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PRAGDA and SPAIN arts & culture presents

2012 FESTIVAL OF NEW SPANISH CINEMA



WHAT:

2012 FESTIVAL OF NEW SPANISH CINEMA

WHEN:

November 1-9, 2012

OPENING NIGHT: **November 1 - 7 pm**

In person: director Jaume Balagueró! Reception to follow.

RSVP required by October 30 to: berta.corredor@spainculture.us

WHERE:

AFI SILVER THEATRE AND CULTURAL CENTER

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FESTIVAL OF NEW SPANISH CINEMA (November 1-9, 2012)

The Festival continues its North American 10-city tour in Washington, D.C.

*Festival starts November 1, 7:00 pm with SLEEP TIGHT with filmmaker Jaume Balagueró in attendance.
Evening hosted by Pragda, the Embassy of Spain, Spain-USA Foundation and the AFI Silver Theatre*

Washington, D.C.- Pragda and SPAIN arts & culture, announce the return of the **Festival of New Spanish Cinema**, bringing the best in contemporary Spanish Cinema to North America. This year marks the fifth edition of the popular traveling festival, known for shining a light on emerging Spanish filmmaking talents and trends. All screenings will take place at **AFI Silver Theatre** in Silver Spring, MD. After the Washington, DC area stop the festival continues on to Miami, Houston, Portland and Vancouver, before concluding in Chicago in March 2013.

“We have hand-picked the best films Spain has to offer, from our favorite directors such as Enrique Urbizu, Jaume Balagueró, Isaki Lacuesta and David Trueba, to the showcase of the impressive feature film debut from first-time director Paco Leon. They are not to be missed,” says Marta Sánchez, founder of Pragda and prime organizer behind the event.

The festival kicks off Thursday, November 1 with **SLEEP TIGHT** [*Mientras Duermes*, 2011], the latest thriller by mastermind of suspense **Jaume Balagueró**, the co-creator of the [REC] series. The screening will include a post-screening discussion with the filmmaker followed by a reception supported by the Embassy of Spain and the Spain-USA Foundation.

Other films scheduled to screen include **MADRID, 1987** (2011), a Sundance Festival favorite about a sensual and intelligent encounter by two very different generations directed by award-winning director David Trueba; **THE DOUBLE STEPS** (*Los Pasos Dobles*, 2011), Isaki Lacuesta’s gorgeous, award-winning film which screened recently at the Museum of Modern Art in New York; Paco León’s **CARMINA OR BLOW UP** (*Carmina o Revienta*, 2012), the indie phenomenon that has been winning over audiences; and **NO REST FOR THE WICKED** (*No Habrá Paz Para los Malvados*, 2011), the film that swept the 2012 Goya Awards with 6 prizes for Best Picture, Best Actor and Best Director among others.

For **complete descriptions, photos and trailers** go to www.pragda.com

For tickets and more information please visit AFI Silver at AFI.com/Silver

For more information on SPAIN arts & culture program go to www.spainculture.us



Opening Night: **SLEEP TIGHT [Mientras duermes]**

In person: director Jaume Balagueró at the Nov. 1 screening!

Post-screening reception Nov. 1, supported by the Embassy of Spain and the Spain-USA Foundation

César (Luis Tosar, in the performance of a lifetime) works as a doorman in a Barcelona apartment complex. He's not a happy man, but César wouldn't trade his job for the world as it allows him unfettered access into the life of one of his residents, the perpetually sunny Clara. Intent on wreaking havoc on her seemingly perfect life, César descends into madness as he sneakily pulls the strings of his target. Spanish horror vet and [REC] co-creator Jaume Balagueró has crafted a masterful Hitchcockian thriller that invites surprising sympathy for the villain. DIR Jaume Balagueró; SCR Alberto Marini; PROD Julio Fernández. Spain, 2011, color, 102 min. In Spanish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Opening Night: **Thu, Nov 1, 7:00—note new time!**

Also showing: **Wed, Nov 7, 9:30**

ICEBERG

"Adolescence is like a second birth. In the first a child is born, in the second, a man or a woman. And it's always painful." — Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Like teenage emotions, the most significant part of an iceberg lies beneath the surface. This atmospherically observed drama tells three interwoven stories of impending adulthood, as Mauri, Rebeca, Simon and Jota navigate the difficult waters of their lives. With breathtaking cinematography of the wintry Spanish countryside and an impressive cast of non-professional actors, ICEBERG has been a staple on the festival circuit. Official Selection, 2012, Rotterdam and Cartagena Film Festivals. DIR/SCR/PROD Gabriel Velázquez. Spain, 2011, color, 84 min. In Spanish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Fri, Nov 2, 1:00; Sat, Nov 3, 11:00 a.m.

