



PRÍNCIPE DE ASTURIAS




5479



An aerial photograph of a coastline. The foreground shows a dark, rocky peninsula or headland jutting into the sea. The water is a deep blue-grey, with white foam from waves crashing against the shore. In the background, a range of dark, forested mountains stretches across the horizon under a cloudy sky. The lighting is dramatic, with some clouds catching the light.

March 5, 1916. *The Príncipe*

de Asturias, one of the most luxurious Spanish merchant ships of its time, wrecks on the coast of Brazil on its route from Barcelona to Buenos Aires and is quickly subdued by the crashing waves, taking the lives of 445 passengers and crew and constituting what is, to this day, the most tragic and mysterious shipwreck of the South Atlantic.



Based on this premise, this film will make use of the most extensive and thorough research ever

conducted on the *Príncipe de Asturias* (which was published by Magma Cultural in the book *Príncipe de Asturias*, by Luiz Felipe Moura and José Carlos Silveiras), presenting a mix of fictional and factual events and characters to portray an accurate and compelling picture of the ship's last voyage.

The narrative will be presented from the point of view of a newspaper reporter who investigates the causes of the wreck, interviewing a variety of survivors and witnesses in search for the truth. With each interview, a different version of the tragedy is revealed and the reporter is faced with a melee of conflicting information from which he attempts to distinguish fact from fiction.

synopsis



This format is designed to capture the essence of what makes the *Príncipe de Asturias* so appealing: the mystery involving the causes of the wreck, which took place during World War I. There are a number of theories: a torpedo launched by a British battleship; an accident due to the desperate fleeing from the warship; the altering of the compass due to the heavy concentration of metal in the area, or perhaps just human error. There has even been the suggestion of sabotage perpetrated by a group of crewmembers interested in the large quantity of gold that was allegedly onboard, or even that the wreck was brought about by the curse of the mysterious statues that were being shipped to Buenos Aires.

A range of emotions power this Brazilian production, that combines mystery, suspense, love and tragedy, depicting the charm of the early 20th century and the horror of the most disastrous and mysterious shipwreck to ever take place in the South Atlantic.

main characters

Marina Vidal

26-year-old woman whose self-assertiveness and brazen personality is ahead of her time. Elegant and seductive, she is a sales representative for a Parisian fashion and jewelry boutique who is on her way to Buenos Aires with several cases of merchandise. She plans to waste no time and, while onboard, attempts to make sales to the wealthy First Class passengers. Her boldness helps save the lives of several passengers when disaster occurs and she is hailed as one of the primary heroes of the story, later winning several honors.

José Martins Vianna

20-year-old Brazilian who studies Engineering in Switzerland and is on his way to his hometown, Santana do Livramento, in the south of Brazil. A hopeless romantic, he falls for the attractive Marina Vidal, who is lodged in the cabin across the hall from him. Unfortunately for him, his passion is not corresponded.

Luis Descotte Jourdan

A rich and successful Argentinean interior decorator, this shrewd 43-year-old is a discreet womanizer who is the head of two families. His official wife is aboard with him in one of the most luxurious accommodations of the Príncipe de Asturias. To his surprise, a few decks below, his lover is in one of the Second Class cabins and the imminent threat to his marriage promises a series of uncomfortable situations throughout the trip.

Newspaper Reporter

The only purely fictional protagonist, this character is key in tying together the different facets of the plot. It is through his eyes that we witness the different versions of the story being told by his interviewees. He is a complex character who undergoes a significant transformation during his investigation of the shipwreck. In the beginning of the story, he comes across as a self-serving sensationalist who seeks the top story to make a name for himself. By the end of the movie, he is extremely moved by his discoveries and is on a mission to find the truth. Ultimately, this transformation sensitizes the viewer and contributes drama and a sense of meaning to the disaster.

Captain José Lotina

The Captain was an experienced official of the Spanish Navy who was awarded command of the *Príncipe de Asturias* because of his unblemished record, including a heroic effort in avoiding disaster 15 years earlier, and his strong character. Greatly admired by his crew, he was often seen mingling with passengers from all classes. Rumours that he committed suicide immediately after the wreck were later said to be false.

Antonio Salazar – Second in Command

Salazar was appointed Second in Command on his first trip aboard the *Príncipe de Asturias* as a substitute for the Captain's right-hand man, Alejo Gardoqui, who was on leave due to his recent wedding. According to some versions, Salazar was the person responsible for the disaster, or even guilty of a conspiracy to steal the gold that was allegedly onboard. While aiming to avoid extravagancies, the movie presents the facts regarding this peculiar character and allows the viewer to draw his or her conclusions.

Juan Mas y Pi

This 38-year-old Spanish writer and journalist traveled with his wife in a First Class cabin after spending the summer with his mother in Barcelona. He was responsible for a special shipment that was destined to adorn the neighborhood of Palermo, in Buenos Aires: the last installment of statues that were ordered by the Spanish community of the city as a gift in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Independence of Argentina.

Rufino Onzaín y Urtiaga – 2nd Official

This Official was the highest-ranking survivor of the wreck and became one of the heroes in the moments after the sinking. Using the only lifeboat that survived the accident, he was able to almost single-handedly save over 60 lives. He was later awarded numerous awards for his bravery and the statements he delivered to the local press remain amongst the most credible pieces of evidence regarding the disaster.



PRÍNCIPE DE ASTURIAS

Genre: Drama

Production: Moonshot Pictures e Magma Cultural

Producers: Roberto d'Avila, Luiz Felipe Moura e Patrick Siaretta

Direction: TBD

Script: Newton Cannito

www.principedeasturias.com.br



moonshot@moonshot.com.br
55 11 3666-5776



rico@magma cultural.com.br
55 11 3168-6260