

NERE PAGOLA

Bideogilea

Zine ikasketak egitera joan zen Nere Pagola donostiarra New Yorkera 1996an. Hasiera batean itzultzeko hegazkin biletea ere eraman zuen bere motxilan baina zorte handia izan zuen hara iritsi orduko: Gipuzkoako Foru Aldundiak beka eman zion eta urtero zozkatzen den Bizitegi Karta tokatu zitzaion. Beraz, han dabil oraindik ere, itzulpen lanak eta dokumentalak tartekatuz.



«New York is a city that's full of energy»

Nere Pagola landed in New York in 1996 with only \$2000 in her pocket and a return ticket. Her idea was to learn more about filmmaking and to live in a new environment. That summer she was awarded a grant from the Provincial Government of Gipuzkoa, and had a stroke of luck: She won the US Immigration Bureau's annual green card lottery, highly coveted by so many people living in the USA.

"My situation has changed a lot since then," said the Donostia-born 30-something living in New York. "For the first three years I studied production, and specialized in documentaries. I made a couple of short films and work on no-budget projects. I worked wherever I could, since the grant money wasn't enough to cover all of my study expenses." But in 1998 she managed to sell a documentary report project to

Canal+, through Igeldo Komunikazioa. The experience turned out to be good but exhausting: the budget was very low and the team limited. However, she managed to finish the project, which she herself created, produced, directed and edited. "I submitted new projects which were approved, but never got around to being made."

Somewhat tired from all her efforts, Nere Pagola began working for different publishing houses: "That's what I do now. In the past six years I've worked for some of the leading American publishers, including McGraw-Hill, Scott Foresman, Prentice May and Pearson, which are the ones that produce large-scale educational programs in Spanish. I've done all types of work: translate, edit, proofread, and, most recently, I've been working as a project manager, which I

enjoy because it has a lot in common with film production."

But she hasn't gotten rid of the movie and video bug, and all this time she's tried to keep abreast of the latest on the subject. Currently she is putting together mini-reports on cultural and current events for "La hora wiki" produced by Canal+, while also scheming up new projects. "I'm preparing a documentary to do in New York and I have an idea for another one which would be made in Donostia." Nere is anxious to get back to her home town.

"I keep setting dates, but then I put them off because NY is a hard place to leave. This city is full of energy. There's always something going on and you end up having the most amazing experiences. I feel like it's changed me or that it allowed me to be something I could never have been back home."



JULIAN IANTZI

Host with ETB

Euskal Telebistako zenbait programetako aurkezle da eta aurpegi ezaguna egin da Euskal Herriko etxeetan. Egun, "Basetxea Taberna" saioa gidatzen ari da baina beste proiektu batzuk ere baditu eskuartean. Beti ere telebista alorrean, azken urteotako lanbide bihurtu den telebistan. Ameriketara jaio zen Iantzi, Kalifornian, eta zortzi urte zituela itzuli zen Lesakara bere familiarekin batera. Joan etorriko bidaia egin zuten Iantzitarrek baina, oraindik ere, izaba-osabak eta lehengusuak dituzte itsasoaren beste aldean.

Between two continents

Up close Julian Iantzi is just like the guy we see on Euskal Telebista. We might say he plays his own character, or none at all, both on and off camera. He's optimistic, adventurous, jovial and talkative. Very talkative. With the same effusiveness and enthusiasm he shows on screen, he tells us in full detail what it meant to grow up in Woodland, California. This is the story of a boy from Lesaka, Navarra, who took a round trip journey. "People are always surprised when I tell them I was born in California. They always say 'Oh, so, you're a foreigner?' And I say foreigner, no, just born somewhere else. Then they tell me how they could tell I wasn't from here because I'm tall and blonde. I always laugh because I'm the son of Angel Iantzi and Txelo Mitxelena, born and raised in Lesaka and about as

Basque as they come." The story of the Iantzi family and their American journey began many years ago, when Julian's father decided to go to the United States to work as a shepherd. He was there for 23 years, 13 as a shepherd and another ten working on a ranch. While he was there he married his sweetheart from Lesaka and they had three children, two sons and a daughter, all born in California. "We lived in Dixon, but our hearts were always here, because my parents never gave up the idea of coming back."

The decision to return to Lesaka was not easy because at that time there was a lot of money in shepherding; it was hard work but compared to the salaries in Euskadi at the time, the money was good. "My father always said that you could buy an apartment

here with the money you made in a year there." A important factor in deciding to come back was the fact that a large part of the family was in Lesaka and the children were school age. "My mother thought that once the kids became rooted in the United States it would be much harder because we wouldn't want to leave."

The family moved back to Lesaka, but changing schools was far from easy for Julian. "I spoke English and at home we spoke Euskara. I had a hard time because the teacher insisted I speak perfect Spanish, and she wasn't willing to help me at all." When they lived in California the Iantzi family was immersed in a Basque-speaking environment. The Euskal Etxeak played a pivotal role in their lives, providing them with virtually all of their social activities. "We did everything in Basque and with Basques – in Dixon, at the fronton in San Francisco, at different families' homes

For the past four years Julian Iantzi has been a familiar face on television. His wife encouraged him to audition for casting representatives from Euskal Telebista; but his first break actually came from the local Pamplona TV station, Canal4, where he worked on a program for a year. He has hosted several programs for Basque and Spanish TV, but it was with ETB that he became known to Basque audiences with on programs including "Basetxea," "Bergia gose," "Sorginen Laratza," "La flecha amarilla," "El conquistador del fin del mundo" and special gala events. Julian has also had the opportunity to host a series of programs on the life of Basque communities in the United States, as well as interviewing well-known researchers such as the Bieter family and representatives of different Euskal Etxeak, and narrate the life of several generations of Basques in the USA ... including the journey there and back of his own family.