



Matias Varela

Matias Varela has become a defining force in film and TV, with work spanning Sweden, Europe, and Hollywood. He moves effortlessly between character-driven projects and global blockbusters, bringing grounded intensity and emotional depth to every role he portrays.

Varela first gained widespread attention for his role as Jorge in the *Easy Money* films (2010–2013), a breakthrough that earned him two Guldbagge nominations and established him as a major talent, leaving a lasting mark on Swedish cinema.

From there, Varela carved an international path, leading to a main role in season three of the Netflix mega-hit *Narcos* (2017), where he portrayed Jorge Salcedo, a complex insider within the Cali Cartel. His performance was hailed by critics as “outstanding,” “excellent,” and “the show’s stealth star.”

Other notable credits include the HBO series *Raised by Wolves* (2020–2022), produced by Ridley Scott, the international historical drama *The Borgias* (2013), the acclaimed Swedish financial thriller series *Fartblinda* (2019–2022), and the praised feature film *438 Days* (2019), which earned him another Guldbagge nomination. He also stars in the lauded Spanish series *Hierro* (2021), further showcasing his range across languages and cultures.

At the 2026 Guldbagge Awards, Varela received his fourth nomination, for his role in *The Dance Club* (2025), reaffirming his status as one of Sweden’s most renowned actors.

Details

Birth: 1980

Language: Spanish, Swedish, English, Portuguese (conversational)

Height: 177

Eyes: Brown

Hair: Dark Brown

Awards

Guldbagge Award Nominee (Best Supporting Actor) Sweden - <i>The Dance Club</i>	2026
Kristallen Award Nominee (Best Actor) Sweden - <i>Fartblinda Blinded</i>	2020
Guldbagge Award Nominee (Best Actor) Sweden - <i>438 dagar 438 Days</i>	2020
Guldbagge Award Nominee (Best Actor) Sweden - <i>Snabba cash - Livet deluxe Easy Money III: Life Deluxe</i>	2014
Guldbagge Award Nominee (Best Actor) Sweden - <i>Snabba cash II Easy Money II: Hard to Kill</i>	2013

Filmography

Mirror (Feature film, Scandinavian Studios) Dir. Todor Chapkanov (Drama)	2026
The Dance Club (Feature film, Meta Film Stockholm) Dir. Lisa Langseth (Comedy, Romance)	2025
Stockholm Bloodbath (Feature film, Nordisk Film) Dir. Mikael Håfström (Action, Comedy, History, War)	2023
Raised by Wolves (TV Series, HBO Max) Dir. Alex Gabassi (Drama, Fantasy, Sci-Fi, Thriller)	2020 - 2022
Fartblinda Blinded (TV Series, C More) Dir. Jens Jonsson (Drama, Thriller)	2019 - 2022
Hierro (TV Series, Movistar Plus+) Dir. Jorge Coira (Crime, Mystery, Thriller)	2019 - 2022
Narcos: Mexico (TV Series, Gaumont International Television) Dir. Andrés Baiz (Biography, Crime, Drama, Thriller)	2020
Heavy Heavy (Feature film, JoBro Productions & Film Finance) Dir. Jouri Smit (Drama)	2019
438 dagar 438 Days (Feature film, Film i Väst) Dir. Jesper Ganslandt (Drama, Thriller)	2019
Narcos (TV Series, Netflix) Dir. Andrés Baiz (Biography, Crime, Drama, Thriller)	2017
Assassin's Creed (Feature film, Regency Enterprises) Dir. Justin Kurzel (Action, Adventure, Sci-Fi)	2016
Point Break (Feature film, Alcon Entertainment) Dir. Ericson Core (Action, Adventure, Crime, Sport, Thriller)	2015
Boys (TV Series, Nordisk Film Production) Dir. Olof Leth (Comedy, Drama)	2015
Ettor nollor The Fat and the Angry (TV Mini-Series, Göta Film) Dir. Johan Renck (Crime, Drama, Thriller)	2014
Snabba cash - Livet deluxe Easy Money III: Life Deluxe (Feature film, Tre Vänner Produktion) Dir. Jens Jonsson (Crime, Drama, Thriller)	2013
The Borgias (TV Series, Showtime Networks) Dir. Neil Jordan (Crime, Drama, History, Romance)	2013

Fjällbackamorden: I betraktarens öga The Fjällbacka Murders: In the Eye of the Beholder (TV Movie, Tre Vänner Produktion) Dir. Jörgen Bergmark (Crime, Thriller)	2012
Player (TV Short, Malini Productions) Dir. Olof Leth (Drama, Romance, Short)	2012
Arne Dahl: Ont blod Arne Dahl: Bad Blood (TV Mini-Series, Filmlance International AB) Dir. Mani Maserrat-Agah (Crime, Drama)	2012
Snabba cash II Easy Money II: Hard to Kill (Feature film, Tre Vänner Produktion) Dir. Phillip Argeadson (Action, Crime, Drama, Thriller)	2012
Arne Dahl: Europa Blues (TV Mini-Series, Filmlance International AB) Dir. Niklas Ohlson (Crime, Drama, Mystery)	2012
Arne Dahl: De största vatten (TV Mini-Series, Filmlance International AB) Dir. Tova Magnusson (Crime, Drama, Mystery)	2012
Arne Dahl: Upp till toppen av berget (TV Mini-Series, Filmlance International AB) Dir. Jörgen Bergmark (Crime, Drama)	2012
Arne Dahl: Misterioso Arne Dahl: The Blinded Man (TV Mini-Series, Filmlance International AB) Dir. Harald Hamrell (Crime, Drama, Mystery)	2011
En gång i Phuket Once Upon a Time in Phuket (Feature film, Film i Väst) Dir. Staffan Lindberg (Comedy, Romance)	2011
Covert Affairs (TV Series, Hypnotic) Dir. Stephen Kay (Action, Crime, Drama, Mystery, Thriller)	2011
Snabba Cash Easy Money (Feature film, Tre Vänner Produktion) Dir. Daniel Espinosa (Action, Crime, Drama, Thriller)	2010
Kompissnack Paltalk (TV Short, Tolomi Productions) Dir. Shahriyar Latifzadeh (Drama, Short)	2008
Storm Storm (Feature film, Breidablick Film) Dir. Måns Mårilind (Drama, Fantasy, Mystery, Thriller)	2006
Stockholm Boogie (Feature film, Sweet Junior) Dir. Johan Lindgren (Comedy, Drama)	2005

Fröken Sverige Miss Sweden (*Feature film, Film i Väst*) Dir. Tova Magnusson (*Drama*) 2004

Nya Tider (*TV Series, Jarowskij*) Dir. Bengt Bauler (*Drama*) 2000