



247 centre street floor 2 nyc ny 10013
p 212.274.1989 • f 212.274.1644 • <http://www.zeitgeistfilms.com/DVDpressroom>
For home media requests contact Elizabeth McKee at elizabeth@zeitgeistfilms.com

THE TRUTH BEHIND THE MOST SENSATIONAL SURVIVAL STORY OF OUR TIME: ZEITGEIST BOWS DOC "STRANDED" ON DVD

New York (February 17, 2009) — Playing to widespread critical acclaim during its theatrical release in sixty markets last fall, **STRANDED** is the unforgettable story of the infamous Andes plane crash, previously documented in the **worldwide bestseller *Alive* (and the film adaptation starring Ethan Hawke)**. As told by the survivors themselves and directed by **DGA Award nominee Gonzalo Arijón**, this shocking true story finally gets the cinematic treatment it deserves.

A stunner at last year's **Sundance Film Festival** as well as recipient of **awards at the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam and the Sarasota, San Francisco, Boulder, Guadalajara and Banff Film Festivals**, this powerful documentary **comes to DVD on April 28, 2009**.

On October 13, 1972, a young rugby team called "The Old Christians" from Montevideo, Uruguay, boarded a plane for a match in Chile—and then vanished into thin air. Two days before Christmas, 16 of the 45 passengers miraculously resurfaced. They had managed to survive for 72 days after their plane crashed on a remote Andean glacier. Thirty-five years later, the survivors returned to the crash site—known as the Valley of Tears—to recount in their own words their harrowing story of defiant endurance, intense spirituality, and indestructible friendship.

Director and childhood friend of the survivors Gonzalo Arijón crafts a masterful combination of on-location interviews, archival footage and impressionistic reenactments filmed on 16mm by Oscar-nominated cinematographer César Charlone (***City of God***). (Incredibly, Charlone was a classmate of the survivors and was originally scheduled to be on the fateful flight, but a delayed transfer from Brazil prevented him from boarding.) Giving a loving ear to the survivors' intimate accounts of their extraordinary experience, Arijón delivers a hauntingly powerful and spiritually moving celebration of humanity.

Zeitgeist's DVD of **STRANDED** features a **16:9 anamorphic transfer, formatted for widescreen televisions**. Supplemental materials include **"The Making of *Stranded*"**: a 52-minute featurette with **behind-the-scenes** footage of the cast and crew, and **additional interviews** with the crash survivors; the U.S. theatrical trailer; optional English subtitles; and a **statement from director Gonzalo Arijón**.

STRANDED Film/DVD info: 2008 • 126 minutes • France • Color and B&W • In Spanish with English subtitles • 1.78:1 original theatrical aspect ratio • Not Rated • Cat. No. Z1113 • UPC 795975111331 • SRP \$29.99

Celebrating its 20th Anniversary as one of America's preeminent independent distributors, New York-based Zeitgeist Films has built an impressively diverse catalogue of foreign, documentary and arthouse titles by such renowned directors as Todd Haynes, Jan Svankmajer, Peter Greenaway, Abbas Kiarostami, Guy Maddin, Kirby Dick, Atom Egoyan, Agnès Varda, François Ozon, Derek Jarman, Yvonne Rainer, Olivier Assayas, Philippe Garrel and the Quay Brothers. Recent releases include Oscar winner *Nowhere in Africa*; blockbuster doc *The Corporation*; dance doc hit *Ballets Russes*; Oscar nominee *Sophie Scholl—The Final Days*; Oscar nominee *My Country, My Country*; Sundance winner *Into Great Silence*; Caméra d'Or winner *Jellyfish*; and 2008 Golden Gate Award winner *Up the Yangtze*. Launched in 2001, Zeitgeist Video has released dozens of highly praised DVDs, including the recently-released remastered Two-Disc Collector's Edition of Quay Brothers shorts, entitled PHANTOM MUSEUMS; a Four-Disc Box Set of Derek Jarman masterworks entitled GLITTERBOX, starring Oscar winner Tilda Swinton (*Michael Clayton*); and an Essential Edition of Olivier Assayas' cult fave *Irma Vep* starring Maggie Cheung.



247 centre street floor 2 nyc ny 10013
p 212.274.1989 • f 212.274.1644 • <http://www.zeitgeistfilms.com/DVDpressroom>
For home media requests contact Elizabeth McKee at elizabeth@zeitgeistfilms.com

CRITICAL ACCLAIM FOR *STRANDED*

"An exceptional film, at once disturbing and elevating, deliberate yet powerful. It takes a story that we all think we know, one of the 20th century's most familiar tales of resilience and survival, and demonstrates that we haven't really known it at all." —Kenneth Turan, *The Los Angeles Times*

"Mortal terror is outweighed by an overwhelming sense of wonder, and personal discovery, as a ferocious will to live, not only for themselves but for one another, propels [the survivors] to perform superhuman feats while exhausted and near starvation... You may find yourself on the verge of tears."
—Stephen Holden, *The New York Times* (Critic's Pick!)

"Intimate, terrifying, and positively riveting.... *Stranded* is the most optimistic film about human nature I have seen in years." —Andrew O'Hehir, *Salon*

"Can you call a movie 'feel-good' if it includes an aviation disaster, a deadly avalanche, and human cannibalism? That's the paradox of the grueling yet ultimately exhilarating *Stranded*."
—Ty Burr, *The Boston Globe*

"It takes a great deal of artistic courage and ability to treat this topic with such delicacy."
—*Slant Magazine*

"Riveting... *Stranded* manages to avoid exploitation while still conveying the harrowing ordeal of its subjects." —*New York Magazine* (Critic's Pick!)

"A magnificent achievement: a true nonfiction epic that makes its predecessors seem puny."
—John Hartl, *The Seattle Times*

"Thoughtful and meditative... the anti-sensationalist antidote to the Hollywood version."
—*San Francisco Bay Guardian*

"Any account of the courage and determination of these men... would be stunning enough but it is all the more overwhelming when we hear the story from the survivors themselves."
—Stanley Kauffmann, *The New Republic*

"Ultimately, *Stranded* is about good people surviving with dignity and decency through the worst that can be imagined. Could there be a more appropriate film for the times we live in now?"
—*Film Journal International*

"It is just about impossible not to get caught up in this absolutely incredible story of survival and human tenacity." —*New York Observer*

"It's no exaggeration to say that Gonzalo Arijón 's *Stranded* is the definitive version.... Arijón 's interviews are well-shot, framing the survivors against clear blue skies, and his re-enactments never detract from those survivors' articulate, poetic reminiscences." —*Onion AV Club*

"What the survivors reveal about their experiences offers unique light on what it means to be human.... *Stranded* is a powerful meditation on life and death, on why taboos matter, and why they are not always absolute." —*National Catholic Register*