Hispanic Cinema Series

Selected Fridays

March 11
La comunidad / Common Wealth (2000)
Dir.: Álex de la Iglesia

When Julia discovers a treasure of hidden cash in her dead neighbor's apartment, the building residents' association goes to great lengths to take the money from her.

A cleverly crafted tongue-in-cheek suspense thriller, this plays like Hitchcock crossed with Monty Python and Pedro Almodóvar. Which, given the fact that La Comunidad *is written and directed by Spanish cinema's weird and wonderful wild-child Álex de la Iglesia, is probably not as bizarre as it sounds.* (J. Rusesell)

The film won twelve Spanish Academy Awards including Best Picture, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actors and Best Special Effects.

April 8
El lugar sin límtes / The Place wihtout Limits (1977)
Dir.: Arturo Ripstein

Based on a novel by Chilean writer José Donoso. Through the character of a transvestite who has fathered a daughter with the local prostitute, this penetrating melodrama examines the sexual ambiguity, repression, and prejudice of a small Mexican town. Its climatic sequence is one of the most intense in Ripstein's work.

Family honor, greed, machismo, homophobia, and the dreams of whores collide in a Mexican town. (J. Hailey)

The film won four Mexican Academy Awards including Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor and Best Supporting Actress.

May 13
Kamchatka (2002)
Dir.: Marcelo Piñeyro.

Kamchatka is set in Argentina just after the 1976 coup d´etat. A lawyer takes his family to the country and hiding from the criminal Dictatorship they adopt new identities. Their new life is difficult, but a visit with grandma and grandpa shows that these people are still a close-knit unit.

Kamchatka *has many features to be considered a masterpiece, it's cinema at its best, gifted with a great strength of emotional impact. It is a tender, grievous and touching elegy. Underneath the intense silent walls of captivity, it hides the thud and rage of the immeasurable collective tragedy.* (A. Fdez. Santos)

Winner of Best Script in different International Festivals as well as Best Young Actors and Best Sound from the Argentine Academy.

Rosenthal 230

4 p.m.

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

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