Hispanic Cinema Series

Almodóvar
Through the Looking Glass

Four movies that embody the powerful and controversial dialog taking place within Spanish cinematography. Gender, politics, sex and violence: you can expect everything but to remain indifferent after each movie.

Selected Thursdays

February 23
Todo sobre mi madre (1999)
All About My Mother
Dir.: Pedro Almodóvar

Last night, Mom showed me a picture of when she was young. Half of it was missing. I didn't want to tell her, but my life is missing the same half.
Grief, passion, and sex experienced by nuns, actors and transvestites. Almodóvar rewrites Lorca, Mankiewics and Miller in a movie that puts into play a complex story with multiple levels of fiction and parenthood.

March 8
20 Centímetros (2005)
20 Centimeters
Dir.: Ramón Salazar

Your father made a hell of a mistake giving me those extra 20 centimeters.
A narcoleptic transvestite works as a prostitute to pay for an operation to become a woman. Meanwhile, when she is dreaming, she stars in a musical forged by American cinema iconography. A powerful questioning of gender and genres in contemporary cinema.

April 19
Volver (2006)
Dir.: Pedro Almodóvar

When you die, a lot of what you did is left unfinished. And a lot of what you finished was done wrong. I just don't know if anything can be fixed. And if it can, is it my business to fix it?
The story of a group of women on the verge of a nervous breakdown that can finally handle their own fate. Almodóvar revisits his previous movies in order to tie up their loose ends. Domestic abuse, crime, love and the unbearable weight of the past get intertwined in a solid melodrama when the construction of an identity is at stake.

May 10
El Crimen Ferpecto(2004)
The Ferpect Crime
Dir.: Álex de la Iglesia

They all get arrested in the end because it's a movie. In real life the bad guys win.
Marketing strategies sometimes include crime as a way to succeed. Selling and killing go together for a successful salesman in Madrid's largest department store but a perfect crime could end up *ferpect*. A harsh black comedy that rewrites Almodóvar's aesthetic to draw an effective metaphor of contemporary society.

All the movies in original Spanish with English subtitles
Contextual information, brief analysis and reading suggestions will be provided

Curated by Iliana Alcántar & Álvaro Fernández
Hispanic Languages and Literatures / Cinema Studies

Campbell Dome
4:45pm
Free Admittance
These films contain scenes that some viewers may find disturbing

Queens College
65-30 Kissena Blvd.
Flushing, New York