

XI RECENT SPANISH CINEMA 2004

Presented in collaboration with: the Ministerio de Educacion, Deporte y Cultura, SGAE, Fundación Autor, ICEX - Instituto Español de Comercio Exterior, EGEDA.

Continues March 2-14, 2004

ROGUE GENIUS: AN ORSON WELLES RETROSPECTIVE

Sponsored by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association
Continues through March 31, 2004

BRAVE NEW AUTEUR: A RETROSPECTIVE TRIBUTE TO LARS VON TRIER

March 16 - 28, 2004

Beginning with an auspicious series of award-winning student films in the early 1980's, Danish director Lars von Trier's career swiftly took flight and caught the attention of audiences and critics worldwide. His debut feature, *THE ELEMENT OF CRIME*, made a notable splash at the Cannes Film Festival, and a string of astonishing and important film and television works followed. Acclaimed for his mastery of unsettling melodramatic tension, raw character-driven emotion, and bold visual style, von Trier has situated himself as a major force in contemporary cinema - not only for his own films, but also for the visionary Dogme95 manifesto, which he co-authored with Thomas Vinterberg.

We are very pleased to present a retrospective tribute to Lars von Trier, featuring a special sneak preview of his latest film *DOGVILLE* (to be released theatrically on March 26th by Lions Gate Films).

Series compiled by Dennis Bartok, Gwen Deglise and John Palmer.

MOVIES NOT AVAILABLE ON VIDEO

March 26 - 28, 2004

To put this series together, we went to the experts: managers and employees at local video stores, who shared with us their customers' (and their own) personal want-lists of movies not legally, commercially available on video or DVD. The program runs the gamut of hard-to-see treasures, from 1930's Howard Hawks films, to 1940's film noir classics, to lost gems from the late 60's and early 70's. Our enormous thanks to the following people for helping to program this series: Meg Johnson at Vidiot's and Hadrian Belove at Cinefile Video in Santa Monica; Jeff Miller at Rocket Video in Hollywood; Jerry Neeley at Jerry's Video in Los Feliz. Series compiled by Chris D. and Dennis Bartok.

The Alternative Screen: Independent Film Showcase

This bi-monthly showcase brings the best of new, undistributed American Independent Cinema from the far reaches of the film festival circuit to the Egyptian Theatre. Featured work is provocative, innovative and fiercely independent with an emphasis on filmmaking that displays a strong sense of personal style, spirit and vision. On select Thursdays.

Producer: Margot Gerber. **Programming Committee:** Cecil Castelucci, Bernadette DeJoya, Carl Dubiclay, Nubia Flores, Mary McIlwain, Tom Miller, John Palmer, Sean Smith, Nina Welch.

To submit independent feature length films for consideration, send a 1/2" VHS tape to: Margot Gerber, American Cinematheque, Alternative Screen, 1800 N. Highland Avenue, Suite 717, Hollywood, CA 90028. Tapes will not be returned unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is provided. Send short films attn: Andrew Crane.

FOREVER HOLLYWOOD

*The Most Star-Studded Film In Theatres Anywhere!
Exclusively at the Egyptian Theatre!*

Directed by Todd McCarthy & Arnold Glassman, *FOREVER HOLLYWOOD* (55 min.) celebrates a century of movie-making, as related by some of today's most popular actors and filmmakers. Featuring over 400 movie and archival clips (including footage from the famous Hollywood Hotel to the Hollywood Canteen) - plus brand new celebrity interviews. Tickets: \$5. Tour and movie \$10. Call 323.461.2020, ext. 3 for schedule changes. **Screening Saturday & Sunday at 2:00 PM & 3:30 PM and with behind the scenes historic theatre tours.**

March Calendar

Tuesday, March 2 - 7:30 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

LA SUERTE DORMIDA (SLEEPING LUCK), 2003, 105 min.

Former lawyer Amparo (Adriana Ozores) unwillingly takes legal action over compensation when her friend's son dies in a mining-related accident. Amparo's own personal family tragedy unfolds as she uncovers the mine's many violations. Based on a true story, the film earned Angeles Gonzalez-Sinde this year's Goya Award for Best First Time Director!

Thursday, March 4 - 7:30 PM

ALTERNATIVE SCREEN

DANCE CUBA: DREAMS OF FLIGHT 2003, 105 min.