THE DOUBLE STEPS [Los pasos dobles]

The best way to escape without a trace is to walk backwards over your own footprints. This is what French eccentric François Augiéras believed when he painted every inch of a military bunker in the desert of Mali, before burying it deep into the sand. But who is Augiéras? A legionnaire, painter, writer, gunman, saint, thief or devil? One of the most interesting auteurs working today, Catalan filmmaker Isaki Lacuesta, and one of Spain's foremost living artists, Miquel Barceló, lead audiences through the desert in search of the mythical frescoed bunker. This gorgeous biopic won the Golden Shell at the 2011 San Sebastián Film Festival. Official Selection, 2012 Rotterdam Film Festival. DIR/SCR Isaki Lacuesta; SCR Isabel Campo; PROD Luisa Matienzo, Dan Wechsler. Spain/Switzerland, 2011, color, 91 min. In French, Dogon and Bambara with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Fri, Nov 2, 3:00; Sat, Nov 3, 12:45



MADRID, 1987

José Sacristán and María Valverde shine in David Trueba's intelligent, witty and sensual film. On one hot summer day in Madrid, Miguel, an accomplished journalist, sets up a meeting in a café with Ángela, a young journalism student. He takes her to a friend's studio. His intentions are clearly sexual; hers less so. Accidentally locked in a bathroom, naked and without the possibility of escape, the unlikely pair are pitted against one another in an unevenly matched duel of age, intellect, ambition and experience. Official Selection, 2011 San Sebastián Film Festival; 2012 Sundance, Guadalajara Film Festivals. DIR/SCR David Trueba; PROD Jessica Berman. Spain, 2011, color, 104 min. In Spanish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Sat, Nov 3, 2:30—note new time!; Sun, Nov 4, 2:30

WILAYA

Born in a Sahrawi refugee camp before being sent to live with foster parents in Spain, Fatimetu returns to Algeria for the first time in sixteen years after the death of her mother. Expected to resume her familial duties, Fatimetu struggles to care for her ailing sister, torn between life in the unfamiliar desert and the memories of her family and friends in Spain. With unprecedented access to the Sahrawi community, Pedro Pérez Rosado gives a voice to this unrepresented group of refugees and their struggle for independence. The outstanding performance of newcomer Nadhira Mohamed, herself born in a refugee camp, won her the Best Actress award at the Abu Dhabi Film Festival. Official Selection, 2012 Berlin Film Festival. DIR/SCR Pedro Pérez Rosado; PROD José María Morales. Spain, 2012, color, 97 min. In Spanish and Arabic with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Sun, Nov 4, 12:30; Wed, Nov 7, 7:30

CARMINA OR BLOW UP [Carmina o revienta]

Famous comedian-turned-filmmaker Paco León drags audiences into the surreal and wild world of Carmina, a 58-year-old bar owner in Seville (played by León's real-life mother). When the theft of 80 hams leaves her broke, she needs to come up with a way to support her family. While she hatches her plan, Carmina reflects on her life, deeds and miracles. A box-office phenomenon, CARMINA OR BLOW UP was the first Spanish film to be released simultaneously across all platforms, reaching more than 30,000 spectators in its first week. The film's charm has seduced audiences and critics alike, taking the Special Jury Prize, Audience Award and Best Actress Award at the Málaga Film Festival. DIR/SCR/PROD Paco León. Spain, 2012, color, 71 min. In Spanish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Thu, Nov 8, 7:00; Sat, Nov 10, 11:00 a.m.*



NO REST FOR THE WICKED [No habrá paz para los malvados]

Inspector Santos Trinidad (José Coronado), a grizzled veteran policeman, drinks too much and works too little. But for the first time, he'll find himself at the center of an investigation when a drunken bar brawl leads him to shoot three men dead, while a fourth escapes. Following his trail, Santos discovers a complicated network of prostitution and drug trafficking that serves to finance a far more complex criminal plan. A visceral noir tale, this film took home an impressive six Goya Awards in 2012, including Best Film, Best Director and Best Actor. Official Selection, 2011 San Sebastián Film Festival; 2012 Rotterdam Film Festival. DIR/SCR Enrique Urbizu; SCR Michel Gaztambide; PROD Álvaro Augustín, Gonzalo Salazar-Simpson. Spain, 2011, color, 114 min. In Spanish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Thu, Nov 8, 8:45; Fri, Nov 9, 9:40*

* Screening included in the AFI European Union Film Showcase, November 9-20, at AFI Silver Theatre.

Government of Spain —through the Embassy of Spain's Cultural Office in Washington, D.C. and its network of General Consulates and Cervantes Institutes in key cities— promotes Spanish culture and art in the United States and strives to strengthen bilateral cultural, artistic and academic exchanges. Spanish-American cultural cooperation aims to create multiple links between the creative sectors of both countries and promote Spain's contemporary artistic expression with special attention to Americas Hispanic Community, striving to emphasize plurality expression and opinion, in line with Spain's own diversity in language, creativity in the arts and unique cultural heritage.

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