

Carlos Saura: The Fascination with Flamenco

19 and 22 April 2012 at Ciné lumière

PRESS RELEASE

Spanning over more than 50 years and well over 40 films, **Carlos Saura's** is one of the longest and most exciting careers in Spanish cinema. His films cover a variety of genres from neorealism and social cinema (mostly during Franco's regime) to historical and musical films.

As it is evident in most of his work, Saura, director of so many key Spanish films, has always had a very special relationship with music, particularly with flamenco. His mother was a trained pianist and he discovered the depth of flamenco when he was a very young photographer covering music and dance festivals in Spain.

In parallel to the London Spanish Film Festival's 2nd Spring Weekend we'll be hosting a very special event: filmmaker Carlos Saura will join us for a cinema masterclass about the role of music in his work, his fascination with music in general and with flamenco in particular. One of his flamenco films will be screened: the superb and fascinating *Carmen*.

Event organised in collaboration with the **Institut français**.

For the full programme, please, go to: www.londonspanishfilmfestival.com or www.tristanamedia.com.

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A Cinema Masterclass with Carlos Saura

The masterclass will be illustrated with film clips.

Thu 19 Apr 6.30pm | £12, conc. £10

Carmen

Spain | 1983 | col | 102 mins | dir. Carlos Saura, with Antonio Gades, Laura del Sol, Paco de Lucía, Pepa Flores, Cristina Hoyos | cert. 12 | in Spanish with English subtitles

Saura's *Carmen* is set in a mirrored room in which a flamenco dance company is rehearsing a version of Prosper Mérimée's Spanish drama. There Antonio, the choreographer (played by real-life dancer and choreographer Antonio Gades), will follow a similar path to that of Mérimée's José when he gives Carmen, a new dancer, the main role. The film includes appearances by Spanish guitar maestro Paco de Lucía as well as by professional dancers, singers and guitarists. *Carmen* won the BAFTA Award for Best Foreign Language Film won in 1985 .

Sun 22 Apr 2.00pm | £8, conc. £6

Preceded by an introduction by dir. Carlos Saura

Carlos Saura's Flamenco Trilogy will be released on DVD on 23 April