

Laskar Pelangi

(The Rainbow Troops)

Released In Theaters : September 25, 2008
Production Company : MILES Films & Mizan Productions
Producer : Mira Lesmana
Director : Riri Riza
Scriptwriter : Salman Aristo
Co-Writers : Mira Lesmana & Riri Riza
Duration : 124 minutes
Genre : Drama
Language/Subtitle : Bahasa Indonesia/English
Originally Shot On : 35 mm
Color / B&W : Color
Sound : Dolby Digital
Film Website : www.laskarpelangithemovie.com

CASTS

Cut Mini as Muslimah
Zulfani as Ikal
Ferdian as Lintang
Veris Yamarno as Mahar
Ikranagara as Harfan

MILES Films

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Laskar Pelangi

Synopsis

Laskar Pelangi (The Rainbow Troops), is a film adaptation of Andrea Hirata's literary work that first appeared on shelves in 2004, based on his childhood memories.

Set in the Sumatran island of Belitung, the film opens with the adult returning to his birthplace after a number of years away. From there it flashes back his first day at school, with two teachers -- Muslimah and Harfan -- who have been eagerly waiting for students to enroll at their decrepit Islamic primary school. Since the district school board had already declared that their little school must close if it didn't meet the ten-student minimum, this particular day is obviously a nervous affair for both teachers.

Fortunately, ten students (mostly children of poor laborers) do sign up, forming a little enclave of first-graders christened with a titular moniker by Muslimah. Besides Ikal, the eclectic group comprises an assortment of characters (named by Muslimah as the rainbow troops) -- mainly Lintang, a fisherman's son who turns out to be a genius and Mahar, a musically obsessed dreamer who is never without a radio by his side. Five years pass, and the majority of the film takes place in the student's fateful fifth grade, chronicling the ups and downs of the Rainbow Troops through the eyes of young Ikal.

The film sensitively captures the struggles of marginalized citizens to achieve their dreams, the beauty of friendship and its ability to save humanity, against the background of what was once one of Indonesia's richest island.

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Pelaskar Pelangi

Director's Note

Ever since I was a young boy my parents have been telling me that my country is rich with its natural resources, wealthy to the bone, and I believe every single bit of this. However, growing up, this belief becomes rather disturbing. In many places in this country I could see with my own eyes how poverty grows with every seconds passing by, and I couldn't help myself asking *why*. How could this be happening to the biggest island country in the world? Could the abundant fortune we are blessed with are actually misfortunes cursed for misery?

Allow yourself to ask those questions in this story of The Rainbow Troops, the irony clouding the marginalized citizens, depicted by a group of impoverished children of Belitong, an island rich with natural resources located in the Sumatras.

I can feel for Ikal (the main character of The Rainbow Troops), and I'm also distressed by his concerns. In my ears, the film sings verses of a bittersweet symphony. It is filled with the passion to narrate honestly, vividly, the will to extract the best out of layers of agonies. It expresses hope.

Riri Riza , 2008

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Pelaskar Pelangi

Producer

Mira Lesmana

Miles Films

Pangeran Antasari 17

Cipete – Jakarta 12410

Indonesia

Co Producer

Putut Widjanarko/Gangsar Sukrisno

Mizan Productions

Puri Mutiara Raya No 7

Cipete – Jakarta 12430

Indonesia

Casts List

Cut Mini	as	Muslimah
Zulfani	as	Ikal
Ferdian	as	Lintang
Veris Yamarno	as	Mahar
Ikranagara	as	Harfan

Technical Credits

Director	: Riri Riza
Producer	: Mira Lesmana
Screen Writer	: Salman Aristo
Co-Writers	: Mira Lesmana & Riri Riza
Line Producer	: Toto Prasetyanto
Executive Producers	: Bakhtiar Rakhman & Haidar Bagir
Co - Producers	: Putut Widjanarko & Gangsar Sukrisno
Associate Producer	: Avesina Soebli
Director Of Photography	: Yadi Sugandi
Art Director	: Eros Eflin
Editor	: W. IchwandiarDono
Sound	: Dwi Budi & Satrio Budiono
Music Score	: Aksan & Titi Sjuman

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Pelaskar Pelangi

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