



Accion Mutante

Alex de la Iglesia

Spain/France, 1993

95 minutes ■ Colour/35mm
 Production Company: **El Deseo, S.A./CiBy 2000**
 Executive Producer: **Agustin Almodóvar**
 Producer: **Esther Garcia**
 Screenplay: **Alex de la Iglesia, Jorge Guerricaechevarria**
 Cinematography: **Carlos Gusi**
 Editor: **Pablo Blanco**
 Art Director: **Jose Luis Arrizabalaga**
 Costume Designer: **Estibaliz Marquiegui**
 Music: **Juan Carlos Cuello - ADV, Def con Dos, Maisa Hens, Pedro Sánchez, Anónimos**
 Principal Cast: **Antonio Resines, Frédérique Feder, Alex Angulo, Juan Viadas, Saturnino Garcia, Fernando Guillén, Enrique San Francisco**
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Cyberpunk splatter meets Almodóvarian camp. The result is Alex de la Iglesia's outrageous and charmingly vile thriller, *Accion Mutante*. At once skewering the Spanish bourgeoisie and finding a convenient excuse for blowing people's heads off with elaborately constructed guns, de la Iglesia reclaims the dystopic epic as an ultra-fast-paced, blood-soaked merry dance through a not-so-distant future.

It's the year 2012. Beauty and style have replaced justice and truth as society's guiding principles. Only one group, *Accion Mutante*, a renegade group of genetic malformations and handicapped exiles, fights against the evil designer titans.

Although quiet for some years, the group is planning its biggest action yet. Their leader, Ramon, is released from prison with a new master plan: they will kidnap Patricia Orujo, heir to a whole-wheat bread empire, on her wedding day. After a violent and bloody shootout, they manage to take Patricia captive and inform her family that a vast ransom must be delivered to The Lost Mine bar on the distant planet of Axturias.

Tensions fray in the *Accion Mutante* spaceship and total civil war ensues, until the vessel crash lands in the harsh Axturias desert. As the various characters race to the legendary bar, only fate will determine who will live and who will die.

Made with the involvement of Pedro and Augustin Almodovar, *Accion Mutante* shares their love of absurd humour and edgy gender politics. It is simply a wild, very funny sci-fi extravaganza, with spectacular costumes, unbelievable effects and the coolest six-shooter ever to grace the planet Earth.

■ *Noah Cowan*

Alex de la Iglesia

was born in Bilbao, Spain in 1965. After studying philosophy at the University of Bilbao (where he and his friends set up the Film Society and published a number of magazines and comics), de la Iglesia was a collaborator on several television programmes and directed one short film, *Mirindas Asesinas*. *Accion Mutante* (93) is his first feature film.