"By telling the historic coming-together of two dance companies in Cuba (Ballet Nacional de Cuba and Washington Ballet), producer-director Cynthia Newport offers an in-depth meditation on the intense love and conflicted passions that mark the difficult journey toward identity for individuals and nations." (Hernando Olivares, *Miami Sun-Sentinel*) With renowned Afro-Cuban dancer Carlos Acosta and a score by multi-Grammy winner Chucho Valdés. *Discussion following with the filmmakers and dancers.*

Friday, March 5 - 7:00 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

LAS HORAS DEL DÍA (THE HOURS OF THE DAY), 2003, 103 min.

Director Jaime Rosales' astonishing debut feature premiered at Cannes' Director's Fortnight. At first glance, there is nothing unusual in the painfully normal existence of thirty-year-old Abel (Alex Brendemühl). A sudden turn of events reveals him to be a disturbed sociopath in this unsettling tale of "everyday life."

Friday, March 5 - 9:15 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

Double Feature: TORREMOLINOS 73 2003, 93 min. Dir. Pablo Berger. This is the wickedly funny story of encyclopedia salesman Alfred (Javier Camara) and his wife Carmen (Candela Peña). It is the early 1970's and their hopes for a better life are going nowhere - until Alfredo's boss offers him 50,000 pesetas to make home porn movies. **DOS TIPOS DUROS** (TWO TOUGH GUYS), 2003, 99 min. Dir. Juan Martinez Moreno. To repay his gambling debt to a mob boss, hit-man Paco (Antonio Resines) reluctantly agrees to educate the boss' skinny 17-year old nephew (Jordi Vilches) in "the business."

Saturday, March 6 - 5:00 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

"Recent Spanish Shorts" A program of exciting films from Spanish cinema's newest talent. Jorge Dayas' **"Manipai"** (11 min., animation). Two Mayan children are about to be sacrificed, but one escapes. Leon Siminiani's **"Archipielago"** (17 min). The past catches up with a honeymooning couple on a gorgeous Caribbean isle. Alvaro De La Herran's **"Business"** (18 min). With a new boss comes a power struggle. Raul Diez's **"Sr. Trapo"** (12 min). Animated Goya Award-winner about a traveler made of cloth, who cannot seem to get where he is going. Asier Altunda's **"Topeka"** (3 min). Surreal, black comedy about men and their rams! Jose Acosta Salmeron's **"Historia De Un Buho"** (21 min). Cibran Isasi's **"Whipped"** (11 min). *Discussion with director Leon Siminiani following.*

Saturday, March 6 - 7:15 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

ERES MI HEROE, 2003, 93 min. Dir. Antonio Cuadri. Manuel

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Lozano stars in this superb coming-of-age tale as Ramón - a boy whose family moves frequently, rendering him the perpetually bullied "new kid." Set in the volatile political climate of Spain in the late-70's, amidst Franco's death and Communist uprisings, HEROE finds Ramón learning to cope with the misery of adolescent schooldays.

Saturday, March 6 - 9:15 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

Carmen Maura Tribute: QUE HE HECHO YO PARA

MERECER ESTO? (WHAT HAVE I DONE TO DESERVE THIS?), 1984, 101 min. Dir. Pedro Almodovar. Pill-popping housewife Carmen Maura scrubs floors all day long to support a typical Almodóvar family that includes a gay 12-year-old son, a husband addicted to a suicidal German singer, and a dominatrix next-door neighbor.

AY, CARMELA!, 1990, 102 min. Carmen Maura and Andrés Pajares star as vaudeville performers trapped behind the lines with Franco's troops during the Civil War. Director Carlos Saura mixes razor-sharp comedy and political allegory into a devilishly-entertaining brew.

Sunday, March 7 - 4:00 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

LAS MANOS VACIAS (WHERE IS MADAME CATHERINE?), 2003, 106 min. Director Marc Recha's (PAU AND HIS BROTHER) latest feature, which premiered at Cannes' Director's Fortnight, is a surprising comic drama. A slapstick chain of events unfolds when the village eccentric, elderly Madame Catherine (Dominique Marcas), dies amidst laughter and hard drinking. [In French and Catalan with English subtitles.]

Sunday, March 7 - 6:15 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

Fernando Colomo Tribute: ALEGRE MA NON TROPPO,

1994, 97 min. Director Fernando Colomo's delightful romp stars Pere Ponce and Penélope Cruz. In a world of confused sexuality and shifting relationships, Pablo's (Ponce) life is turned upside down when his boyfriend leaves him, a strange woman (Cruz) appears in his bed, and he is forced to audition before his estranged father.

BAJARSE AL MORO (GOING SOUTH SHOPPING), 1988, 93 min.

