

## Statement

My work is a constant search for the best way to interpret the ideas that I have about myself and the world I live in. Without the ability to update an idea or concept, art would not exist. In my viewpoint it is necessary to explore new ways of storytelling. Art changes. Life changes. Times change. I firmly believe that past, present, and future are somehow interconnected. I like to integrate the paradox of the seen and the unseen worlds in each piece I create. There is much more around us than what we see. Gazes, smells, silences, and subtexts are key ingredients of my work. Such unseen world is embedded in our DNA and reminds us who we are. My career is summed up in stories that deal with the weaker sex —yes, you guessed right: male sex. In my personal opinion we men are not Marvel superheroes nor do we pretend to be, but rather something similar to the specter of Woody Allen trying to get afloat. I think that we men need to reinvent ourselves after the amazing empowerment of women. My male characters are far from the *alpha-male* stereotypes that conventional cinema sells us, and they live extreme situations, often in dark or parallel worlds. As an “Euroafrican” guy born and raised between Europe and Africa, I have often found myself in the position of an outside observer. However, I believe that we artists must contemplate ourselves from the humility of being part of the environment instead of doing it from the superiority of the observer. I never take myself seriously. All the virtues and defects of my characters coexist inside of me and therefore I try to approach them without prejudice. In addition, I collect visual and other sensorial experiences from varied sources driven by a curiosity for things which are unfamiliar to me. My films and books provide the viewer and the reader with questions rather than with answers. I work to represent the meeting of art and life. I classify myself as a craft artist who tries to match art and life. If a viewer or a reader stops for just a moment to reflect on a piece I have created, then I will have succeeded in my work. This is me, this is my passion, and this is my way of telling stories.

**Liteo Pedregal**