and personal dimension to the documentary.

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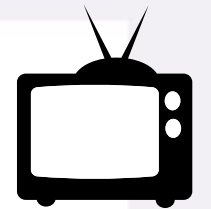
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