Dir. Fernando Colomo. Verónica Forqué, Antonio Banderas, and Aitana Sánchez-Gijón star as a trio of sexy drug-smuggling roommates who encounter a few speed bumps - both on the road and at home!

Tuesday, March 9 - 7:00 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

EL GRAN GATO (THE GREAT GATO), 2003, 105 min.

The latest from noted Catalan director Ventura Pons (AMIC/AMAT, FOOD OF LOVE) is a loving musical tribute to the art and life of Argentine composer "Gato" Perez (1950 - 1990), who settled in Barcelona and almost single-handedly reinvented the rumba. The stellar line-up of contemporary Spanish musicians performing their own versions of 15 of Gato's songs including Los Chichos, Lucrecia, Benjamin Escoriza and others.

Tuesday, March 9 - 9:15 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

EL EFECTO IGUAZU (THE IGUAZU EFFECT), 2003, 89 min.

Dir. Pere Joan Ventura. A powerful chronicle of civil disobedience. After 1,800 workers are laid off from Spain's state-run Telco in 2001, the unemployed middle-aged men set up a protest camp for 187 days in the center of Madrid. With humor and dignity this film documents the "Camp of Hope" as it becomes a true community.

Wednesday, March 10 - 7:30 PM

ORSON WELLES

Double Feature: New 35 mm Print! **THE STRANGER**, 1946,

MGM/JA, 95 min. Director Orson Welles' suspenseful study of an escaped Nazi war criminal (played by Welles himself) pursued by a Federal agent (Edward G. Robinson) in a small town. Loretta Young gives one of her finest performances as Welles' unsuspecting wife.

IT'S ALL TRUE: Based On An Unfinished Film By Orson Welles, filmed 1942; reconstructed 1993, Paramount, 87 min. Dirs. Richard Wilson, Myron Meisel & Bill Krohn. A fascinating reconstruction of an incomplete 3-part film Orson Welles made for RKO at the request of Nelson Rockefeller and the State Department to promote relations with Latin America during WWII. *Introduction to IT'S ALL TRUE by co-directors Myron Meisel and Bill Krohn, editor Ed Marx, post-production coordinator Tony Bozanich, and Cinematheque Board of Trustees member Michael Schlesinger, who was instrumental in restoring the film.*

Friday, March 12 - 7:00 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

POLIGONO SUR (THE THREE THOUSAND), 2003, 110 min.

Dir. Dominique Abel. This unusual and moving documentary depicts gypsies living on the fringes of society in southern Spain. The cast of charismatic outcasts often bursts spontaneously into awe-inspiring flamenco song and dance performances. A must see for lovers of flamenco!

Friday, March 12 - 9:30 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

NOVIEMBRE (NOVEMBER), 2003, 104 min.

Dir. Achero Mañas. Determined to change the world through acting, Alfredo (Oscar Jaenada) starts "November," a Dogme-like street theatre group with his school friends. In mockumentary style, director Achero Mañas (EL BOLA) explores the idealism of youth.

Saturday, March 13

HISTORIC TOUR

Egyptian Theatre Historic Tours & FOREVER HOLLYWOOD

10:30 AM Behind the Scenes Tour (In Spanish & English)

11:35 AM, 2:00 PM & 3:30 PM FOREVER HOLLYWOOD

Saturday, March 13 - 5:00 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

EL MISTERIO GALINDEZ (THE GALINDEZ FILE), 2003, 126 min.

Dir. Gerardo Herrero. Based on the mysterious 1956 real-life disappearance of an exiled Basque politician in New York, this political thriller finds a student (Saffron Burrows) searching for the truth on the Galíndez case. She travels to Spain, the Dominican Republic and finally Miami on a perilous journey. With Harvey Keitel.

Saturday, March 13 - 7:30 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

Double Feature: LA VIDA MANCHA (LIFE MARKS), 2003, 107 min.

Director Enrique Urbizu (BOX 507) returns with this quietly devastating drama about two brothers, the woman they both love, and the difficult choices that mark them for the rest of their lives.

LA FLAQUEZA DEL BOLCHEVIQUE (THE WEAKNESS OF THE BOLSHEVIK), 2003, 95 min.

Dir. Manuel Martín Guncua. Luis Tosar turns in a superb performance in this disturbing portrait of alienation and sexual obsession. Tosar rear-ends another driver and is sued for injuries. He over-reacts by stalking her 15-year old sister (Maria Valverde, winner of this year's Goya award for Best Breakthrough Performance by an Actress).

