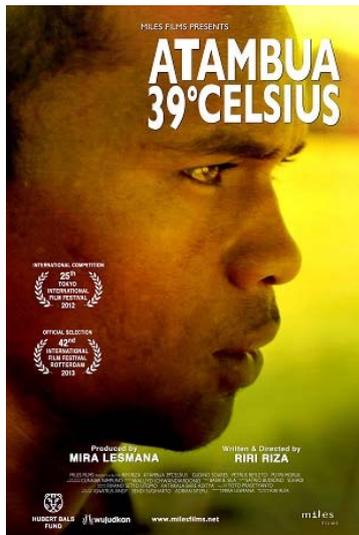


## SYNOPSIS



*“A Father, A son and A Stranger cross path in a place where the heat of the sun can either burn or warmth old wounds”*

Atambuea, Timor, today. Ronaldo Bautista, 47 years old, starts work before the break of dawn; He’s an inter-city bus driver. Joao, his teenage son, has been separated from his mother since the East Timor referendum 10 years ago. Joao, distant from his father, is happier being outside home and school. Until a young girl, Nikia Dos Santos, returns to Atambuea from Kupang because of her grandfather’s death. Teenage Joao is drawn to Nikia, but doesn’t know how to express his feelings.

Caught drunk at work, Ronaldo loses his job and subsequently enters jail as the result of a dispute in a local pool house. At the same time, Nikia flees back to Kupang after Joao tries to express his feelings to her with an uncontrollable sexual desire. Joao is devastated. He seeks a way to earn some money—to get his father out of jail and leave Atambuea to search for Nikia in Kupang. Ronaldo comes home to an empty house. In his son’s room he finds cassettes of his wife’s voice which Joao had often listened to. Hearing those tapes again makes Ronaldo realize that he has lost the same thing. Meanwhile in Kupang, Joao is faced with the reality of Nikia’s tragic life. Ronaldo, Joao and Nikia grapple with the pain of old wounds. One of them is now given a chance to save the others.

## Director Profile



RIRI RIZA has the uncanny ability to tell stories with an artistic approach and the courage to explore films. Under his direction, a number of feature films have enriched the world of Indonesian cinema, each was made in precision -without leaving behind artistic and cultural value, or even visual aesthetics- in order to deliver quality and entertaining shows. No wonder his works are enjoyed, even valued, both at home and abroad.

His film LASKAR PELANGI (The Rainbow Troops), released last September 2008, is a phenomenal success, breaking the record as Indonesia's biggest box office film and is an official selection at the prestigious Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2009, while his latest film “ATAMBUEA 39° CELSIUS” had its world premiere at Tokyo International Film Festival in October 2012.