Celebrating the New Wave of Ibero American Cinema

Hosted by North Dakota State University’s Modern Languages Department

WHEN  Jan 26, Feb 2, Feb 9, Feb 16, and Feb 23 at 7:00 PM
WHERE  NDSU Minard Hall 230; 1210 Albrecht Blvd., Fargo, ND

In collaboration with NDSU’s College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; Multicultural Programs; SPAN 332, 402, and 441 students; International Studies; HOLÀ; and International Student & Study Abroad Services.

CHINESE TAKE-AWAY (Un cuento chino), Jan. 26 at 7:00 PM
Sebastián Borensztein / Argentina, Spain / 98 min / 2012 / Spanish and Mandarin with English subtitles
Argentina’s national treasure, Ricardo Darín, plays Roberto, a gruff, anti-social loner who lords over his tiny hardware shop in Buenos Aires with a meticulous sense of control and routine, barely allowing for the slightest of customer foibles. After a chance encounter with Jun, a Chinese man who has arrived in Argentina looking for his only living relative, Roberto takes him in. Their unusual cohabitation helps Roberto bring an end to his loneliness, but not without revealing to the impassive Jun that destiny’s intersections are many and they can even divulge the film’s surreal opening sequence: a brindled cow falling from the sky. Presenter: Dr. Tracy Barrett, Dept. of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies.

7 BOXES (7 Cajas), Feb. 2 at 7:00 PM
Juan Carlos Maneglia, Tana Schèmbori / Paraguay / 105 min / 2014 / Spanish, Guarani, and Korean with English subtitles
It’s Friday night in Asunción, Paraguay, and the temperature is sweltering. Victor, a 17-year-old wheelbarrow delivery boy, dreams of becoming famous and covets a fancy TV set in the infamous Mercado 4. He’s offered a chance to deliver seven boxes with unknown contents in exchange for a quick one hundred US dollars. But what sounds like an easy job soon gets complicated. Some in the boxes is highly coveted and Víctor and his pursuers quickly find themselves caught up in a crime they know nothing about. Reminiscent of Slumdog Millionaire, 7 Boxes was declared of Cultural Interest by the National Secretary of Culture of Paraguay.

CHICO & RITA, Feb. 9 at 7:00 PM
Fernando Trueba, Javier Mariscal, Tono Errando / Spain, UK / 94 min / 2012 / English and Spanish with English subtitles. Oscar®-winning director Fernando Trueba (The Age of Beauty) and famous artist Javier Mariscal, have teamed up to make Chico & Rita, an animated love story starring the music, culture and people of Cuba. Chico is a dashing piano player, and Rita is an enchanting and beautiful Havana nightclub singer. When they meet, the sparks fly and they fall madly in love. An epic romance unfolds as the pair travels the glamorous stages of 1940s/1950s Havana, New York City, Las Vegas, Hollywood and Paris. 2012 Oscar® nomination Best Animated Feature. Presenter: Bill Law, Director of Development/Division of Performing Arts, Executive Director/Bison Arts.

TRUE SMILE (La sonrisa verdadera), Feb. 16 at 7:00 PM
Juan Rayos / Spain / 82 Min / 2015 / Spanish with English subtitles
A heart-warming story of self-improvement, True Smile follows the extraordinary 1,300 kilometer journey Sergio, a blind autistic young man, undertakes with his brother. Over 30 days, Sergio and Juan Manuel traverse desert and high mountains by tandem bike, starting in Cuenca in central Spain and finishing in one of the most remote villages in Morocco’s Atlas Mountains. The candid documentary provides a magnificent glimpse into Sergio’s impenetrable world; so similar to the desert he travels to on his trip. What underlines this story is Sergio’s amazing ability to challenge his limitations and the infinite love of his brother and companion. Sergio’s motivation and strength to undertake this amazing adventure comes from his wish to see his friend Mati again at her home in Morocco. Presenter: Chloé Smith, International Studies student.

EVEN THE RAIN (También la lluvia), Feb. 23 at 7:00 PM
Icíar Bollain / Spain / 104 min / 2011 / Spanish with English subtitles
Filmmaker Sebastián (Gael García Bernal) and his cynical producer Costa (Luis Tosar) arrive in Cochabamba, Bolivia, to make a film about Columbus’s voyage to the New World and the subjugation of the indigenous population. Just as filming begins, the natives face a crisis when the government privatizes the water company and prices skyrocket. Daily protests erupt and the local man cast as a rebellious sixteenth century Taino chief also becomes a leader in the water hike protests. Spanish submission for the 2012 Best Foreign-Language Academy Award. The Spanish Film Club series was made possible with the support of Pragda, SPAIN arts & culture, and the Secretary of State for Culture of Spain.

Supported by:

1/20/17