Sunday, March 14

SID GRAUMAN BIRTHDAY TOUR

Egyptian Theatre Historic Tours & FOREVER HOLLYWOOD

10:30 AM Sid Grauman Talk & Tour

In honor of his birthday, there will be a special presentation (in lieu of the regular tour) founder Egyptian Theatre founder Sid Grauman (born March 17, 1879) by Mark Simon of Samuel French Bookstores. Mark's presentation on the colorful and quirky life of movie theatre impresario (and lifetime prankster) Sid Grauman (and friends) will be followed by an abbreviated tour of Sid's 1922 movie palace.

11:35 AM, 2:00 PM & 3:30 PM FOREVER HOLLYWOOD

Sunday, March 14 - 4:00 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

Fernando Colomo Tribute: LOS AÑOS BARBAROS (THE STOLEN YEARS), 1998, 120 min. Dir. Fernando Colomo. Madrid, 1947: a group of student radicals paints "Long Live Free University!" on the side of their college - and soon find themselves breaking rocks on one of Franco's chain gangs. This sexy, high-spirited road movie is in the tradition of Bogdanovich's PAPER MOON, following the young dreamers as they bust out of prison and flee across Spain. With Jordi Mollá.

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Sunday, March 14 - 6:30 PM

SPANISH CINEMA

Carmen Maura Tribute: SOMBRAS EN UNA BATALLA

(SHADOWS IN A CONFLICT), 1993, 106 min. Dir. Mario Camus. Veterinarian Ana's (Carmen Maura) usual, small-town life takes a series of dramatic turns after an unexpected meeting with stranger José (Joaquim de Almeida) -- who turns out to have a shady past. Ana finds herself involved in some equally dangerous business.

LA COMUNIDAD (COMMON WEALTH), 2000, Lola Films, 106 min.

Alex de la Iglesia returns with this nightmarish comic thriller about a tacky real estate agent, played by the fabulous Carmen Maura, who discovers \$15 million in lottery winnings in the apartment of a dead man. Word soon leaks out, and the greedy neighbors circle like vultures.

Tuesday, March 16 - 7:30 PM

LARS VON TRIER

Special Sneak Preview! **DOGVILLE**, 2003, Lions Gate, 177 min.

Dir. Lars von Trier. Fugitive Grace (Nicole Kidman) arrives in the isolated township of Dogville on the run from a team of gangsters. With some encouragement from Tom (Paul Bettany), the little community agrees to hide her. However, when a search sets in, the people of Dogville demand a better deal in exchange for the risk of harboring poor Grace and she learns the hard way that in this town, goodness is relative. [DOGVILLE will be released theatrically on March 26th by Lions Gate Films.]

Actor Udo Kier to introduce the film.

Wednesday, March 17 - 7:30 PM

ORSON WELLES

MACBETH, 1948, Paramount, 119 min.

Dir. Orson Welles. Having been originally cut, re-recorded, and rarely shown, this painstakingly restored version of MACBETH was supervised by Robert Gitt of the UCLA Film & TV Archives. Gitt tracked down missing footage and the original soundtrack, plus Jacques Ibert's music. Longtime Welles collaborator Richard Wilson considered MACBETH "the greatest experimental American film ever made under the Hollywood studio system." (Program notes courtesy James Quandt/Cinematheque Ontario.) *American Cinematheque Members will be admitted free of charge to this program. Discussion following with actress Peggy Webber.*

Thursday, March 18 - 7:30 PM

REVIVAL SCREENING

Czech Pop Art Classic: **DAISIES** (SEDMIKRASKY), 1966, 74 min.

One of the most delightful and subversive films of the Czech New Wave, director Vera Chytilova's anarchic, Pop Art masterpiece follows the misadventures of two gorgeous vixens named Marie (Jitka Cerhova) and Marie (Ivana Karbanova). Unsatisfied with what life has to offer, they launch a full-frontal assault on society and its rules. Special Thanks to: Narodni Film Archive, Prague & the Czech Center, New York.

Friday, March 19 - 7:30 PM

LARS VON TRIER

Double Feature: MEDEA, 1987, DK TV, 75 min.

Director Lars von Trier's visually astounding adaptation of "Medea" (based on an unproduced script by Carl Th. Dreyer) is set in desolate Danish marshlands and grass-covered dunes, where water reflects the sky like liquid pools of mercury. Kirsten Olesen delivers a staggering performance as the wounded, grieving Medea, with Udo Kier equally good as her faithless husband. *Discussion between films with actor Udo Kier. Uncut Version!* **BREAKING THE WAVES**, 1996, Focus Features, 159 min. Dir. Lars von Trier. A gritty, heart-breaking masterpiece starring Emily Watson as Bess McNeil, a disturbed young woman from a staunch religious town in remote Scotland. Shortly after Bess marries oil rigger Jan (Stellan Skarsgard), tragedy strikes and brings with it startling consequences. *Note: We will be screening the uncut Danish version of the film, with over 6 minutes of footage not seen in the U.S. theatrical version!*

Saturday, March 20 - 5:00 PM

LARS VON TRIER

Uncut Version! **THE IDIOTS**, 1998, Focus Features, 117 min.

