

VENICE 2023 Venice Production Bridge

## Alpha Violet sells two new talents in Venice

by **FABIEN LEMERCIER**

23/08/2023 - The French sales agent will bet on *Foremost by Night* by Spain's Víctor Iriarte in Giornate degli Autori and *Hoard* by British director Luna Carmoon in Critics' Week



*Foremost by Night* by Víctor Iriarte

Venice once again smiles at the French international sales company Alpha Violet, which has often shined on the Lido (with *Apples* [+] in 2020 and *Autobiography* [+] last year, for example) and confirms its talent for spotting new talent since it will be representing two very promising debut features at the 80th Venice Film Festival (taking place from 30 August to 9 September): *Foremost by Night* by Spain's **Víctor Iriarte** in Giornate degli Autori and *Hoard* by British director **Luna Carmoon** in Critics' Week.

In Giornate degli Autori, **Virginie Devesa** and **Keiko Funato**'s team will be betting on the directorial debut of a former director of photography turned producer and programmer (of the Zabaltegi-Tabakalera section in San Sebastián): Víctor Iriarte. The filmmaker, who also wrote the script of *Foremost by Night* with **Isa Campo** and **Andrea Queralt**, has gathered in the cast two well-known actresses, **Lola Dueñas** and **Ana Torrent**, who star alongside **Manuel Egozkue**. "It's a plunge into one of the dark pages of Spain's History, that of the children kidnapped under Franco. It's a wonderful film that brings together thriller, historical crime and melodrama," notes Virginie Devesa. On the menu: three deaths, two robberies, and a runaway. The story of two women meeting on the banks of the Douro River. Discovered in the Work in Progress section of Les Arcs, *Foremost by Night* was produced by Spanish companies La Termita, Atekaleun, CSC Films, Inicia Films and by Víctor Iriarte, and co-produced by Portugal's Ukbar Filmes and France's 4 A 4 Productions.

In Critics' Week (where Alpha Violet sold *Los nadie* in 2016, then *Hunting Season* [+] and *Crater* [+] in 2017), 26-year-old British director Luna Carmoon is ready to make a splash with *Hoard*. Starring **Saura Lightfoot** (actor from *Stranger Things* who delivers, according to Virginie Devesa, "an outstanding pe

**Squires**, this debut feature whose script was written by the director is set in 1984 London: 7 year old Maria and her mother live in their own loving world built on sorting through bins and collecting shiny rubbish. One night, their world falls apart, and we join Maria a decade later, living with her foster mother. An older stranger, Michael, then enters their home, opening the door to past trauma, magic and madness... A film produced by Delaval Film, Erebus Pictures and Anti-Worlds.

It is worth noting that Alpha Violet, who scored some great sales in Berlin with *Tótem* [+] by Mexico's **Lila Avilés**, also includes in its line-up *Windless* by **Pavel G. Vesnakov**, a film currently in post-production steered by Bulgaria's Red Carpet and co-produced by Italy's *disparte* (read the article).

(Translated from French)

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