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The International Latino Film Society Screens A Wide Array of Films in Marin County as Part of the 11th International Latino Film Festival

Celebrating Marin as the Birthplace of the International Latino Film Festival and Home of Founder and Artistic Director Sylvia Perel and its Board of Directors

SAN FRANCISCO, September 27, 2007—The Latino Film Society is proud to announce it will screen more than 10 of its most popular films in Marin County as part of the 11th International Latino Film Festival.

The International Latino Film Festival, which runs throughout the greater Bay Area from Nov. 2—18, 2007, was founded in Marin 11 years ago by long-time Marin Resident and Festival Director Sylvia Perel. This year the Festival will screen its films in Marin at three locations in Larkspur and San Rafael – the Lark Theatre, Pickleweed Community Center and the Dominican University of California at the Angelico Hall.

“This Festival, which has grown from a small event featuring 10 or so films to a huge event featuring over 90 films and Latino filmmakers and films from all over the world started in Marin County,” said Festival Director and Founder Sylvia Perel. “Marin is where the seeds were planted – this is where we made it all happen.”

This year’s Marin programming features ***The City of Photographers/La ciudad de los fotógrafos***, an important human rights film by Chilean director Sebastián Moreno Mardones, who will be in San Francisco for the screening of his acclaimed film. This film tells the story of a motley crew of photojournalists who documented Chile’s people amid the turmoil of Pinochet’s regime. The photographers learned their craft in the streets in the middle of bloody riots and protests and created many of the now legendary images that helped focus world attention on the regime's repressive tactics. A tribute to the Chileans exiled for over 30 years, *The City of Photographers* screens November 9 at 7pm at Dominican University of California, Angelico Hall.

Another Marin highlight is ***Cheese Head-My First Ghetto/Cara de questo-mi primer gueto***, by Argentinian Director Winograd. This comedy features a young boy named Ariel who spends his summers with his family in an idyllic Jewish Country Club. Everything is perfect – or is it? With an array of memorable characters and hilarious subplots, *Cara de Queso* is a very funny comedy about the ties that bind in an Argentinean Jewish community. This film’s Marin screening will take place at the Larkspur Theatre on November 10 at 5pm.

Immediately following the screening is *Shalom Tango*, a special event celebrating the Jewish experience in Argentina. This evening will feature the sensual rhythms of Buenos Aires with an evening of Tango and the best Latin cuisine from Marin. Director Ariel Winograd will be present:

Also screening in Marin County:

Concursante / The Contestant

dir. Rodrigo Cortés, 2007, Spain, 90 min.

November 11 at 4:15pm

Lark Theater

549 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur

Fast-paced and beautifully shot, this biting satire of consumer society revolves around the hunky and innocent Martín who wins the biggest TV contest prize ever given in Spain - worth over three million euros. But the prize is really a booby trap that propels him into the world of unscrupulous bankers and lawyers.

Dragones, destino de fuego

dir. Eduardo Schuldt, 2006, Peru, 80 min.

November 11 at 2:30pm

Pickleweed Community Center

50 Canal Street, San Rafael

This finely crafted Peruvian animation about a lost egg that gets adopted by a family of condors delivers action and suspense while raising moral questions. When does power force humility on you? This delightful film follows the best tradition of coming-of-age stories, its appeal reaching across generations.

El Benny

November 11 at 6:30pm

Lark Theater

549 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur

"El Benny" tells the story of the legendary Benny Moré, perhaps the greatest Cuban musician in history. Amid the political unrest of the 1950s, Moré's masterful voice and infectious rhythms transformed Havana's dance halls. And though he struggled with personal demons, he is immortalized for his role in creating the sound of pre-revolutionary Cuba.

El Brassier de Emma / Emma's Bra

dir. Maryse Sistach, 2007, Mexico, 90 min.

November 10 @7:30pm

Lark Theater

549 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur

1962 gave us Marilyn Monroe and Brigitte Bardot, along with astronauts, UFOs, and the dance sensation, the twist. These all set the stage for this lighted-hearted family comedy, centered on thirteen-year-old Emma and her growing perplexity and sheer fascination - social, cultural, sexual - with breasts and the odd contraption that houses them.

Eréndira Ikikunari

dir. Juan Mora Catlett, 2007, Mexico, 114 min.

