

## **Marco Bechis - Biography**

A director, screenwriter and producer, Marco Bechis's films have an international reputation. He was born in Santiago de Chile, to a mother whose background was French-Swiss, and an Italian father. His early years were spent in Sao Paolo and Buenos Aires, and on 19 April 1977, aged twenty, he was arrested and detained in a secret prison known as "Club Atletico". Deported from Argentina for political reasons, he ended up in Milan in the same year. He has spent long periods of time in New York, Los Angeles and Paris. He had a varied career before becoming involved in cinema: he was an elementary school teacher in Buenos Aires from 1975-1977, and a Polaroid and video artist in New York from 1978 to 1980. In 1981 he attended the Albedo film school in Milan. In 1982, in Milan, he made "Desaparecidos, dove sono?" ("Where are the Disappeared?"), a video installation about a concentration camp in Argentina, from which, several years later, he drew the material for his film *Garage Olimpo*. And then he entered the world of cinema. His films have won 22 international awards.