

The Foreign Languages Newsletter

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TENTH LATINO FILM FESTIVAL: 10 X 10

This year's Worcester Latino Film Festival celebrates its tenth anniversary from April 5th to 10th on the Clark Campus at Cinema 320 (Jefferson Hall) and Razzo Hall (Traina Center). The program boasts a selection of outstanding feature films that celebrate the diversity of Latino heritage, music and storytelling. It includes recent award-winning works by Mexican, Dominican, Cuban, Argentine and U.S. Latino filmmakers.

In past years, the festival presented four or five films in a repertory cycle. To mark the tenth anniversary, this year's program includes several films that have not yet been released commercially in the U.S. This year's showcase feature is *En fin, el mar* (At Last, the Sea), and a 2005 Argentine-Cuban co-production, starring Joel Nuñez. Mr. Nuñez will participate in a conversation with the audience after the screening at Razzo Hall on Saturday, April 9, at 1:00.p.m

The festival has grown over the years from a modest "Weekend of Puerto Rican Cinema," held at the Worcester Art Museum, to an annual cycle of films that celebrate Latino culture in Worcester. The festival is a collaboration of Worcester's Centro Las Américas and various community institutions and area colleges (Clark University, Assumption, Worcester State Colleges and WPI). All films are presented in Spanish with English subtitles (or in English with Spanish subtitles). A full list of screening times and locations follows.

Señorita extraviada / Missing Young Woman. Director: Lourdes Portillo. Mexico 2001. 74 m. This film tells the story of the hundreds of kidnapped, raped and murdered young women of Juárez, Mexico. This documentary, winner of the Sundance Film Festival in 2002, moves like the unsolved mystery it is. Tue., April 5, 7:00, Cinema 320.

Vidas errantes / Wandering Lives. Director: Juan Antonio de la Riva. Mexico 1995. 90 m. Loosely based

on the life of the director, *Vidas errantes* captures his love of film. The inhabitants of small towns are convincingly portrayed in their dependence on cinema, often the only entertainment they have. Thurs., April 7, 7:00 p.m., Cinema 320.

Azúcar amarga/Bitter Sugar. Director: León Ichaso. Dominican Republic 1996. 75 m. An impassioned love story set against the political and economic tensions of Havana. Gustavo, an idealistic young Communist with a glorified vision of Castro's regime, falls in love with Yolanda, a disenchanted dancer who longs to escape to Miami. Gustavo learns that love alone cannot sustain them in a city about to erupt. Thurs., April 7, 7:00, Razzo Hall.

En fin, el mar/Finally the Sea. Director: Jorge Dyzel. Argentina/Cuba 2005. 102 m. Tony is a Cuban-American commodities trader on Wall Street. One morning, fishing off Key West, he finds the wreck of a raft floating close to the beach; he travels to Cuba to find the family of the rafters in a journey that becomes a discovery of his own Cuban roots. Winner of numerous international awards. Joel Nuñez, an actor in the film, will be present for conversation with the audience. Sat., April 9, 1:00 p.m., Razzo Hall.

Santo Domingo Blues. Director: Alex Wolfe. Dominican Republic 2002. 87 m. *Bachata* is the Dominican blues, and Luis Vargas is its triumphant king. A heartfelt immigrant success story filled with Caribbean humor, hot dancing, and music. Sat., April 9, 7:00, Cinema 320.

Un día de suerte / A Lucky Day. Director: Sandra Gugliotta. Argentina 2002. 94 m. In the midst of a Buenos Aires shaken by social unrest, unemployment and political turmoil, 25-year-old Elsa barely makes a living via odd jobs and petty crimes. The desire for a better life and the memory of a former Italian boyfriend draw her to Italy to find him. Sat., April 9, 7:00 p.m., Razzo Hall.

¿Quién diablos es Julieta? / Who the Hell is Juliata? Director: Carlos Marcovich. Mexico/US 1997. 91 m. Mexican cinematographer Marcovich met a young prostitute in Havana while shooting a video starring the model Fabiola Quiroz. When he realized that the two women had not seen their fathers for many years he made this documentary, which is also a reflection on the process of filmmaking. Sun., April 10, 1:00, Cinema 320.

