

## **Director's Note of Intention**

“The Jungle Savivors and the Last Roar of the Jaguar” is a feature-length adventure film with a healthy dose of fantasy. Our story unfolds in the Triple Frontier region connecting Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina – a rich, multicultural and multiethnic melting pot blessed with exuberant natural beauty. From these elements we drew resources which make up and shape the fabric of the film, from the characters’ identities and journeys to their interpersonal relationships and the physical backdrop for their adventures.

Designed to be a light-hearted narrative, we sought to draw from the nuances the age bracket we are depicting and which is also a key audience of ours, incorporating elements and struggles all-too-common in that time of our lives, when the transition to a state of greater responsibility, autonomy and sense of identity stimulates our curiosity and often leads to trouble.

The film’s narrative tone/vibe draws heavily from that well, dancing between light and dark, between frantic action and contemplation. The story’s dynamic depicts the oft-clumsy energy found in the quick-and-neat resolutions seen around that age, which at times involves tough stumbles, but what we learn from them is a legacy which forms the bedrock for a new beginning.

Incorporating local native legends in the crafting of this fantastical universe, along with a living environment which poses a culture shock between modern living and the traditions of our native peoples, are approaches which paint the perfect canvas for our narrative, and which are near and dear to my heart, given my family history.

The film draws inspiration from series such as Stranger Things, Locke & Key, Mystery City and Trollhunters. We looked to them for reference on how group dynamics shift and evolve over the course of the journey, as the characters change, undergo processes of personal discovery and come into contact with the wonders of the real world and the magical universe. Striking a tonal balance between moments that at times flirt with darkness, and other times with the vibrancy of sunrise in this intricate, visually captivating narrative – that is our goal in this script, and what we hope shines through in the production itself.

The technical choices involved in the production process interweave and complement one another through the use of studio-based motion capture technology (Unreal) and real-life locations, providing a greater degree of control and speeding up the production dynamics in order to account for the nature of the film and working with a cast of child actors. The cinematic language is that of classic cinema, with straightforward composition and shot choices which offer the cast greater acting freedom, with firm and precise camera movements while providing ample room for action.