November 8 at 7pm

Dominican University of California, Angelico Hall

50 Acacia Avenue, San Rafael

A beautifully filmed recreation, entirely in Purépecha language, of the 16th century legend of Eréndira. A young indigenous woman becomes an icon of bravery when she stands up against the social conventions that prohibit women from participating in warfare and resists the domination of Mexico by the Spanish conquistadors.

Fútbol, el nacimiento de una pasión / Football - The Birth of a Passion

dir. Jesús Sánchez Romeva, 2006, Spain, 90 min.

November 10 at 2pm

Pickleweed Community Center

50 Canal Street, San Rafael

Nothing ignites passion around the world like football, soccer, rugby or calcio! Through vivid historical reconstructions, this documentary traces our ball obsession from intricate Mayan and Chinese rituals to Roman army training, from a Japanese ceremony to the Florentine game of calcio, eventually arriving at the present-day magic of Zidane and Beckham.

Proibido proibir / Forbidden to Forbid

dir. Jorge Durán, 2006, Brazil, 105 min.

November 10 @ 9:30pm

Lark Theater

549 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur

A young medical student and his two romantically entwined roommates face the ethical conflicts of a love triangle while trying to help a terminally ill patient from the favelas of Rio de Janeiro. Their youthful idealism is shattered by the brutality of the city's police in this tale of injustice, love and the road to adulthood.

Los laberintos de la memoria / The Labyrinths of Memory

dir. Guita Schyfter, 2007, Mexico, 95 min.

November 10 at 3pm

Lark Theater

549 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur

This lovingly hand-made documentary examines parallel stories of the search for identity and origin. Through intriguing cross-generational tales of political exile, displacement and adoption we look into very different cultures from the world of the Maya to post-revolution Cuba and director Schyfter's ancestors - Central European Jews.

Tocar y luchar / To Play and to Fight

dir. Alberto Alvero, 2006, Venezuela, 70 min.

November 11 at 2:30pm

Lark Theater

549 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur

The captivating story of the hundreds of youth orchestras formed within Venezuela's towns and villages. Featuring interviews with some of the world's most celebrated musicians, "Tocar y luchar" is an inspirational story of courage, determination, and ambition, showing us that only those who dare to dream can achieve the impossible.

These films screen at multiple venues. Visit www.LatinoFilmFestival.org for further information, tickets, and prices.

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The 11th International Latino Film Festival is an annual festival showcasing an unprecedented array of films expressing many views from the Latino world. This year's Festival runs through Nov. 18 and features approximately 90 films from 20 countries in nine Bay Area cities: San Francisco, Redwood City, San Jose, Larkspur, Berkeley, San Rafael, San Bruno and Sacramento. Themes in this year's Festival include: *Animation, Art & Poetry, Cine Chicano, Day of the Dead Emerging Latino Filmmakers, Environment, Erótica, Family, Global Lens, Fútbol (Football), Human Rights, the Immigrant Experience, the Jewish Experience, Local Latino Filmmakers, Música Latina, Málaga FF Series, Queer Latino Cinema, Spiritual, Thrillers, Mexican Cinema, War & Politics, Women & Film*, among others.

THE INTERNATIONAL LATINO FILM SOCIETY/FILM FESTIVAL

Presented by the International Latino Film Society, The International Latino Film Festival was founded in 1997 by Sylvia Perel to benefit the San Francisco Bay Area by promoting cinema of significant artistic merit created by, or about Latinos, and to celebrate cultural understanding through the art of film and filmmaking. The International Latino Film Festival began in Marin County with eight films over three days in one venue and has grown to more than 90 films over 16 days in nine cities across the Greater San Francisco Bay Area. For additional information about the Festival visit www.LatinoFilmFestival.org.

THE 11th INTERNATIONAL LATINO FILM FESTIVAL SPONSORS

The 11th International Latino Film Festival Sponsors include the Board of Supervisors of Marin, City of Redwood City, Wells Fargo, Castellano Family Foundation, Don Julio, Macy's, Macy's.com, Continental Airlines, Alexander M. and June L. Maisin Foundation of the Jewish Community Federation, Southwest Airlines, Cinema12 San Jose, San Jose State University, City College of San Francisco, The Mercury News, Univision, W San Francisco, Telefuturo, Univision Radio, Consulate General of Spain, Consulate General of Mexico San Francisco and San Jose.

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