By the Sea / Cerca del mar. Director: Dean W. Barnes. Producer: Dean Huh. USA 2003. 97 m. A delightful romantic comedy enlivened by Cuban music, realism and sophisticated visual effects. Dean Huh, the producer, will be on hand to answer questions. Sun., April 10, 1:00 p.m., Razzo Hall.

Por si no te vuelvo a ver / If I Never See You Again. Director: Juan Pablo Villaseñor. Mexico 1997. 97 m. A quintet of elderly men escapes from a nursing home in search of a common dream of playing their music in public. Along the way they confront the police, drug lords, nursing home authorities, their families and everyone else who is determined to destroy their only chance to perform. Sun., April 10, 4:00, Razzo Hall.

Dama de Noche / Lady of the Night. Director: Eva López Sánchez. Mexico 1993. 97 m. Bruno, a down-and-out writer, comes to the rescue of his former lover Sofía, who is devastated in Veracruz after the accidental death of her elderly boyfriend. Sun., April 10, 7:00, Razzo Hall.

More festival details are available on website:

www.centrolasamericas.org/filmfestival.htm

NEW COURSES

FRENCH 165/TA169, "Theater Workshop in French." Prof. MICHAEL SPINGLER. The course uses scene study to provide direct experience of the theatrical synthesis within which play, actor and spectator operate; emphasizes vocal delivery through intensive work on diction, phrasing, rhythm and gesture; and explores various approaches to the play's staging. Conducted in French. Prereq.: one French course above 130 or permission.

FRENCH 264, "Writing and Identity in the Franco-phone Caribbean." Prof. ODILE FERLY. An examination of the notion of identity in writing from Haiti and the French Caribbean (Guadeloupe, Martinique and French Guyana); the cultural and political relationship of these societies to France; and the main socio-cultural

challenges these Caribbean societies face today, as well as the literary canon of the region. Conducted in French.

GERMAN 110 / CMLT 110: "The Disfigured Body, from Frankenstein to the Invisible Man." Prof. DANIEL JIRO TANAKA. First Year Seminar. The course explores how the human body has reemerged as a contested site of political meaning, reviving issues with which literature has concerned itself for the past two centuries. Readings include Mary Shelley, Gogol, Hawthorne, Kafka, and Ralph Ellison.

HEBREW STUDENTS WORK IN BOSTON

Two of TZILLA BARONE's students in Hebrew, BENJAMIN COHEN and MICHAL BARDUGO, have been accepted this semester to work in the Israeli Consulate in Boston, in the Public Diplomacy Department.

FACULTY NOTES

MARVIN D'LUGO's essay "Film and Censorship under Franco 1937-1975" appears in the recently published *Cambridge History of Spanish Literature*. On March 4, D'Lugo was the invited guest speaker at the Nanovic Institute for European Studies at the University of Notre Dame. He presented a seminar on "Sexuality and Story-Telling in Pedro Almodóvar's *Hable con ella* and *La mala educación*."

WILLIAM FERGUSON's poem "Las sonrisas internas" has been accepted for publication in *Fósforo*, a new literary magazine at Holy Cross.

CAROL D'LUGO's article "Towards a Transatlantic Reading of Good and Evil in *Morirás lejos*" will appear in the Puerto Rican journal *La Torre* (March 2005).

FRENCH LECTURE

MICHEL CRÉPU, editor-in-chief of *La Revue des Deux Mondes*, will present a lecture, "Divergent Faiths: Differences in Religious Thought and Beliefs in France and the USA," in the Grace Conference Room, Higgins University Center, on Wednesday, April 13 at 7:30 p.m. He has previously lectured at Clark and at NYU.

THE FOREIGN LANGUAGES NEWSLETTER is published by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Estabrook Hall 301, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610. Please send news items and announcements of coming events to Newsletter Editor, care of the Department, or call us at (508) 793-7342 or 793-7234. If you are not yet on our mailing list, please fill out this coupon and return it to us so that we can keep you fully informed of Foreign Languages Department activities.

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