



(Inner) beauty will save the world.

QUEST FOR BEAUTY

A Film By Cris Saur



QUESTFORBEAUTY-MOVIE.COM

TAG LINE

Inner beauty will save the world

LOGLINE

When a model leaves an abusive relationship, she starts making a film about beauty that ends up saving her life.

SYNOPSIS

Our need to fit into a society, to be loved and accepted, create an abyss between who we really are and who we become.

Cris Saur, was bullied in school for being taller and skinnier than the rest of the girls, later became a model for the exact same features she was bullied for.

The pressure for the 'perfect look' left her with a very low self-esteem, and she only realized how damaged her self-esteem was after being physically abused by a former partner. Her distorted ideas of her role as a woman in our society, topped with her low self-esteem were the main reasons why she stayed so long in the abusive relationship. The abuse, followed by depression and panic attacks were the catalyst of her quest for beauty.



Quest for Beauty – a Film by Cris Saur





Out of fear, she got a restraining order and put all her stuff in storage and leaves on her journey of self-discovery and self-love.

Saur traveled the world - Brazil, US, Thailand, Cambodia, Australia, Japan, Russia, UK, Greece, Austria, France and Peru - and more importantly, within herself. She met with a yogi, philosophers, mathematician, fashion designer, therapist, top model and even a visually impaired woman, to understand beauty in a more meaningful manner.

Each one of the places and encounters with the many different experts is a small piece of a big puzzle. Saur starts to understand that there's something missing inside of her - self-love.

She packs her bags once again and heads to the jungle to partake in an Ayahuasca ceremony. During the 10 days she spent in the jungle with the indigenous people she learns how to peel off the layers society imposes on us, and she finally finds her essence. From this place of unconditional love, she was able to see her true beauty, the beauty that was always there, waiting to be awakened.

Once she learned how to accept and forgive herself, she learned how to fully love herself.



WHY MAKE THIS FILM?

Low self-esteem can create anxiety, stress, loneliness, and an increased likelihood of depression. It can cause problems with friendship and romantic relationship, also seriously impair academic and job performance, leading to vulnerability to drug and alcohol abuse. Studies have also shown a relation between domestic abuse and low self-esteem.

Low self-esteem is not yet a recognized mental illness, but it has a close relationship with mental health because it paves the way to some dreaded mental disorders.

The statistics on bully and suicide are alarming: suicide is the third leading cause of death among young people, resulting in about 4,400 death per year. For every suicide among young people, there are at least 100 suicide attempts. Over 14% of high school students have considered suicide, and almost 7% have attempted it.

Eating disorders have the highest mortality rate of any mental illness.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

When I worked as a model, I used to think a lot about the nature of beauty. The question, "What does it mean to be beautiful?" was always in my head. I wondered if beauty has to mean being young, skinny, and super-tall. Or having shiny hair and flawless skin. Is that it?

When I turned 30, I started freaking out. I was being told to lie about my age, that otherwise I'd never be cast for any jobs. I felt like a dairy product past my expiration date. Not even in my teen years I went through so much pressure and have my self-esteem pushed so low.

A couple of years went by, and one day my former partner called me "old." All those monsters came out of the closet and stood right in front of me, waiting for me to respond. That was the beginning of my quest, and I didn't even know it.

Two days after breaking up with my fiancé, I was back in Los Angeles, where I was invited to a special screening for the twentieth anniversary of *Forest Gump*. I will never forget the scene in which he writes a letter to Jane from the Vietnam War, saying how beautiful the place was and how wonderful the rain felt. Right then I thought to myself, "I need to make a film about this."

TEAM

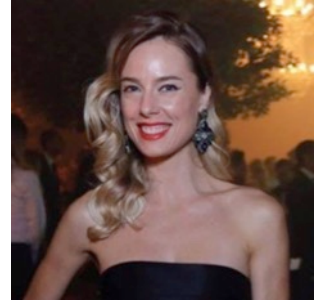
Cris Saur – Writer, Director, Producer, Editor

Born in Brazil with a background in civil engineering followed by over a decade working as a fashion model, but it was in filmmaking Saur found her passion. She studied filmmaking at Lee Strasberg in New York and shortly after moved to Los Angeles.

Her passion for film combined with activism led her to write, produce and direct a documentary about the Roger Federer Foundation's work in Africa called A Visit to Remember. The film won, Best Director, Best Film and Best Cinematography awards at the Women's Independent Film Festival.

Alexandra Rios – Producer, Editor, Animator

Born and raised in Brazil, Alexandra's work shows a unique package with a full understanding of bringing a story to life through artistry and technique. She has worked throughout the world directing campaigns for many prominent agencies and clients.



Anna Kolber – Producer

Anna has spent 12+ years working in film and TV productions in London, LA, Sweden and NYC. In recent years she has dedicated her life and career to only producing content that creates awareness, inspires people, has a social impact and contributes to making the world a better place.

She has held positions with global companies such as NewsCorps-Shine Group, All3Media, ITV, as well as founding Trublond Productions. She has worked on international formats 'Minute To Win It' (58 countries) and 'Swedish Hollywood Wives' (13 countries). She has worked on teams that have produced work including 'Bronson' starring Tom Hardy, and documentaries such as 'The Worskhop' by Jamie Morgan and 'Bread Head' by Max Lugavere. Her commercial credits include Apple iPhone, GMC and Dior to name a few.



Ondine Rarey – Editor

Ondine is a filmmaker and editor. Her mockumentary A PORTRAIT OF FEMALE DESPERATION was the recipient of six film festival awards. Her documentary FOOLS AND HEROES was nominated for a Grimme-Preis (the German equivalent of an Emmy), aired on PBS, and was an official selection at the Mill Valley Film Festival. She has edited over a dozen documentary features and shorts, including NOW EN ESPAÑOL for PBS and MY CHILD: MOTHERS OF WAR, which received the “Director’s Choice Award” at Cinequest Film Festival and “Best Documentary” at LA Femme Film Festival. She has edited on multiple TV series, including ALIEN ENCOUNTERS and KEEPING UP WITH THE KARDASHIANS. Ondine received a BA from UC Berkeley in History and a BFA in Documentary and Journalism from the Munich University for Television and Film in Germany. She currently resides in Los Angeles.



MAIN CREDITS

Anis Films Presets

'Quest for Beauty'

A Special Thank You to the participants:

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