

## 7<sup>th</sup> London **S**panish Film Festival

23 Sep – 6 Oct 2011

at Ciné lumière

PRESS RELEASE

We are delighted to present once more, from 23 September to 6 October, a selection of some of the most exciting recent Spanish films, with a variety of genres reflecting the dynamism and creativity of Spanish cinema today. Some of these films, like *Lope*, *Neon Flesh* or *Legend of the Soldier (Bruc)* will later be released in the UK, but most of them will be shown exclusively at this Festival.

Always committed to bring to you some of those who have made these films possible, we are happy that many of the films will be presented by its directors or actors. Thus some of our guests include **Alberto Ammann** (tbc), who will open the Festival with the special preview of *Lope*; **Paco Cabezas**, who will introduce to us his latest film as a director, *Neon Flesh*, as well as *Bon appetit!* which he co-wrote, **Oscar Aibar** will present his successful *El gran Vázquez* and the Galician **Olivier Laxe** his Cannes-awarded *Todos vós sodes capitáns*. Actor **Francisco Boira** will present Enrique Gabriel's *Vidas pequeñas* as well as his directorial debut, the short *Nubes*.

As in previous years, there will be a **Catalan Window** with a selection of some films that will allow us a glimpse into the cinema from Catalonia, including Ramon Tèrmens' *Catalunya Uber Alles!* and *Legend of the Soldier*, in Catalonia known as *Bruc*, the name of the Catalan legendary drummer boy. Barcelona filmmaker **Ventura Pons** will also join us to present his latest work, *Mil cretins*, and **Nora Navas** will introduce to us Agustí Villaronga's multi-Goya-awarded *Pà negra*, for which she herself received the Best Actress Goya Award.

**Basque cinema** will be represented by the romantic *Bon appetit*, presented as well by lead actor **Unax Ugalde** (tbc), and by the latest film of the Basque filmmaker Alex de la Iglesia: *Balada triste de trompeta*, which won him last year the Venice Silver Lion for Best Director.

Because Spanish artists don't work exclusively within frontiers, we are proud to include in our programme films not exclusively Spanish, such as *Ways to Live Forever*, directed by the Spanish **Gustavo Ron** in Great Britain, or *Les femmes du 6ème étage*, a film by the French director **Philippe Le Guay** with a cast that includes Carmen Maura, Lola Dueñas and **Natalia Verbeke**, who will be with us together with the director.

We are very happy to welcome back **Eduardo Noriega**, who came to our first edition and is now joining us again to present his latest work, *Blackthorn* in the closing evening of the Festival.

This year's Special Feature is dedicated to a US-born actress with an international career that includes an extensive list of films in Spain starting in the mid-60s, when she became Carlos Saura's muse. **Geraldine Chaplin** is considered in Spain to be one of "our" most outstanding actresses and without her, a part of our cinematography could not be understood.

The Festival will also pay a small homage to the late Luis García Berlanga, one of Spain's most iconic independent filmmakers of all times.

Most of the screenings and events will take place at **Ciné lumière** in South Kensington. There will be further screenings at **Shortwave, Rich Mix** and International House.

The 7<sup>th</sup> London Spanish Film Festival is organised by **Tristana Media** in collaboration with the Cultural Office of the **Spanish Embassy**, the **Institut français** and the **Instituto Cervantes**.

For the full programme, please, go to: [www.londonspanishfilmfestival.com](http://www.londonspanishfilmfestival.com)

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