

Pargo

Starring
Arek Tatevossian

AFI PRESENTS **PARGO** STARRING **AREK TATEVOSSIAN**
PRODUCTION DESIGNER **PURNIMA BHUTORIA** EDITED BY **ABRIL BERTADO**
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **GABO H.Z.** PRODUCED BY **DAVID GÓMEZ**
WRITTEN BY **GABO H.Z.** DIRECTED BY **GABO H.Z. AND TAMÁS HEVÉR**





PARGO

SURREAL DRAMEDY / UNITED STATES / 2026

LOGLINE

A lonely elderly man, unable to leave his home, forms an unlikely friendship with a dead fish that gives him the courage to venture back into the outside world.

FILM INFORMATION

RUNTIME	3 min 12 sec
COUNTRY	United States
DIALOGUE	None
GENRE	Surreal dramedy
YEAR	2026
CAPTURE	35mm film
COLOR	Color
SOUND	5.1 surround

SYNOPSIS

A lonely elderly man, unable to leave his home, forms an inexplicable bond with a dead fish from his groceries. In the quiet of his apartment, an impossible companionship begins to grow, becoming the force that carries him toward the outside world.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Pargo comes from our thoughts about loneliness, food, and the ways people create comfort for themselves when they are isolated. For Gabriel, part of the story also comes from watching both of his grandmothers deal with loneliness later in their lives. It affected them deeply, but they also developed their own routines, habits, and small ways of getting through it. That stayed with him.

We became interested in the idea of a man who is so isolated that a dead fish from his groceries can slowly become a real presence in his life. The film is also heavily inspired by Jan Švankmajer, especially the way he gives personality and life to objects that should be completely inanimate. We wanted the fish to work in that same way - not just as a metaphor, but as a character.

There is also something personal for us in the relationship between loneliness and food, and in the idea of having to embrace, or even consume, a part of yourself in order to move forward.



ABOUT THE FILM

Shot on 35mm and told without dialogue, Pargo uses a quiet, deadpan visual language to move between loneliness, absurdity, and tenderness.



**GABRIEL HEREDIA / GABO H.Z.****CINEMATOGRAPHER / DIRECTOR**

Gabriel Heredia or Gabo H.Z. is a Mexican cinematographer and director based between Los Angeles and Mexico City. He recently graduated from the AFI Conservatory with an MFA in Cinematography, after studying Animation and Digital Art at Tecnológico de Monterrey. His background in animation and visual effects gave him a technical foundation in cameras, lighting, optics, and color that still shapes the way he works.

Gabriel works across cinematography and directing, and is especially drawn to stories that find something strange or unexpected in ordinary life. As a cinematographer, he enjoys working closely with directors to find the visual language of a film. As a director, he is interested in quiet, character-focused stories where humor, atmosphere, and surreal elements can carry as much weight as dialogue.

**TAMÁS HEVÉR****WRITER / DIRECTOR**

Tamás Hevér is a Los Angeles based, Hungarian writer/director who received his MFA in Film Directing from the American Film Institute Conservatory in 2026.

Prior to AFI, he built his career by contributing to several feature films such as the Dune trilogy and various TV shows working closely with networks such as Netflix, Amazon or HBO. He runs his production company called SetSocialz providing behind the scenes services for films and TV in Budapest.

He is drawn to comedy and the surreal, gravitating toward stories where ordinary people find themselves in absurd situations beyond their control. His work explores the tension between conformity and the desire to break free, finding humor and tenderness in the strangest corners. He is currently developing his debut feature Attila the Revolutionist which is about a painfully shy and insecure middle manager who must join a political uprising in a small Eastern European country in order to impress the girl he has a crush on.



CAST & KEY CREW

DIRECTORS	Gabriel Heredia / Tamás Hevér
WRITER	Gabriel Heredia
PRODUCER	David Gomez
STARRING	Arek Tatevossian
PRODUCTION DESIGN	Purnima Bhutoria
EDITOR	Abril Bertado

PRESS / FESTIVAL CONTACT

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PRESS MATERIALS

Poster and high-resolution film stills are available for festival and press use.