Director Lars von Trier's bizarre comedy-drama follows the adventures of a motley collective of middle-class truth-seekers attempting to get in touch with their "inner idiot." Veering wildly from absurdist vignettes to stinging, cut-to-the-bone drama, von Trier examines civilized conventions and what happens when they're stripped away. *Note: We will be screening the uncut, Danish version of the film. [Because of sexual content, no one under 17 will be admitted to this screening.]*

Saturday, March 20 - 7:30 PM

LARS VON TRIER

Double Feature: L.A. Premiere! **D-DAY**, 2000, Trust Film Sales, 66 min.

An experimental, interactive television project, D-DAY was co-directed by Lars von Trier and fellow Dogme95 filmmakers Thomas Vinterberg, Soren Kragh-Jacobsen and Kristian Levring. On New Year's Eve 1999, five different groups of actors were set loose in Copenhagen with accompanying video crews; the four filmmakers directed their actors and crews from a central control booth, while results were broadcast live on seven different TV channels. (This is an edited version of the 5 separate stories.)

DANCER IN THE DARK, 2000, Fine Line, 139 min. Dir. Lars von Trier. Selma (played by Icelandic singer Björk) is an immigrant factory worker trying to make ends meet in 1960's America. As a genetic condition begins to rob her eyesight, she attempts to save her young son from the same fate. Through imagined movie musical routines (penned and performed by Björk), Selma escapes the monotony - and tragedy - of her daily life.

Sunday, March 21 - 5:00 PM

LARS VON TRIER

Double Feature: THE ELEMENT OF CRIME (FORBRY-

DELESENS ELEMENT), 1984, Janus/Criterion, 104 min. Director Lars von Trier's debut feature film, ELEMENT established him as a cinematic visionary. In this neo-noir thriller, a detective becomes obsessed with capturing a serial killer, and begins a first-person psychological investigation, inspired by his mentor Osburne's book, *The Element of Crime*. Winner of the Technical Grand Prize at the 1984 Cannes Film Festival.

EUROPA (aka ZENTROPA), 1991, Miramax, 112 min. Director Lars von Trier's noir phantasmagoria stars Jean-Marc Barr as Leo, an American taking a job as a sleeping car conductor in postwar Germany. Narrator Max Von Sydow navigates Leo through a series of gradually more nightmarish encounters with shady passengers, including a railroad heiress (Barbara Sukowa) who may be involved with neo-Nazi saboteurs. *Discussion following with actors Jean-Marc Barr and Udo Kier (EUROPA) (schedules permitting).*

Wednesday, March 24 - 7:30 PM

ORSON WELLES

"THE UNSEEN WELLES"

Gary and Jillian Graver, directors of the Orson Welles Archives, will present an eye-opening program of Welles rarities and curiosities. A close collaborator of Welles since 1970, Gary Graver worked on films, including THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WIND, FILMING OTHELLO and F FOR FAKE. No Wellesian should miss such rare footage as Welles' Japanese whiskey commercials, and a unique reconstruction of the "Four Men On A Raft" sequence from IT'S ALL TRUE. (Program notes courtesy James Quandt/ Cinematheque Ontario.) Program approx. 90 minutes. *American Cinematheque members will be admitted free to this program upon presentation of a current membership card.*

Thursday, March 25 - 7:30 PM

ALTERNATIVE SCREEN

Co-presented with the Slamdance Film Festival

MEMRON 2003, 76 min., USA. In this improvisational comedy from

writer/producer/director Nancy Hower (known as an actress from "Star Trek Voyager"), a group of greedy corporate thieves attempt to rise from the ashes of the ruined MEMRON, once the most successful company in the world. The ensemble cast includes Tim Bagley, Claire Forlani, Mary Pat Gleason and other former members of The Groundlings and other improvisational acting troupes. Produced by Robert Hickey and Evie Peck. *Discussion following with cast & crew.*

With Slamdance "Best Narrative Short" Winner "Crabwalk" (2004, 18 min.), a comedy of misadventures directed by Jeremy Saulnier.

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