



The Spirit of the Beehive



“The Spirit of the Beehive” is Victor Erice’s debut and is considered a masterpiece of Spanish cinema.

THE SPIRIT OF THE BEEHIVE



- Directed by Victor Erice, Spain, 1973, 95 minutes.
- Original title: *El Espíritu de la Colmena*.
- In Spanish with English subtitles.

A traveling roadshow of the film *Frankenstein* comes to the small, Franco-era village where eight-year-old Ana (Ana Torrent), her sister Isabel (Isabel Telleria) and their family reside. Upon being exposed to the film, the siblings, especially the younger one, discuss the creature in the film as if it is real and Ana subsequently begins searching for the monster. Widely considered among the best Spanish films of the 1970s, *The Spirit of the Beehive* is one of the most carefully constructed and patiently paced movies of the cinema, achieving a trance-like quality in its slow moving observations of its characters and the very light in which they move. That light was strikingly captured by cinematographer Luis Cuadrado (*Peppermint Frappé*) as he was in the process of losing his sight.

FILM PORTLAND

Sun, March 05, 2017

Venue

Whitsell Auditorium, 1219 SW Park Avenue, Portland, OR 97205

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Phone: 503-226-2811

Admission

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Credits

Presented by The Portland Art Museum



It is one of the most beautiful and arresting films ever made in Spain, or anywhere in the past 25 years or so.

—Derek Malcolm, *The Guardian*