



15TH SPRING WEEKEND

16-19 APRIL 2026

The London Spanish Film Festival's 16th Spring Weekend brings to London an exciting snapshot of Spain's dynamic film scene — all presented in the original language with English subtitles. In anticipation of the 22nd edition of the Festival later this year, this is a unique opportunity to experience powerful stories, rich cultural perspectives, and unforgettable performances.

During the weekend we'll screen the UK premieres of veteran Manuel Gómez Pereira's much awaited *The Dinner*, and *The Garden of Delights*, by another veteran, master of Madrid comedy Fernando Colomo.

A special preview of *Romeria* will be presented by filmmaker Carla Simon in conversation with Prof. Maria Delgado ahead of the film's release by Curzon in May.

Bigas Luna's daughters will join Prof. Santiago Fouz-Hernández to present *My Name Is Juani*, a film on which they collaborated with their father across different artistic aspects, contributing to its distinctive and compelling visual style. Prof. Fouz-Hernández will present the day before at the Instituto Cervantes his book *The Films of Bigas Luna*.

Special Event: Book Presentation

Prof. Santiago Fouz-Hernández will present his book *The Films of Bigas Luna*, the first one in English to examine the entire filmography of one of Spain's most renowned contemporary filmmakers. From Bigas Luna's debut film *Tattoo*, made in 1976, to his last one, *Didi Hollywood*, in 2010, Fouz-Hernández examines in depth each of his sixteen films.

In a conversation about Bigas Luna's work moderated by Joana Granero, Prof. Santiago Fouz-Hernández will be joined by Betty Bigas, daughter of the filmmaker and designer of his film *My Name is Juani*

The Films of Bigas Luna , by Prof. Santiago Fouz-Hernández, is part of Manchester University Press' Spanish and Latin American Filmmaker series

Thu 16 Apr | 6.30pm | Instituto Cervantes

YO SOY LA JUANI

My Name Is Juani

dir. Bigas Luna, with Verónica Echegui, Dani Martín, Laya Martí, Gorka Lasoasa | Spain | 2006 | 101 min | cert.15 | In Spanish with English subtitles

Juani has problems at home and constantly argues with her jealous and irresolute boyfriend, with whom she's been since they were both fifteen. Juani blows up, leaves him, and decides to do everything she hasn't done while she was wasting her time with him, including moving Madrid with Vane, her best friend, to become an actress. She is determined to succeed: She is Juani, and Juani is the best. Bigas Luna's *My Name is Juani* is a formidable portrait of the concerns and joys of a group of teenagers in the new century as well as an ode to female friendship.

Followed by a Q&A with designer Betty Bigas and costume designer Ana Herce, hosted by Prof. Santiago Fouz-Hernández

Fri 17 Apr | 6.00pm

LA CENA

The Dinner

dir. Manuel Gómez Pereira, with Mario Casas, Alberto San Juan, Asier Etxeandia, Nora Hernández, Elvira Mínguez | Spain/France | 2025 | 106 min | cert. PG | In Spanish with English subtitles | UK premiere

Set in 1939, just two weeks after the Civil War's end, Franco invites his top generals for a night of triumph at the luxurious Hotel Palace in Madrid, which has now been turned into a hospital. Teniente Medina will have to make sure that splendour returns to the hotel in just a few hours. In the hotel's kitchen, a group of defeated Republican chefs will secretly prepare the meal—while also cook up their last chance to escape the country. In *The Dinner*, Veteran Gómez Pereira skillfully balances political irony with comedy in a gripping way.

Sat 18 Apr | 6.15pm

ROMERIA

dir. Carla Simón, with Llúcia García, Mitch Martín, Tristán Ulloa | Spain/Germany | 2025 | 116 min | cert. TBC | In Spanish, Catalan, Galician and French with English subtitles | Special preview courtesy of Curzon

18-year-old Marina needs a copy of her father's death certificate to unlock a scholarship to study film. With her mother's diary in hand, she will try to track down the missing document in Galicia - a quest that will reveal long-buried

family secrets. After *Alcarràs*, Carla Simón subtly threads *Romeria* with her debut feature *Summer 1993*, taking it beyond, and delving into the mysterious ways of memory.

Followed by a Q&A with Carla Simón hosted by Prof. Maria Delgado

Sat 18 Apr | 8.30pm

LAS DELICIAS DEL JARDIN

The Delights of the Garden

by Fernando Colomo, with Fernando Colomo, Pablo Colomo, Carmen Machi, Antonio Resines, Luis Bermejo | Spain | 2025 | 94 min | UK premiere | En Spanish with English subtitles

Fermín, an abstract painter facing a personal and financial crisis, lives in his friend's studio in Madrid. He hides a tremor in his hand and initially refuses to enter a competition. However, he changes his mind after receiving a foreclosure notice and with the unexpected arrival of his son. Together, they will try to overcome their differences to create a modern version of Bosch's *The Garden of Earthly Delights*. Colomo, considered one of the masters of contemporary Spanish Comedy, wrote the script with his son Pablo, taking as a starting point their own father-son relationship, which they describe as a sort of "autofiction". The superb and complex cinematography, which included the use of up to six cameras simultaneously, is by José Luis Alcaine.

Sun 19 Apr | 4.20pm

The LONDON SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL is organised by TRISTANA MEDIA LTD.

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THE EMBASSY OF SPAIN, CULTURAL OFFICE

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