

FEATURE FILMS ON TOUR



Ay Mariposa - 2019 | 57 min. *Krista Schlyer, Jenny Nichols, Morgan Heim*

This is the story of La Mariposa, Zulema, and Marianna—three characters in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas whose lives are upended by plans to build a US-Mexico border wall. As the director of the National Butterfly Center, Marianna Trevino Wright has become a leader of wall resistance in the Valley, a position that has resulted in violent threats from pro-wall factions and an emotional odyssey as she tries to navigate the ever-shifting sands of border policy. Zulema Hernandez, a life-long migrant worker, immigrant and great grandmother, has been a dedicated advocate for all migrants, both wild and human-kind. Meanwhile the butterfly, La Mariposa, fights its own daily battle for survival in a landscape where more than 95 percent of its habitat is long gone and much of what remains lies directly in the path of the wall.

Ay Mariposa draws a portrait of Zulema, la Mariposa, and Marianna's lives and conveys their struggles in the lengthening shadow of a border wall, delving into the motivations that underlie their opposition and actions, and the surprising ties that bind them all together. This story is a single symbolic tale of all that is being lost in the rush to build border barriers along the 2,000-mile meeting place of the United States and Mexico.

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