

Client: Revolver Entertainment
Source: The Guardian (Film and Music)
Date: 26 June 2009
Page: 16
Circulation: 346755
Size: 123cm2
AVE: 1114.38



First sight Cary Fukunaga

Who is he?

A 31 year-old American director who got into some hairy scrapes researching his debut film, Sin Nombre (out on 14 August), a social drama tracing the treacherous route north taken by Central Americans fleeing to the US.

Hairy? How?

Well, it all went a bit method. After speaking to migrants, gangs and traffickers in prison, Fukunaga decided to make the trip himself. He was riding on top of a freight train in Mexico when it was attacked by bandits. Luckily, he emerged unscathed.

All very heroic, but do we need another border saga?

Fukunaga is more interested in what happens before the US/Mexico crossing. He interweaves the stories of two would-be teenage migrants: a Honduran



girl (Paulina Gaitan) and a boy, El Casper (Edgar Flores), who is on the run from gang life in Mexico. It's in Spanish with English subtitles.

This is beginning to sound like poverty porn.

Precisely what he wanted to steer clear of, says Fukunaga. And, to be fair, Sin Nombre looks completely different from the likes of City of God. There's none of that jumpy camerawork, for a start. It's gorgeously shot, and both Fukunaga and his cinematographer picked up awards at Sundance.

What's next?

Something totally different: a musical with Beirut's Zach Condon and Owen Pallett of Final Fantasy and Arcade Fire: "I haven't cracked it yet, because my thing is, I don't really like musicals."

Cath Clarke