



Twelve Letter Films &  
Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism  
present:

## Los Lecheros

### Undocumented in America's Dairyland

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The fates of undocumented immigrant workers and Wisconsin's \$43 billion dairy industry are closely intertwined – and both are grappling with their options for survival as fears of ICE raids and deportations under the Trump administration grow.

Genre .....	Documentary Short
Running time.....	21 min
Year .....	2017
Language.....	English, Spanish with Subtitles
Country of Origin .....	United States
Format .....	1920 x 1080, 24 fps, Sound 5.1
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Website .....	www.twelveletterfilms.com
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# Los Lecheros - Synopsis

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After sixteen years working on a Wisconsin dairy farm, Miguel Hernandez packs up his family and heads back to Mexico. They can no longer live in fear of deportation. Guillermo Ramos, who manages a 1,000-cow farm nearby, resigns himself to staying on and living under the threat of an immigration raid. How else will he feed his family? Immigrants make up over half of U.S. dairy workers. Many Wisconsin farmers, like John Rosenow, insist that immigrants are critical to the success of the state's \$43 billion dairy industry. John is fighting to protect his undocumented employees and weighing his limited options if they leave or are deported.



In 17 years, I've never seen a person who was born here come in and say to my boss, "I'm looking for a job. I want to milk cows."

-Guillermo Ramos



If ICE came in here and checked my employees and found they were undocumented ... I wouldn't be able to farm anymore. It would just about kill me.

-John Rosenow



We are not legally in this country. We just come to work. We are not bad people.

-Miguel Hernandez



We are going back to Mexico...but I really feel for everyone who's staying.

-Luisa Tepole

*photo credits: Coburn Dukehart*

# Los Lecheros - Credits

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## Crew

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Director                    Jim Cricchi  
Producers                 Jim Cricchi  
                                  Coburn Dukehart  
                                  Alexandra Hall  
                                  Andy Hall  
                                  Susan Peters  
Story by                    Alexandra Hall  
Cinematographer         Jim Cricchi  
Editor                      Jim Cricchi  
Music by                    Rick Brown  
                                  Che Chen  
                                  Andrew Lafkas  
                                  Steve Maing

## Featuring

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Guillermo Ramos Bravo  
Rep. Bob Gannon  
Miguel Hernandez  
Christine Neumann-Ortiz  
John Rosenow  
Luisa Tepole

## About the Director

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Jim Cricchi has been an editor for twenty years, working on documentaries (*Bedlam*, *One Big Home*), feature films (*Milarepa*, *I Do and I Don't*), television (*Vice on HBO*, *60 Minutes*) and short films for The Criterion Collection and The New York Times. In 2000 he directed the award-winning fiction feature *Gasoline Rainbows*. *Los Lecheros* is his first documentary as director.



# Los Lecheros – Festival Selections & Honors

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- Mountainfilm, Telluride May 2018
- Julien Dubuque International Film Festival April 2018
- AmDocs, Palm Springs April 2018
- Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival April 2018
- Wisconsin Film Festival April 2018
- Salem Film Fest March 2018
- Green Mountain Film Festival, Vermont March 2018
- Martha's Vineyard Film Festival March 2018
- San Diego Latino Film Festival March 2018
- Durango Independent Film Festival March 2018
- Big Sky Documentary Film Festival February 2018
- DOC NYC November 2017
- Meet the Press/AFI Festival November 2017
  
- Regional Edward R. Murrow Award for  
Best News Documentary April 2018

# Los Lecheros - Poster

